CAP UCLA Presents
Ukrainian Folk-Punk Quartet
DakhaBrakha

September 27 at The Theatre at Ace Hotel DTLA

“The mostly-acoustic, utterly unique Ukrainian band mixes traditions from its homeland, but goes wide too, with West African rhythms and Indian drones to create a wild, thrilling texture (especially live).” —NPR

UCLA’s Center for the Art of Performance (CAP UCLA) presents the return of Kiev’s “ethno-chaos” band DakhaBrakha with a subversive mix of Ukrainian folk melodies, punk-pop, hip-hop, urban avant-garde theater and traditional instrumentation from around the world on Thursday, Sept. 27 at 8 p.m. at The Theatre at Ace Hotel Downtown Los Angeles. Tickets for $29.50–$49.50 are available now at cap.ucla.edu and theatre.acehotel.com, 310-825-2101 and at The Theatre at Ace Hotel box office.

Opening CAP UCLA’s 2018–19 Global Music series, the sonically mesmerizing and visually stunning DakhaBrakha was dubbed Bonnaroo’s “Best Break Out” by Rolling Stone. Translating to “give/take” in old Ukrainian, DakhaBrakha embraces a sound rooted in Ukrainian folk music accompanied by Indian, Arabic, African, Russian and Australian traditional instrumentation to create a world of unexpected new music.
Driven by drums, cello and astonishingly powerful vocals from members Marko Halanevych, Iryna Kovalenko, Olena Tsybulska and Nina Garenetska, “the songs are steeped in Ukrainian folk tradition but not bounded by it; they deploy the piercing vocal harmonies of Balkan music, the drones and systematic unfolding of Minimalism and the drive of African and dance music” (The New York Times).

With the recent political and social unrest in Ukraine, DakhaBrakha has taken on a mantle as cultural ambassadors, celebrating national pride in uncertain times through the universal power of music. “We just want people to know our culture exists,” Halanevych told Rock Paper Scissors. “There are a lot of wonderful, creative people here, people who are now striving for freedom, for a more civilized way of life, and are ready to stand up for it.”

Based on DakhaBrakha’s song “Monk,” Ukrainian animator Sashko Danylenko’s new film of the same title will premiere in September at the Linoleum Animation Festival in Kyiv. Danylenko got the idea of making the cartoon two years ago while attending a DakhaBrakha concert in New York. In 2012, Danylenko released a music video for DakhaBrakha’s “Carpathian Rap” that also features his black-and-white drawings.

DakhaBrakha was created in 2004 at the Kyiv Center of Contemporary Art “DAKH” by the avant-garde theatre director Vladyslav Troitskyi. Their latest release, The Road, is dedicated to “those who gave their lives for our freedom, who continue to stand over its guard, and who go the challenging way of a free person without losing their hope.”

CAP UCLA first presented DakhaBrakha in an exclusive concert pairing with Tuvan ensemble Huun Huur Tu in September 2015 at Royce Hall.

CAP UCLA’s Global Music series continues at The Theatre at Ace Hotel with Roberto Fonseca and Fatoumata Diawara (March 23), Zakir Hussain and Masters of Percussion (March 28), Nano Stem (March 30) and The Gloaming (April 12) and concludes at Royce Hall with Anoushka Shankar (April 19).

**CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:**
CAP UCLA presents
DakhaBrakha

Thursday, Sept. 27 at 8 p.m.
CAP UCLA at The Theatre at Ace Hotel DTLA
929 S. Broadway, Los Angeles, CA 90015

**Program:** At once sophisticated and bawdy, ethereal and earthy, Ukraine’s self-described “ethno-chaos” band DakhaBrakha is back with their refreshingly novel reinterpretation of Eastern European folk music that propels the ancient into the avant-garde. Accompanied by Indian, Arabic, African, Russian and Australian instrumentation, the quartet’s astonishingly powerful and uncompromising vocal range creates a unique style that reflects their heritage with a keen ear for contemporary resonances.

**Tickets:**
Single tickets: $29.50–$49.50
Online: cap.ucla.edu, theatre.acehotel.com
Phone: 310-825-2101
The Theatre at Ace Hotel box office: Thursday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.;
day of show, 90 minutes prior to the event start time.

** Personnel:**
Marko Halanevych – darbuka, tabla, didjeridoo, accordion, trombone, vocals
Iryna Kovalenko – djembe, bass drum, accordion, percussion, bugay, zgaleyka, piano,
vocals
Olena Tsybul’ska – bass drum, percussion, garmoshka, vocals
Nina Garenetska – cello, bass drum, vocals

**Artist website:** DakhaBrakha

**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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**About The Theatre at Ace Hotel Downtown Los Angeles**
The Theatre at Ace Hotel Downtown Los Angeles is Ace’s loving reanimation of the historic United
Artists Theater. Built in 1927 for the maverick film studio founded by Mary Pickford, Charlie Chaplin
and Douglas Fairbanks, The Theatre stands as a monument to a group of seminal American artists
— modern iconoclasts striking out on their own. Ace’s restoration of this majestic space serves as a
singular stage for art, film, dance and creative celebration in the heart of the Broadway Theater
District’s vibrant modern renaissance. View all upcoming events at The Theatre at Ace Hotel DTLA
at theatre.acehotel.com.

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

**IMAGES:** Available by request or register for download at cap.ucla.edu/pressimages.
Photo by Tanya Vilchynska.