



# IVORY POWER

Concert with piano duo kicks off Liberty Theatre fundraiser on Nov. 10

By JONATHAN WILLIAMS  
FOR COAST WEEKEND

**W**hen the Liberty Theatre celebrated its last major renovation in 2005, Pink Martini pianist Thomas Lauderdale was there to celebrate.

Lauderdale is back, but this time he's joined by his partner, pianist Hunter Noack.

The duo kicks off the Liberty's Saturday, Nov. 10, "Once in a Blue Moon" Gala fundraiser and concert for \$3.3 million improvements to the stage and building that will allow for more large-scale performances of musical theater, opera and dance. The event begins at 4:30 p.m.

The concert features Lauderdale and Noack's four-hand piano version of Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue." Think Disney's "Fantasia 2000" with its dramatic symphonic sound performed on two pianos.

"We think of it so orchestrally already, so we imagine what lines sound like strings or what lines sound like a clarinet," Noack said.

Tickets are \$150, and 350 will be sold. The gala includes an auction emceed by state Sen. Betsy Johnson with auction items including a private party with the band Blind Pilot and a trip to Costa Rica.



Pianist partners Hunter Noack, left, and Thomas Lauderdale.

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