



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CAP UCLA Presents  
UnCabaret 25th Anniversary Show and Celebration**

**Special Guests Julia Sweeney, Janeane Garofalo,  
Bob Odenkirk, Maria Bamford, Greg Behrendt, Andy Kindler,  
Scott Thompson, Allee Willis, Laura Kightlinger, and more**

**Host Beth Lapidés  
Musical Director Mitch Kaplan**

*November 18 at The Theatre at Ace Hotel*



*"A lot of the stand-up comedy that gets done in Los Angeles is really just comics auditioning for parts in TV or movies. Not at UnCabaret: For 25 years, it's been a place to hear unvarnished, rough-edged ideas being tried out — mostly for the first and possibly only time." —NPR, All Things Considered*

UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance (CAP UCLA) presents Los Angeles' legendary UnCabaret, celebrating 25 years of groundbreaking comedy in a one-time-only evening of wildly fun, idiosyncratic live performance, music and never-before-seen footage. Special guests include alumni Julia Sweeney, Janeane Garofalo, Bob Odenkirk, Maria Bamford, Greg Behrendt, Andy Kindler, Scott Thompson, Allee Willis,

Laura Kightlinger, Alex Edelman, Rebecca Corry, Jill Soloway and many more to be announced, hosted by creatrix Beth Lapidés with musical director Mitch Kaplan on Sunday, Nov. 18 at 7 p.m. at The Theatre at Ace Hotel Downtown Los Angeles. Tickets for \$29.50–\$59.50 are available now at [cap.ucla.edu](http://cap.ucla.edu) and [theatre.acehotel.com](http://theatre.acehotel.com), 310-825-2101 and The Theatre at Ace Hotel box office.

Recently named by *Los Angeles Magazine* as one of the five Best Comedy Shows in L.A., *Rolling Stone* once called UnCabaret a comedy be-in. From its origins at the Women's Building in DTLA, the alternative comedy institution grew from the need for a comedy space that was, as host, executive producer and creator Beth Lapidés once described, "unhomophobic, unmisogynist and unxenophobic." The *Los Angeles Times* dubbed Lapidés the "High Priestess" of a revolution that reclaimed comedy as an art form, allowing for depth, meaning and even transcendence.

"It's about community," said Lapidés. "The defining feature is people coming together, the joy of connection, what happens unexpectedly — it feels like a party. We're excited that this special anniversary celebration is happening before Thanksgiving so you can celebrate with us and your family of choice."

UnCabaret has remained devoted to revitalizing, refreshing and reimagining what's possible in the comedy world and has been on the forefront of putting women front and center in its electrically eccentric lineup of story-based, conversational comedy. Over the years it has nurtured and fostered the careers of such iconoclastic comedians and comedy writers as Margaret Cho, Kathy Griffin, Jeff Garlin, Andy Dick and Judd Apatow, and hosted guest appearances by Jon Stewart, Sarah Silverman, Roseanne Barr, Jennifer Coolidge, Kevin Nealon, Sandra Bernhard, Carrie Fisher and Bill Maher. Its stage has welcomed non-binary comedians Sandra Bernhard, Tig Notaro, Jill Soloway, Julie Goldman, Justin Sayre, Mx Justin Vivienne Bond, Kelly Mantle, Miss Coco Perubreat and Bahrain-born human rights activist Esra'a Al-Shafei.

Under musical director and co-producer Mitch Kaplan, UnCabaret has showcased musicians and bands such as Shelby Lynne, Terra Naomi, Sam Morrow, Phoebe Bridgers, Judith Owen, Magnolia Memoir and Garfunkle and Oates. "Without the music as release, it's harder to take in this very real kind of comedy," says Lapidés. "We want to take people on a very cathartic emotional ride."

UnCabaret makes its CAP UCLA debut at The Theatre at Ace Hotel DTLA following special events at Ace Hotel & Swim Club in Palm Springs in 2016 and 2017.

CAP UCLA's special events series for the 2018-2019 program concludes with the upcoming performance of Taylor Mac's *Holiday Sauce* on Dec. 14–15 at Royce Hall.

**CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:**

CAP UCLA presents

[UnCabaret 25th Anniversary Show and Celebration](#)

Sunday, Nov. 18 at 7 p.m.

CAP UCLA at The Theatre at Ace Hotel DTLA

929 S. Broadway, Los Angeles, CA 90015

**Program:** L.A.'s legendary UnCabaret celebrates 25 years of wildly fun, idiosyncratic and intimate performance in a one-time-only evening of live comedy, music and never-before-seen footage from the vault. Special guests include alumni Julia Sweeney, Janeane Garofalo, Bob Odenkirk, Maria Bamford, Greg Behrendt, Andy Kindler, Scott Thompson, Allee Willis, Laura Kightlinger, Alex Edelman, Rebecca Corry and many more to be announced. The *Los Angeles Times* dubbed UnCabaret's host, producer and creatrix Beth Lapidés the "High Priestess of alternative comedy" for having reclaimed comedy as an art form, allowing for depth, meaning and even transcendence. If you've never been, now is the time to come see what all the commotion is about!

**Tickets:**

Single tickets: \$29.50–\$59.50

Online: [cap.ucla.edu](http://cap.ucla.edu), [theatre.acehotel.com](http://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.

