Rising Modern Jazz Star Robert Glasper Hits Royce Hall
Oct. 25 and Oct. 27

CAP UCLA presents genre-defying artist in two contexts--‘Robert Glasper Experiment’
night includes fellow trailblazers; Glasper acoustic trio supports jazz legend Ron Carter

Center for the Art of Performance at UCLA (CAP UCLA) celebrates rising stars in modern music with the jazz/hip-hop/R&B fusion of The Robert Glasper Experiment plus special guests José James, Taylor McFerrin and Austin Peralta, at Royce Hall Thursday October 26. Glasper returns to the stage Saturday October 27 for straight-ahead jazz from his acclaimed acoustic trio, opening for bass legend Ron Carter and his quartet. Tickets for both events are on sale now at cap.ucla.edu, via Ticketmaster, or through the UCLA Central Ticket Office at 310.825.2101.

Glasper has long been straddling the worlds of jazz, hip-hop and R&B, but drove his unique vision and style unequivocally home with the February 2012 release of “Black Radio,” a self-produced album that transcends genre and seamlessly incorporates a jaw-dropping roll call of special guests including Erykah Badu, Lupe Fiasco, Lalah Hathaway, Ledisi, Chrisette Michele, Musiq Soulchild, Meshell Ndegeocello, yasiin bey (Mos Def), Bilal, KING, and Stokley Williams (Mint Condition).

Thursday night features Glasper’s core Experiment crew—comprised of Glasper on piano and Fender Rhodes, Casey Benjamin on vocoder and saxophone, Derrick Hodge on electric bass, and Chris Dave on drums. Each band member is prodigiously talented and lives naturally in multiple musical worlds, distilling countless influences into a singular voice, which is what Glasper says makes any recording or performance from the group entirely unique.

“We can go anywhere, literally anywhere, we want to go,” he says. “We all have musical ADD and we love it.”

Glasper has said the “spine” of “Black Radio” is jazz—a foundation that remains interwoven through the album’s sonic genre twists and widely varied special guests. Two nights after Glasper gives CAP UCLA audiences a live glimpse at his carefully wrought musical “experiment” he settles back onstage to showcase the solid jazz backbone of his ever-evolving career with his trio in an opening set for Ron Carter.

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For the Thursday night show Los Angeles’ own piano upstart Austin Peralta opens, followed by sets from José James and his band and Taylor McFerrin and his band.

Brooklyn-based producer/DJ/keyboardist/beatboxer Taylor McFerrin is a leader in the highly improvisational modern “Future Soul” style of hip-hop, characterized by layers of ambient electronic texture combined with processed beats, jazz and soul sounds reminiscent of the 1960s. Son of popular singer Bobby McFerrin, Taylor’s own career has been gathering steam since the 2006 EP “Broken Vibes.” He’s currently signed to electronic fusionist superstar Flying Lotus’ Brainfeeder label with a full-length solo album in the works.

New York-based singer and frequent Glasper collaborator José James has established himself as a trailblazer for his intoxicating blend of jazz, hip-hop, R&B and electronica. His first (and highly personal) album from Blue Note Records, “No Beginning No End” arrives in January 2013 in a fluid collection of tracks that has allowed James to break boundaries and expand his craft beyond the moniker of jazz singer. James is a musical omnivore, an artist that can’t be pigeonholed and who is equally at ease on stage with jazz legend McCoy Tyner as he is in the studio with rapper Oh No or electronic pioneer Flying Lotus.

Los Angeles native Austin Peralta was a childhood prodigy in classical piano. While still in his teens Peralta was part of a piano quartet “dream team” that included the legendary Chick Corea, Hank Jones and Hiromi Uehara performing at the 2007 Tokyo Jazz Festival. Over the last several years, he has become known for not only his incredible talent, but for his holistic approach to recording and performing music that defies categorization. His third album, a self-produced project titled “Endless Planets,” was released on Flying Lotus’ Brainfeeder label in 2011 and Peralta has another full-length album in the works for release this year.

ABOUT CAP UCLA
Center for the Art of Performance at UCLA (CAP UCLA) is dedicated to the advancement of contemporary performing arts in all disciplines — dance, music, spoken word and theater, as well the emerging digital, collaborative and cross-art platforms inspired by today's leading artists and creators. CAP supports the creation, presentation and critical dialogues vital to the ongoing innovation and expressive potential of artists whose work, whether vibrantly emerging or internationally acclaimed, forms the dynamic and evolving heritage of contemporary performance. Based in UCLA's iconic Royce Hall, CAP UCLA is the university's public center for the presentation of the performing arts and contributes to the cultural life of the campus and greater Los Angeles, promoting civic dialogue and creative inquiry. Through an annual season of performing arts programs and extensive community-engagement events — including artist fellows and residency programs, K–12 arts education (Design for Sharing), student mentorship (Student Committee for the Arts), and art-making and experiential activities (Art in Action) — CAP UCLA advances the importance of art in society by celebrating and deepening the connection between artist and audience.

PRESS REVIEW TICKETS/PHOTO PASSES/ INTERVIEW REQUESTS
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