

coronavirus pandemic. “I did more digging out of the savings account than I was hoping to,” he admitted during a recent interview. With his charming and humble approach to performing a wide range of cover tunes (and a few originals), the Chico-based singer has become a popular figure locally and regionally as he’s performed his way into a career as lounge/restaurant/wedding singer.

The CN&R checked in with Minardi to see one local artist was recovering as the state and his profession have started to reopen.

Are things back to normal for you?

The past few months, things have been getting back to *normal*—in pretty big quotes there. It’s starting to feel good, man, getting back to playing. I’ll have had 15 gigs [in July], which is pretty decent. My general resting pulse during a normal year is closer to 20 [per month], but 15 is still many shows better than it was a year ago.

Has the market for performers returned all the way?

A little bit. On one hand, there’s the quote-unquote money-making stuff, and those are more the cover gigs at like Reno, the casinos, weddings, and bar gigs and restaurants. And on the other side—which I consider more touring—is when I get the opportunity to play my own music and I take that on the road. So, in the capacity of going to Reno and that kind of stuff, yes.

How have people been responding to getting to listen to live music again?

It’s really strange. I was in Reno, I

Return of the performances

Live events are back at Chico State. Tickets go on sale Aug. 17 for Chico Performances members and Aug. 24 for general public. Proof of COVID-19 vaccination required to attend.

Fall schedule:

All shows at Laxson Auditorium, except where noted

Sept. 25: Ira Glass – *Seven Things I’ve Learned*

Oct. 2: LatinX Music and Culture festival (on Kendall Lawn)

Oct. 9: Tape Face

Oct. 22: Cirque Mechanics – *Birdhouse Factory*

Oct. 24: Jupiter String Quartet (in Zingg Recital Hall)

Nov. 2: David Sedaris

Nov. 9: Ballet Hispanico

Nov. 13: Postmodern Jukebox

Chico Performances

898-6333

chicoperformances.com

Live Max Minardi:

Aug. 29, 3 p.m., at The Commons

Look for performance schedule

updates at:

maxminardi.com

guess this was about a week and a half ago. People are always pretty kind, but [the music is] very wallpaper-y sometimes. But we got a lot of really genuine [reactions]. One person almost came to tears, came to talk to us and said, “You’re our first concert since being locked down, and it’s just so great to be able to hear music.” Generally, people seemed really grateful to have an outlet for that type of musical catharsis.

Once it became evident that the pandemic was going to keep live shows down for a prolonged period, how did you respond?

My biggest challenge was developing that gameplan ... especially balancing the ethics of where was OK to play and the circumstances under which I was comfortable playing. It was

tricky, but I think over time it kind of developed on its own.

Do you feel safe playing out now?

I do. I feel good with the vaccination that I’ve gotten.

How’s it felt to be back at it?

I feel great. I’m a big fan of—to some extent—overworking myself. I love [the] hustle. I love sending emails, and writing contracts, and driving long distances to corporate events. That kind of stuff really fulfills me. I love it. I love staying busy. □



Ira Glass will give a talk, *Seven Things I Learned*, Sept. 25 at Laxson Auditorium.
PHOTO BY SANDY HONIG

August is ROMANCE AWARENESS Month

Consent is ROMANTIC...and NECESSARY!

This is the perfect time to discuss consent with your significant other and ways you can integrate it into your love life. It is not acceptable to pressure a partner into sex, initiate sex when your partner is asleep, inebriated or otherwise unable to give consent. This is rape.



Communication is KEY and asking for CONSENT is an ACT OF LOVE!

Marital rape is considered a form of domestic violence and sexual abuse. Marital Rape was not criminalized in all 50 states until the 1990’s and some states still treat marital rape more leniently than other forms of rape.

- 75% of women and 64% of men agree that consent for sex one time is NOT consent for future sex. Consent for sex one time is 100% NOT consent for future sex.
- 22% of college students believe that foreplay like kissing and touching is consent for further sexual activity.
- 47% of college students believe that if someone takes off their clothes, it is consent for further sexual activity.
- Approx 10 -14% of married women are raped by their husbands in the U.S.
- One third of women report having “unwanted sex” with their partner.
- About 13-16% of men are victims of sexual assault by married or live-in partners during their lifetime

The LGBTQ+ community experiences equal or higher rates of intimate partner violence as the majority.

- 26% of Gay men and 37% of Bisexual men experience intimate partner violence including rape in their lifetime.
- 1 in 4 Lesbian women have experienced sexual violence within their relationships

We are open and affirming to all regardless of ability, gender, gender identity or sexual orientation.

Butte/Glenn: 530-891-1331 | Tehama: 530-529-3980
Calling from Corning: 530-824-3982

Virtual Business Hours: M–F 10am–6pm (excluding Holidays)

24hr CRISIS LINE: 530-342-RAPE (7273)

Collect Calls Accepted



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