FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CAP UCLA Presents
Writer, Historian and Activist
Rebecca Solnit
in Conversation with Jon Christensen

October 25 at Royce Hall

“No writer has better understood the mix of fear and possibility, peril and exuberance that's marked this new millennium.”
—Bill McKibben, founder of 350.org

UCLA’s Center for the Art of Performance (CAP UCLA) announces writer, historian and activist Rebecca Solnit in conversation with UCLA professor Jon Christensen on Thursday, Oct. 25 at 8 p.m. at Royce Hall. Tickets for $29-$59 are available now at cap.ucla.edu, 310-825-2101, Ticketmaster and the UCLA Central Ticket Office.

Called “the voice of the resistance” by The New York Times Magazine, Solnit has emerged as an essential guide to our times through incisive commentary on feminism, violence, ecology, hope and everything in between. Solnit’s new book, Call Them By
Their True Names: American Crises (and Essays), was recently longlisted for the 2018 National Book Awards with Solnit among the 10 authors to receive recognition in the nonfiction category. In this powerful and wide-ranging collection of essays, Solnit turns her attention to the war at home, a war “with so many casualties that we should call it by its true name, this war with so many dead by police, by violent ex-husbands and partners and lovers, by people pursuing power and profit at the point of a gun or just shooting first and figuring out who they hit later.” To get to the root of these American crises, she contends that we must “acknowledge this state of war [and] admit the need for peace,” countering the despair of our age with solidarity, creativity and hope.

Solnit is the author of more than 20 books, including The Mother of All Questions, Hope in the Dark, Men Explain Things to Me, Wanderlust: A History of Walking, A Field Guide to Getting Lost, A Paradise Built in Hell and River of Shadows: Eadweard Muybridge and the Technological Wild West, for which she received a Guggenheim, the National Book Critics Circle Award in criticism and the Lannan Literary Award. A contributing editor to Harper’s, she has written for the London Review of Books and the Los Angeles Times.

An alumna of the UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism, Solnit will be in conversation with Jon Christensen, UCLA professor and journalist-in-residence at the Institute of the Environment and Sustainability and a founder of the Laboratory for Environmental Narrative Strategies (LENS).

Funds provided by the Arthur E. Guedel Memorial Lectureship Fund.

CAP UCLA’s Words & Ideas programs continue at Royce Hall with Josh Fox: The Truth Has Changed (Oct. 27), Elizabeth Gilbert and Cheryl Strayed in Conversation (Dec. 2), Viet Thanh Nguyen and Luis Alberto Urrea in Conversation (Jan. 17) and Jesmyn Ward and Mitchell Jackson in Conversation (Feb. 7).

CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:
CAP UCLA presents
Rebecca Solnit in Conversation with Jon Christensen

Thursday, Oct. 25 at 8 p.m.
CAP UCLA at Royce Hall
10745 Dickson Court, Los Angeles, CA 90095

Program: Writer, historian and activist Rebecca Solnit is the author of over 20 books. Called “the voice of the resistance” by The New York Times Magazine, she has emerged as an essential guide to our times through incisive commentary on feminism, violence, ecology, hope and everything in between. Solnit will be in conversation with Jon Christensen, UCLA professor and journalist.

Tickets: 
Single tickets: $29–$59
Online: cap.ucla.edu
UCLA Central Ticket Office: 310-825-2101, Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Royce Hall box office: open 90 minutes prior to the event start time.
Art in Action: Writing the Landscape
In honor of Solnit’s groundbreaking essays, which led to the inadvertent coinage of the term “mansplaining,” we devote our Pop-Up Library to feminist ‘zines, poetry and books. Stop by to create your own poem or ‘zine and add your voice to our “splaining wall.”

Artist websites: Rebecca Solnit | Jon Christensen

ABOUT THE ARTISTS
Rebecca Solnit
Writer, historian and activist Rebecca Solnit is the author of 20 books on feminism, western and indigenous history, popular power, social change and insurrection, wandering and walking, hope and disaster, including a trilogy of atlases and the books The Mother of All Questions, Hope in the Dark, Men Explain Things to Me; The Faraway Nearby; A Paradise Built in Hell: The Extraordinary Communities that Arise in Disaster; A Field Guide to Getting Lost; Wanderlust: A History of Walking; and River of Shadows, Eadweard Muybridge and the Technological Wild West (for which she received a Guggenheim, the National Book Critics Circle Award in criticism, and the Lannan Literary Award). A product of the California public education system from kindergarten to graduate school, she is a columnist at Harper’s.

Jon Christensen
Jon Christensen is an adjunct assistant professor in the Institute of the Environment and Sustainability, the Department of History, and the Center for Digital Humanities at the University of California, Los Angeles. He is a journalist-in-residence at the Institute of the Environment and Sustainability, a founder of the Laboratory for Environmental Narrative Strategies in the IoES, and a senior fellow in UCLA’s cityLAB. He is editor of LENS Magazine, and an advising producer for KCET/Link’s “Earth Focus” programming. He is also a partner and strategic adviser at Stamen Design, a National Design Award-winning interactive design and technology firm specializing in mapping, data visualization, and strategic communications. He is a regular contributor to newspapers and magazines, and a commentator on radio and television.

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. Like CAP UCLA on Facebook, and follow us on Twitter and Instagram. #CAPUCLA

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PRESS REVIEW TICKETS/PHOTO PASSES/INTERVIEW REQUESTS: Contact Nicole Freeman, PR & Marketing Assistant, The ACE Agency, 909.203.3905, nicole@theaceagency.com.

IMAGES: Available by request or register for download at cap.ucla.edu/pressimages. Photos: Rebecca Solnit by Adrian Mendoza; Jon Christensen by Ursula K. Heise.