

Posted: Mon, Apr. 16, 2012, 3:00 AM

From the beginning with Greg Lake



Chuck Darrow
Philadelphia Daily News

[Email Chuck Darrow](#), [follow Chuck Darrow on Twitter](#)

HAVE A QUESTION you're dying to ask singer-songwriter/progressive-rock titan Greg Lake? Well, your chance to do so is nigh.

Thursday, Lake brings his one-man show, "Songs of a Lifetime," to Glenside's Keswick Theatre. Although the meat of the program is a survey of the 64-year-old Englishman's musical output, the audience will play a large role in the proceedings.

The show, he explained during a recent phone call from Montreal, "is an interactive thing, not just about the material I perform. It basically depicts the journey the audience and I have shared over the years."

As such, fans will have several opportunities during the evening to converse with Lake, a godfather of prog-rock thanks to his late-1960s work as bassist-vocalist with the groundbreaking British outfit King Crimson and, of course, as one-third of the chart-topping, arena-filling '70s act Emerson, Lake & Palmer.

Although anecdotes and banter with ticketholders are part and parcel of Lake's format, he insisted his program isn't just another "one of those sit-down, 'storyteller' things. It's quite entertaining. It's not a 'legend in his own lunchtime' show."


According to Lake, who will perform to backing tracks, the "Songs of a Lifetime" concept grew out of his writing a forthcoming autobiography called — what else? — Lucky Man. "I thought, what a nice idea to make a concert out of this." Besides signature compositions like King Crimson's "I Talk to the Wind" and such ELP classics as "Lucky Man," "From the Beginning" and "Still You Turn Me On," Lake's repertoire includes several songs that helped him chart a musical career, starting with Elvis Presley's 1956 hit "Heartbreak Hotel."

"?'Heartbreak Hotel' kind of lit me up," he offered. "I was a young guitar player. It was one of the first things that ignited me, and I do believe it's one of the greatest songs ever written."

"Songs of a Lifetime" is a trip in the time machine, but Lake is unapologetic for its nostalgic bent.



Greg Lake brings his one-man show to Keswick Theatre on Thursday.

 Post a comment

RELATED STORIES

Ting Tings' mechanical melodies
Gotye vs. 'Glee' vs. 'Idol' singoff: Who won?

ENTERTAINMENT

INQ

Philadelphia Orchestra bankruptcy drags on

INQ

Review: Theatre Horizon's 'How I Learned to Drive' chills - 8:18pm

INQ

Review: Rabe retells Chekhov well in 'The Black Monk' - 5:41pm

INQ

Dave on Demand: Gotye vs. 'Glee' vs. 'Idol' singoff: Who won? 

RC

Hautehouse Row: Details on Angie's engagement ring

[More Entertainment »](#)

"Some don't want to on the past," he said, suggesting it makes them seem out of touch and irrelevant. "I look at it as bringing the past forward. I have no problem with being reminded of the pleasures of my past."

One past pleasure that will likely remain is Emerson, Lake & Palmer. Although the Razor & Tie label plans to reissue the trio's catalog, Lake said he doubted that the band, whose last collaboration was at a 2010 British music festival, would be hitting the boards any time soon.

"It's probably a very small chance," he conceded. "Keith and Carl don't want to do a tour again. But one must never say 'never.' I would be very happy to do another ELP tour." n

Keswick Theatre, 291 N. Keswick Ave., Glenside, 7:30 p.m., \$45, \$39 and \$34, 800-736-1420, www.ticketmaster.com.

Contact Chuck Darrow at 215-313-3134 or darrowc@phillynews.com. Read his CasiNotes casino blog at philly.com/philly/blogs/casinotes/ and follow him on Twitter @chuckdarrow.

Find this article at:

http://www.philly.com/philly/entertainment/20120416_From_the_beginning_with_Greg_Lake.html

Check the box to include the list of links referenced in the article.

© Copyright | Philly Online, LLC. All Rights Reserved. Any copying, redistribution or retransmission of any of the contents of this service without the express written consent of Philly Online, LLC is expressly prohibited.