



Photo by Cam Be

J. Ivy and Ensemble

Poetry Uncut: Part I

Sat, Sep 23, 2023 at 8 pm
The Nimoy

**CENTER
FOR THE ART OF
PERFORMANCE
UCLA**

WELCOME TO THE 2023–24 SEASON

UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance (CAP UCLA) is dedicated to the advancement of the contemporary performing arts in all disciplines – dance, music, spoken word and theater, as well as emerging digital, collaborative and cross cultural platforms – by leading artists from around the globe.

Our mission aligns with UCLA's mission of education, research and civic engagement by providing cultural and experiential programs that provoke inquiry and facilitate connection and creativity.

cap.ucla.edu



Dear audience:

I want to thank each and every one of you: the UCLA leadership and staff, our newly appointed Artistic Director at UCLA's Center of the Art of Performance (CAP UCLA), Edgar Miramontes, the former Artistic Director Kristy Edmunds, family and friends in helping to make The Nimoy theater a reality.

My late husband, Leonard Nimoy, believed that art, music, dance and spoken word had the power to change lives. He had a passion for the theater in particular. Unlike film and television, theater is a high-wire act: there are no second takes, no zooms, no over-the-shoulders, no "let's go again." Theater unfolds like life. One gives it their best shot moment to moment, in the hope that it lands and resonates.

I hope that you consider becoming a part of The Nimoy's future and supporting its programs. There are areas of the theater yet unnamed, such as the main lobby, the bar, the upper lobby, and the artist's entrance, as well as our campaign to have seats in the theater named for family and friends.

Thank you all for going on this journey and celebrating together this momentous occasion. Keep coming back. May the UCLA Nimoy Theater, "Live Long and Prosper."

With a full heart,



Susan Bay Nimoy





Photo by Trent Calvin

CAP UCLA Presents

J. Ivy and Ensemble

Poetry Uncut: Part I

Sat, September 23, 2023 at 8 pm
The Nimoy

Program duration: 90 minutes
No intermission

J. Ivy (lead performer)
Tarrey Torae (featured artist)
Marshall Knights (Music Director/Bass)
Brandon Collins (Drums)
Andrew Toombs (Keys)

Mike Ghallagar (Guitar)
Edith Yokely (Violin)
Kymbriel Lowe (Background vocalist)
Kristen Lowe (Background vocalist)
Eugene Bush (Tech and Camera support)

ABOUT THE ARTIST

J. Ivy is a Grammy, Peabody, Clio, Telly and NAACP Image Award-winning poet, spoken word artist, actor and songwriter, widely known for his appearances on *HBO Def Poetry* and for his feature with Jay-Z on Kanye West's Grammy-winning album, *The College Dropout*. Ivy poetically narrated, acted and starred in the Award Winning B.E.T. documentary, *Muhammad Ali: The People's Champ* and the NAACP Nominated documentary, *Martin: The Legacy of a King*.

After being commissioned by Michael Jordan and Deepak Chopra, J. Ivy wrote and narrated Beyoncé's *Black Is King* Clio Award-winning promo for the 2020 return of the NBA. He is also the Resident Poet for the foundation of famed visual artist Ernie Barnes. Fun fact: J. Ivy is who gave John Stephens the stage name John Legend, as told on *Oprah's Next Chapter*.

J. Ivy's latest works include his sixth album, *The Poet Who Sat By The Door*, his third book, *Dear Father: Breaking the Cycle of Pain* and his fifth album *CATCHING DREAMS: Live at Fort Knox Chicago*, which was nominated for a Grammy in the category of Best Spoken Word Album. He was the halftime entertainment for the New York Knicks MLK Day at Madison Square Garden and he appeared on NBC's new hit show *Grand Crew*. J. Ivy was the lead writer for the Netflix documentary *jeen-yuhs: A Kanye West Trilogy*, which chronicles the career of the Hip-Hop megastar (Directed by: Coodie & Chike). J. Ivy is also featured on the 2022 *EBONY* Power 100 list.

After 6 years of advocating for something dear to his heart, J. Ivy spearheaded the charge and authored a proposal for the Grammys to add a new category strictly dedicated to poets and spoken word artists worldwide. In 2022, the Recording Academy finally announced that it would make this historic addition. That new category is called the Best Spoken Word Poetry Album. Not only was J. successful with helping the Academy make this monumental change, he received his second Grammy Nomination and his first Grammy Award for his Spoken Word Poetry album, *The Poet Who Sat By The Door*.

After becoming the first poet in the history of the Recording Academy to serve as a Chapter President (Chicago), J. Ivy also became the first Poet to ever hold a National Trustee's seat.

For more, visit j-ivy.com and follow J. Ivy on Instagram and Twitter @j_ivy and Facebook @j.ivypoet



DESIGN FOR SHARING (DFS)

Each year, Design for Sharing (DFS) brings thousands of K-12 public school students from across Los Angeles to CAP UCLA venues for free performances and interactive workshops with professional artists.

