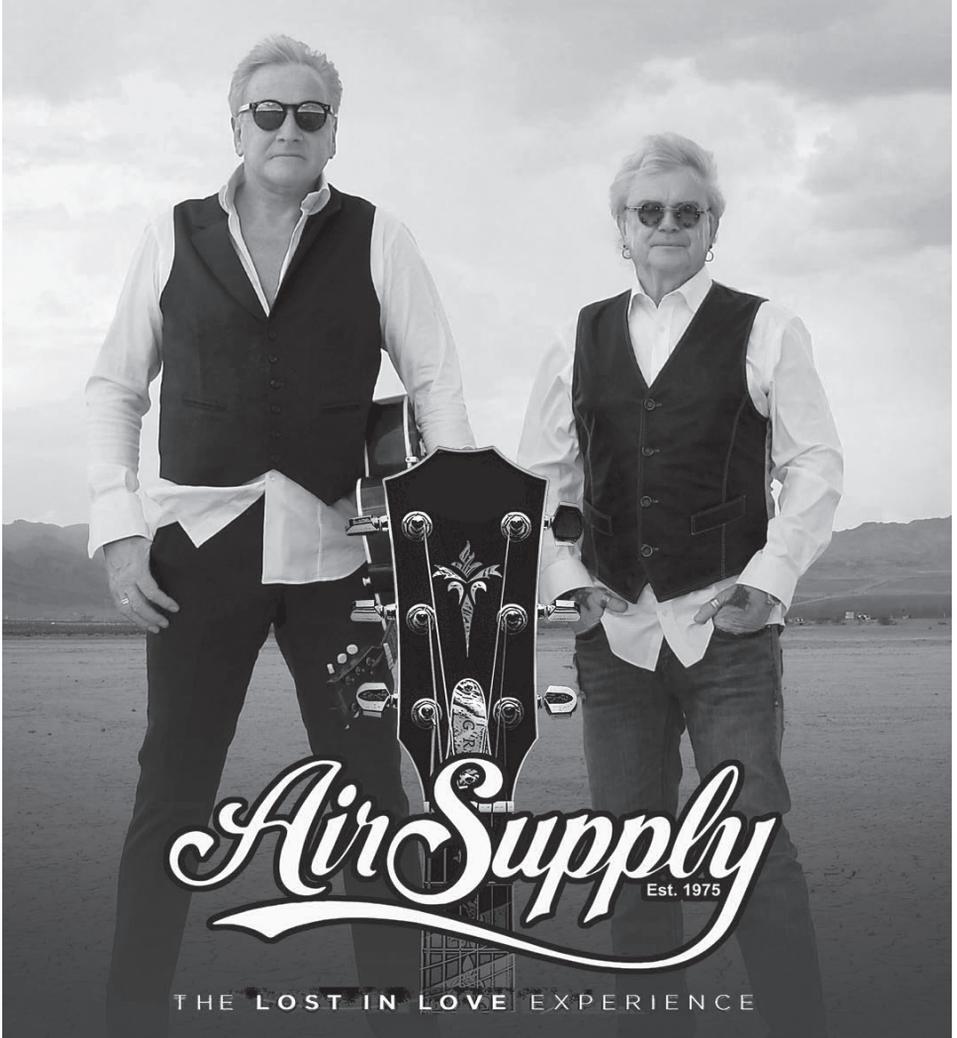


Wednesday  
**OCT 4**  
7:30 pm



*Expect rock-concert sound levels at this performance. To accommodate individual listening needs, ear plugs are available at the Audience Services Desk in the lobby before and during the show.*



This event is made possible through the generous support of the Frances Wright Strickland Programming Fund.

Sponsored by



Cherry Hill Properties is pleased to partner with the Lied Center to bring AIR SUPPLY to the stage. Enjoy tonight's performance.

## There will be no intermission during this performance.

Graham Russell and Russell Hitchcock met on May 12, 1975—the first day of rehearsals for *Jesus Christ Superstar* in Sydney, Australia, and they became instant friends with their common love for The Beatles and, of course, singing.

After the shows' evening performances, they would play pizza parlors, coffee bars and night clubs with just one guitar and two voices. They quickly gained a reputation for great harmonies and for original songs that Graham was constantly writing. They made a demo on a cassette with two songs, "Love and Other Bruises" and "If You Knew Me," and took it to every record company in Sydney. Everyone turned it down but one—CBS Records, who admired their unique style.