**Artist website:** [UnCabaret](#)

**About UnCabaret**

UnCabaret is a legendary venue for idiosyncratic, conversational alt comedy. Beth Lapidés created UnCabaret out of a desire for a more real, intimate, intelligent, emotional, story-based kind of comedy. Lapidés' passion for UnCabaret began with her own frustration with the comedy clubs, an unserved audience and performers whose intense creativity was being constricted by the mechanics of the business.

One of the things that makes UnCabaret such a long-standing success is Lapidés' commitment to bringing together a uniquely eclectic mix of wildly original talent and inspiring them to take creative risks. UnCabaret has cultivated one of the most adventurous, intelligent audiences in the world. The combination of the exceptional talent with the stellar audience synthesizes into a fast-paced, funny, thought-provoking whole.

For 25 years UnCabaret has been a hotbed of personal storytelling that fostered the careers of iconoclastic comedy stars like Kathy Griffin, Julia Sweeney, Margaret Cho, Greg Behrendt, Laura Kightlinger, Mike McDonald, Bob Odenkirk, David Cross, Janeane Garofalo, Andy Kindler, Jeff Garlin, Andy Dick, Dana Gould, Patton Oswalt, Randy and Jason Sklar, Sherri Shephard, Moon Zappa and Taylor Negron. UnCabaret is where award-winning comedy writers like Judd Apatow, John Riggi, Michael Patrick King and Larry Charles have connected directly with audiences. Where luminaries like Jon Stewart, Sarah Silverman, Roseanne Barr, Sandra Bernhard, Carrie Fisher and Bill Maher have popped in to try their hand at comedy free styling.

Under musical director and co-producer Mitch Kaplan, UnCabaret has showcased musicians such as Shelby Lynne, Terra Naomi, Sam Morrow, Phoebe Bridgers, Judith Owen, Magnolia Memoir, Dweezil Zappa, Allee Willis, Miss Coco Peru, Ruby Freidman, Lisa Loeb, Doe Paoro, Garfunkle and Oates, SpaceCream and Missi Pyle.

Since the first performance at the Women's Building in DTLA, UnCabaret has had extended runs at some of L.A.'s top venues including Luna Park, Knitting Factory, HBO Workspace, M-Bar and Bar Fedora at First & Hope/Au Lac. It has toured to the Getty Center, Skirball Cultural Center,

Ace Hotel Palm Springs, HBO Comedy Arts Festival and Lollapalooza.

UnCabaret has recently ended a seven year residency at First and Hope/AuLac and will be popping up around LA in advance of the anniversary show. A new residency, to begin in January 2019, will be announced in September.

UnCabaret has birthed offshoots *Say the Word* and *The Other Network*, and is part of a documentary in the making by directors Jonathan Dayton and Valerie Faris (*Little Miss Sunshine*). Performances recorded at UnCabaret have been featured on NPR shows including *This American Life* and on Amazon, Comedy Central and Sirius.

UnCabaret's education branch has been in operation for over a dozen years under various titles including *UnCab Lab*, *The Comedian's Way*, *Beth Lapidés Workshop* and *Infinite Writing*, hosted by UCLA Extension, IOWest, the Skirball Center, Kripalu Center for Yoga and Health, L.A. Gay and Lesbian Center, M-Bar, PS 122, Humber College, Second City and Actors Comedy Studio.

UnCabaret has produced four episodes for Amazon and released five CDs available on iTunes: *Freak Weather Feels Different*, *The Un and Only*, *The Good The Bad and The Drugly*, and *Say the Word* Volumes 1 and 2.

UnCabaret has been hailed as "nothing cooler" (*Vanity Fair*), "liberating" (*Entertainment Weekly*), "legendary" (*Los Angeles Magazine*) and "seminal" (*The New York Times*).

#### **About Beth Lapidés** (host, executive producer, creator)

Beth Lapidés is a host, comedian, writer, producer, actress, teacher, activist and artist. She is the creatrix, host and executive producer of UnCabaret, a long running, critically acclaimed show which, in addition to its decades long Sunday night run, has been produced for Amazon, Comedy Central, audible and Comedy World Radio.

While best known for UnCabaret, Lapidés is also an acclaimed actress (*Sex and the City*), theater artist, host (Comedy World Radio), media personality (CNN, *Politically Incorrect*), author (*Did I Wake You? Haiku for Modern Living*), teacher (*The Comedian's Way*, UCLA Extension, Kripalu Center for Yoga and Health) and producer.

#### **About Mitch Kaplan** (music director and co-producer)

Mitch Kaplan is UnCabaret's musical director and co-producer. Mitch is an award-winning singer, songwriter and pianist and has worked in those capacities and as a musical director with such iconic luminaries as Sandra Bernhard, Ana Gasteyer and Cady Huffman. His songs have been recorded by artists such as Chaka Khan, Thelma Houston, Sister Sledge and Martika. Kaplan and Lapidés began working together on music for Beth's *100% Happy 88% of the Time*.

#### **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](http://theatre.acehotel.com).

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**PRESS REVIEW TICKETS/PHOTO PASSES/INTERVIEW REQUESTS:** Contact Nicole Freeman, PR & Marketing Assistant, The ACE Agency, [nicole@theaceagency.com](mailto:nicole@theaceagency.com)

**IMAGES:** Available by request or register for download at [cap.ucla.edu/pressimages](http://cap.ucla.edu/pressimages). Photos (from left): Beth Lapidés photo by Stephen Blaha; Bob Odenkirk and Maria Bamford photos courtesy of the artists.