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UCLA’s Center for the Art of Performance Announces 2018–19 Season

Lineup Features Legacy Artists, Social Justice Champions and Diverse Global Perspectives

Highlights include Joan Baez, 'Barber Shop Chronicles,' Emmylou Harris, Bill T. Jones/Amie Zane Company, 'The Great Tamer,' Zakir Hussain, Fran Lebowitz, Pat Metheny and Taylor Mac

U.S. and West Coast premieres, exclusive programs and new collaborations

"CAP UCLA’s Kristy Edmunds corrals the power of creativity."
—Forbes Magazine

UCLA’s Center for the Art of Performance (CAP UCLA) today unveiled its 2018–19 season lineup honoring heritage artists and featuring pioneering champions for social justice and diverse world views in bold programs by leading innovators and acknowledged masters in contemporary dance, music, theater and literature.

Executive and Artistic Director Kristy Edmunds, in her seventh season leading UCLA’s performing arts presenter, also announced collaborations with Center Theatre Group, Ford Theatres, Music Center, Ucross Foundation, and The Theatre at Ace Hotel Downtown Los Angeles, following last season’s inaugural success. The new season runs from September 22, 2018, to May 10, 2019, and offers more than 40 events and 58 performances, with one U.S. and seven West Coast premieres plus three exclusive programs.
“Our programs are designed to bring you closer to the artists who offer us their creative intelligence and deeply considered perspectives,” Edmunds said. “Each performance is distinct, frequently surprising and potently alive. Through their projects they offer us a creative lens to imagine or reimagine our place in the world, our connectivity across cultures and the experience of thinking our different thoughts while finding points of resonance and meaning together.”

Legendary artists long recognized in their fight for social justice, folk icon and activist Joan Baez in her final farewell tour (sold out) and strong voices for civil rights Sweet Honey in The Rock will be showcased at Royce Hall along with legacy artists such as Night of 100 Solos: A Centennial Event worldwide celebration of Merce Cunningham, A Thousand Thoughts: A Live Documentary with Grammy-winning Kronos Quartet and Oscar nominated filmmakers Sam Green and Joe Bini, 14-time Grammy winner Emmylou Harris, NEA National Heritage Fellowship honoree Zakir Hussain, National Medal of Arts recipient Bill T. Jones, MacArthur Fellow Taylor Mac, and NEA Jazz Master Pat Metheny with Antonio Sanchez, Linda May Han Oh & Gwilym Simcock.

Exploring different social and cultural perspectives, artists from a diverse array of global communities will share their unique voices: Ukrainian quartet DakhaBrakha, Nigerian playwright and poet Inua Ella, Cuban pianist Roberto Fonseca and Malian vocalist Fatoumata Diawara, American social commentator and cultural satirist Fran Lebowitz, Toronto-based Quote Unquote Collective, Israel’s Ohad Naharin/Batsheva Dance Company, Pulitzer winner Viet Thanh Nguyen and Pulitzer finalist Luís Alberto Urrea, MacArthur Fellow Rebecca Solnit, and Chilean singer-songwriter and activist Nano Stern.

The U.S. premiere of Dimitris Papaioannou’s visually stunning The Great Tamer, which grapples with the meaning of life and mystery of death, will be presented in association with Glorya Kaufman Presents Dance at the Music Center.

West Coast premieres will be made by Ella’s Barber Shop Chronicles in its first U.S. tour, Meredith Monk’s Cellular Songs, Jérôme Bel’s Gala presented in association with Ford Theatres, Bill T. Jones/Amie Zane Company’s Analogy Trilogy three-part seven-hour marathon, Mon Élue Noire’s Sacre #2 choreographed by Olivier Dubois and performed by Germaine Acogny, Carrie Mae Weems’ new performance-based work Past Tense that explores themes of social justice and the enduring significance of Antigone, and Jan’s The White Album by Joan Didion presented in association with Center Theatre Group.

Three exclusive programs created for CAP UCLA’s new season will be staged at Ace. L.A.’s legendary UnCabaret (Nov. 18) will celebrate 25 years of groundbreaking comedy in a one-time-only evening of wildly fun, idiosyncratic live performance, music and never-before-seen footage featuring special guest alumni Julia Sweeney, Janeane Garofalo, Greg Behrendt, Rebecca Corry, Alex Edelman, Allee Willis, Andy Kindler, Maria Bamford and many more, hosted by creator Beth Lapides. Virtuoso violinist Nadia Sirota and modern music collective wild Up (Jan. 12) team in a live podcast event featuring L.A.-based composer Andrew Norman and N.Y.-based Pulitzer Prize-winning musician Caroline Shaw. Composer and arranger Nico Muhly will present Archives, Friends, Patterns (May 10), a performance in three parts: a collaboration with composer
Thomas Bartlett, gems from 40-plus years of Philip Glass’s catalog and a cycle of his own drone-based compositions.

Additional highlights include composer and pianist Vijay Iyer and writer and photographer Teju Cole’s powerful new collaboration, Blind Spot, an investigation of humanity’s blindness to injustice throughout history. Using Joan Didion’s seminal essay, The White Album is a multimedia performance created by former CAP UCLA artist-in-residence and L.A.-based director, writer and visual artist Lars Jan, founder of Early Morning Opera.

Current CAP UCLA Artist Fellows awarded a three-year creative development platform include internationally celebrated visual artist Ann Hamilton, influential contemporary music ensemble Kronos Quartet, renowned pianist-composer and MacArthur Fellow Jason Moran, and acclaimed American theater and opera director Anne Bogart and New York-based SITI Company. Actively supporting new work by artists along with fully staged productions and performances, CAP UCLA facilitates artistic development by engaging behind-the-scenes through fellowships, residencies, commissions and community collaborations.

