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Chicago & Paris Reviving the Art of Cabaret

What do the City of Lights and the City of Big Shoulders have in common? They are both international destinations known for great food, iconic architecture, and live music. Cabaret, the art form born in Paris in the 1880s, flourished in Chicago by the 1920s. Today, both cities face the challenge to strengthen and support this passionate art of performance.

From **September 15 to 17, 2017**, cabaret artists from both sides of the Atlantic will meet in Paris for the first time to launch a collaboration called the **Chicago Paris Cabaret Connexion** to help each other do just that.

Beloved and acclaimed cabaret performers Claudia Hommel, Elizabeth Doyle and Ava Logan will lead the Chicago delegation. The French delegation includes pianist Jean-Claude Orfali of the storied Montmartre cabaret Au Lapin Agile, author-historian Michel Trihoreau, editor and singer Christian Stalla, actor-singers Mylène Launay and Nathalie Joly. The Cabaret Connexion has the hearty endorsement of the Paris Committee of Chicago Sister Cities International.

A series of fundraising events begins in Chicago with a concert at **Piano Forte Chicago (1335 S. Michigan Ave.) on Sunday, July 23, 2017 at 6:30 PM**, headlined by legendary diva Lynne Jordan, Claudia Hommel, Elizabeth Doyle, Ava Logan, Cynthia Clarey and other well-known Chicago cabaret performers.

Highlights of the Paris conference in September include:

- Master classes taught by leading cabaret practitioners
- Opportunities for French and US singers to perform together on stage
- Presentations by leading French authors and academics on cabaret history
- A presentation on the history of Black chanteuses and divas in Paris
- Attending cabaret performances in iconic Parisian venues including the Lapin Agile
- Professionals to discuss networking, building audiences, and development of venues
- Side-trip options: a languorous dinner cruise on the Seine, a visit to Monet's gardens in Giverny, a country picnic on the Seine, open mic at the Café Universel, a guided visit to Musée d'Orsay....

To participate or to get more information on the Paris conference and Chicago support activities, visit www.chicagopariscabaretconnexion.org.