They made a single in one afternoon, and it shot to number one on the national charts. Air Supply was born! That same year, they opened for Rod Stewart across Australia as well as throughout the U.S. and Canada, playing all of the famous venues before Rod would take the stage. They found new fans but did not yet break into the U.S. market.

Back in Australia, they had to start again and made a record called *Life Support*. On this record were some treasures of songs, including "Lost In Love," which went Top 10 in Australia and somehow found its way to music industry executive Clive Davis in New York.

Clive immediately signed Air Supply to Arista Records, and in 1980, "Lost In Love" became the fastest selling single in the world, leaping to the top of all of the charts. Now Air Supply was on their way. The second single was "All Out of Love," and that went up the charts even quicker.

Seven top-five singles later, Air Supply at that time had equaled The Beatles' run of consecutive top-five singles. The albums *Lost In Love*, *The One That You Love*, *Now & Forever* and *The Greatest Hits* sold more than 20 million copies. "Lost In Love" was named Song of the Year in 1980, and, along with the other singles, sold more than 10 million copies.

The trademark sound of Russell Hitchcock's soaring tenor voice and Graham Russell's simple yet majestic songs created a unique sound that would forever be known as Air Supply.

However, it is the live shows that always hold audiences captive around the world. They were the first Western group to tour China, Taiwan and countless other countries that before would not allow pop music across their borders. In 1983, they recorded "Making Love Out Of Nothing At All" by Jim Steinman, which solidified the group as a permanent force in modern music. This song was released on *The Greatest Hits album*, which soared past 7 million copies.

“Lost In Love,” “All Out of Love,” “The One That You Love,” “Sweet Dreams” and “Making Love Out Of Nothing At All” have each achieved multimillion plays on the radio. In 1986, the group’s music was still playing endlessly on radio. That same year, Graham was married to actress Jodi Varble from Rochelle, IL, who was also his leading lady in the video for “Making Love Out Of Nothing At All.”

Air Supply began to tour with lavish productions in places that no one had been before. In South America and Asia, they became a part of everyone’s life. In 1988, Air Supply was asked to participate in Australia’s bicentennial celebration and to play for HRH Prince Charles and HRH Princess Diana, where they learned both the prince and princess were already ardent fans. This engagement would be one of the most treasured moments in their career.

In 1989, they recorded *The Earth Is* album, selling over a million copies outside of the U.S. This album was followed by *The Vanishing Race* CD and, with the singles “Goodbye” and “It’s Never Too Late,” again saw multiplatinum success. The following albums, *News from Nowhere*, *Yours Truly* and *Across the Concrete Sky*, all gave their second greatest hits album multiplatinum status as they traveled the world each and every year.

In 2000, a new production company was founded to be devoted to Air Supply’s entire future product, which gave them complete creative control. In July 2005, their live DVD, *It Was 30 Years Ago Today*, celebrated 30 years of success around the world and, in that same month, Air Supply smashed attendance records when, in Cuba, at one show they played to 175,000 people. Also, 2005 saw the release of *The Singer and the Song*, an acoustic album of many of their big hits, which received critical acclaim.

In May 2010, the long-awaited album *Mumbo Jumbo*—the duo’s first studio recording in eight years—was released. Recorded at Graham’s home studio near Park City, UT and at Odds On’s state-of-the-art facilities in Las Vegas with top session musicians and an orchestra, *Mumbo Jumbo* was produced by Russell and engineered by Odds On’s Sean O’Dwyer, whose credits include Pink Floyd, Randy Newman and Blink-182. Among the 14 tracks, released by Odds On’s label, was the first single “Dance With Me,” which earned Air Supply a prominent feature article in *Billboard Magazine* titled, “Still Supplying The Hits After 35 Years.”

Just weeks after composer and vocalist Graham Russell was honored with a BMI Million-Air Certificate recognizing 3 million performances of the duo's hit "All Out Of Love," Air Supply's new song was the #1 most added track on the FMQB AC40 Chart, and also one of the most added on the R&R (Radio and Records) AC Chart and the Mediabase AC chart.

In 2013, the duo was inducted into the Australian Recording Industry Association's Hall of Fame. In January 2020, the Australian newspaper *The Herald Sun* proclaimed Air Supply in the top five "Greatest Aussie Bands" of all time—in the company of AC/DC, The Bee Gees and INXS.

Air Supply celebrated their 45th anniversary in 2020 and continue to delight audiences all over the world.