DFS programs are open to any public school in greater Los Angeles, and are always free to attend.

cap.ucla.edu/dfs





Conrad Tao and Caleb Teicher

Counterpoint

Sep 30 at 8 pm
The Nimoy

Counterpoint is a collaboration between pianist and composer Conrad Tao and choreographer and dancer Caleb Teicher. Harmonic, rhythmic, and theatrical, the duo explores the dichotomy of their different artistic practices, expanding their individual expressive capacity through a collective experience.

“Together, [Conrad Tao and Caleb Teicher] create magic onstage.” – *San Diego Union Tribune*

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UCLA NIMOY THEATER

CAP UCLA is building a new home for live performance
in Westwood!

Located near the UCLA campus on Westwood Boulevard,
The Nimoy is a reimagining of the historic Crest Theatre as a
flexible, state-of-the-art performance space.

This dynamic and intimately scaled venue will immerse
audiences in a profoundly engaging experience of live
performance – while providing contemporary performing
artists from Los Angeles and around the world expanded
opportunities to develop and present new work.

cap.ucla.edu/give-nimoy



LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We at UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance acknowledge the Gabrielino/Tongva peoples as the traditional land caretakers of Tovaangar (the Los Angeles basin and South Channel Islands).

As a land grant institution, we pay our respects to the Ancestors (Honuukvetam), Elders (Ahihirom), and relatives/relations (Eyoohinkem) past, present and emerging.

There is no room for racism, intolerance, or inequity.

Anywhere

Not on our stages, in our offices, on our loading docks, in the box office lines, or on the dance floor.

With anyone

Not with our staff, crew, artists, volunteers, ushers, audiences or fans.

We uphold and embrace principles of antiracism, equity, diversity and **AUTHENTIC** inclusion as integral to our mission.

We must **EMPOWER** the historically underrepresented.

We must **UPLIFT** excluded voices.

We must **RESIST** structural racism.

We will **COMMIT** fiercely to our responsibility to observe, absorb, consider, contemplate, endure, share and engage in this change.

We **STAND AGAINST** all forms of discrimination.

We will **STRIVE** to make our organization more equitable and inclusive.

As part of UCLA's School of Art & Architecture (SOAA), we – UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance (CAP UCLA) and Theater Management Services (TMS) – are committed to connecting and creating space for the arts and for all communities.

We acknowledge our organizations' histories as being predominantly white institutions. We are facing uncomfortable truths about systemic racism as we work to make the deep changes necessary to transform the organizational dynamics in our work culture and business practices and dismantle existing oppressive structures. We know there will be shortcomings, which we will face head on. We commit to continually addressing and adapting to changes as they arise. It is only in an improved, supportive work environment that everyone can be fully present, and respected as their true authentic selves.

This statement was drafted by a committee of staff members from both the Center for the Art of Performance and Theater Management Services, from a variety of backgrounds, viewpoints and perspectives.

Together we stand with UCLA's School of Art and Architecture's EDI statement.



CAP UCLA COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

CAP UCLA Executive Producer Council

The Executive Producer Council is CAP UCLA's philanthropic leadership group, which develops and contributes resources vital to CAP UCLA's programming and mission. The Council champions the creative development and presentation of live programs and public dialogue with contemporary performing artists by providing direct support for CAP UCLA's annual programming. The Council is engaged in dialogue about the artistic and curatorial practices that inform annual programs, long-term initiatives and collaborative planning efforts which stand at the heart of CAP UCLA's mission and public purpose.

Design for Sharing (DFS) Council

The Design for Sharing Council is a group of dedicated supporters whose efforts help to resource the K-12 arts education programs of DFS.

cap.ucla.edu/councils



**CAP
UCLA**



Ethiicolor

Sep 29 at 8 pm
The Nimoy

A central figure in the Ethiopian arts scene, Melaku Belay and his ensemble Ethiocolor create ecstatic performances that blend contemporary influences with the traditional instruments and shoulder-shimmying dances of Ethiopia's Azmari culture. They transfix rapt audiences in ways that defy cultural differences.

“A happily superlative artist.” – *The New York Times*

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NAME YOUR SEAT

The opening of The Nimoy offers donors a rare opportunity to create a lasting legacy while celebrating their passion for contemporary performing arts at UCLA. Learn more about naming a seat in The Nimoy – CAP UCLA's newest home for live performance – and other opportunities to become a part of this state-of-the-art theater.

cap.ucla.edu/give-nimoy



LULU

Alice Waters & David Tanis



Alice Waters, food activist and founder of Chez Panisse, and David Tanis, cookbook author and New York Times contributing chef, invite you to Lulu at the Hammer Museum.

All UCLA Nimoy Theater ticket holders receive a 10% discount.

Enjoy a Nimoy Pisco Sour tonight!



Lulu Hammer Museum, 10899 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles CA 90024

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Become a member and support CAP UCLA's ability to engage, challenge, and captivate diverse audiences through the shared experience of extraordinary artistry and the exchange of ideas.

As a CAP UCLA member, we invite you to deepen your relationship with artists and ideas by attending special events and participating in activities with other arts enthusiasts, support the development of bold new work and help bolster contemporary performing arts in Los Angeles. And, enjoy priority access to discounted tickets and year-round savings from our dining, retail, and museum partners

Become a member
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