Twenty-one productions will take place at Royce Hall and 14 will be staged at The Theatre at Ace Hotel DTLA. The Ford Theatres and CAP UCLA present Finding a Line: Skateboarding, Music and Media, one of Jason Moran’s newest and most ambitious works to date, under the stars at LA.’s Ford Theatres. Performances will also take place in venues across UCLA’s campus including the Freud Theater, Glorya Kaufman Dance Theater and Royce Hall Rehearsal Room. CAP will again team up with UCLA Special Collections to help make deeper connections to the artists and ideas from the season by offering insights into UCLA’s vast library collections.

CAP UCLA Jazz programs feature:

- Vijay Iyer and Teju Cole: Blind Spot
- Jason Moran and The Bandwagon: Finding a Line: Skateboarding, Music and Media
- Tigran Hamasyan
- An Evening with Pat Metheny with Antonio Sanchez, Linda May Han Oh and Gwilym Simcock
- Terri Lyne Carrington
- Luciana Souza: The Book of Longing

Among the global music artists:

- DakhaBrakha
- Zakir Hussain and Masters of Percussion
- Nano Stern
- The Gloaming
- Roberto Fonseca and Fatoumata Diawara
- Anoushka Shankar

American Roots series highlights:

- Emmylou Harris
- Sweet Honey In The Rock
- Béla Fleck and Abigail Washburn
- The Soul Rebels
- An Evening with Lettuce and John Scofield

**Contemporary classical offerings:**
- Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir and Tallinn Chamber Orchestra
- A Thousand Thoughts: A Live Documentary with the Kronos Quartet, Written and Directed by Sam Green and Joe Bini
- Nadia Sirota: A LIVE Podcast Event with wild Up Featuring Andrew Norman and Caroline Shaw
- Meredith Monk: Cellular Songs
- Nico Muhly: Archives, Friends, Patterns

**Dance programs showcase:**
- Mon Élue Noire – Sacre #2
- Bill T. Jones/Amie Zane Company: Analogy Trilogy
- Jérôme Bel: Gala
- Ohad Naharin/Batsheva Dance Company: Venezuela
- Night of 100 Solos: A Centennial Event

**Highlights of the theater series:**
- Barber Shop Chronicles: A co-production of Fuel, National Theatre and West Yorkshire Playhouse, Written by Inua Ellams
- Dimitris Papaioannou: The Great Tamer
- Quote Unquote Collective + Why Not: MOUTHPIECE
- Andrew Dawson: Space Panorama and Spirit of the Ring
- Carrie Mae Weems: Past Tense
- CAP UCLA in association with Center Theatre Group presents The White Album by Joan Didion, a performance created by Lars Jan/Early Morning Opera

**Words & Ideas and special events include:**
- Fran Lebowitz
- Rebecca Solnit and Jon Christensen
- UnCabaret 25th Anniversary Show and Celebration
- Elizabeth Gilbert and Cheryl Strayed
- Viet Thanh Nguyen
- Jesmyn Ward and Mitchell Jackson

Programs, prices and performers subject to change.

Free programs offered by CAP UCLA continuing this season are the public engagement program Art in Action and K-12 arts education program Design for Sharing, founded in 1969, that engages 15,000 students each year from more than 150 public schools in Los Angeles County.

**Subscriptions and Tickets:**
2018-19 series subscriptions are on sale now. Choose from preselected series subscriptions and save 15% or Create-Your-Own series of five or more events and save 10%. CAP UCLA Members receive 25% off series subscriptions and 15% off Create-Your-
Own packages and additional single tickets for all CAP UCLA 2018–19 performances. Purchase online at cap.ucla.edu, via Ticketmaster, by phone 310-825-2101 and at the UCLA Central Ticket Office.

Single tickets for Jason Moran and The Bandwagon at the Ford Theatres are on sale now at fordtheatres.org. Subscribers may also add single tickets for this performance to their CAP UCLA subscription order. Tickets at all price levels for Taylor Mac’s Holiday Sauce are available now to current CAP UCLA members.

Individual ticket onsale dates:
- CAP members: Friday, July 13
- CAP Enews & Ace A-List subscribers presale: Saturday, July 14
- General public: Monday, July 16
- UCLA faculty and staff: Monday, July 16
- UCLA students: Monday, Sept. 24

The CAP UCLA 2018–19 Season Teaser, Season Calendar and Program Guide are online, and more information on all upcoming programs is available at cap.ucla.edu.

Part of the UCLA School of the Arts and Architecture, CAP UCLA curates and facilitates direct exposure to artists who are creating extraordinary works of art and fosters a vibrant learning community both on and off the UCLA campus. Watch Kristy Edmunds speak about what it means to be a curator in the context of the university.

ABOUT CAP UCLA
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-platforms—by leading artists from around the globe. Part of UCLA’s School of the Arts and Architecture, CAP UCLA curates and facilitates direct exposure to artists who are creating extraordinary works of art and fosters a vibrant learning community both on and off the UCLA campus. The organization invests in the creative process by providing artists with financial backing and time to experiment and expand their practices through strategic partnerships and collaborations. As an influential voice within the local, national and global arts communities, CAP UCLA connects this generation to the next in order to preserve a living archive of our culture. CAP UCLA is also a safe harbor where cultural expression and artistic exploration can thrive, giving audiences the opportunity to experience real life through characters and stories on stage, and giving artists an avenue to challenge assumptions and advance new ways of seeing and understanding the world we live in now.

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PRESS REVIEW TICKETS/PHOTO PASSES/INTERVIEW REQUESTS: Contact Holly Wallace at hawallace@arts.ucla.edu, 310-206-8744.