Insider

30 Q WILLIAM SHATNER



COURTESY OF WILLIAM SHATNER

William Shatner has been a fixture of stage and screen for more than half a century. In that time, he has portrayed a number of iconic characters, from the stoic yet awestruck Captain Kirk on *Star Trek* to the senile yet suave Denny Crane on *Boston Legal* and countless Priceline Negotiator appearances in between. Shatner started out as a Shakespearean actor in his native Canada before becoming Kirk and solidifying his status as a pop-culture icon. On February 2, see the legend in person at the Kravis Center when he presents his one-man show, *Shatner's World Starring William Shatner*. Tickets start at $25. *(561-832-7469, kravis.org)*

How did your Shakespearean training prepare you to be a starship captain?

There is, I suppose, an elegance about the way you play Shakespearean roles—an authority that you need to have to play those roles, both in your voice, your language, and your bearing. I think that may have helped me be a commander of a lot of people.

How did you develop your one-man show?

It evolved over a series of anecdotes that became stories that blended with each other, and I found bridges between them so they added up to a complete whole. What I've got here is a laughter-filled show that has, at several moments, tears to it. It is both comical and meaningful. I talk about love and I talk about gorillas. I talk about motorcycles and I talk about death and I talk about comedy. There is a full mixture of my life but done in as humorous a way as I can imagine.

Have you been to Palm Beach before?

I played the [Royal] Poinciana Playhouse many, many years ago as a young actor. And I learned to fly in West Palm Beach. I soloed in West Palm Beach and then went on back to California.

WHAT DOES SHATNER HAVE TO SAY ABOUT HIS FAMOUS ROLES ON *THE TWILIGHT ZONE*? FIND OUT AT *PALMBEACHILLUSTRATED.COM/WILLIAMSHATNER*