

**CAP UCLA presents  
New Words & Ideas Series  
*L.A. Omnibus***

*Sept. 17, Oct. 8, Dec. 8, and more announced 2021*



This season the Words & Ideas program from [UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance \(CAP UCLA\)](#) introduces *L.A. Omnibus*, a series featuring Los Angeles-based artists, writers and thinkers. Each one will examine a specific topic starting with *A Conversation About Art, Activism and the Performance of Power*. Tickets are free with RSVP [here](#).

Deriving inspiration from the Latin meaning of *omnibus* — *for all* — the series explores how the vibrant city of Los Angeles continuously remakes itself. L.A. is not only about where people live, it is about how people live — the symbolism of the palm tree, the billboard, the drive-through, the ocean. The landscape of L.A., sculpted by individual perspectives, is a multifaceted, dynamic community — a place for everyone. Details on upcoming programs follow below.

***L.A. Omnibus: A Conversation About Art, Activism and the Performance of Power with art-makers Constance Hockaday, Daniel Alexander Jones and Kristina Wong***

**Thu, September 17, 2020 at 7 p.m.**

These three artists make performance and multi-disciplinary artworks that explore political voice, shared space, disruption and belonging. In this moment of cultural and political crisis, three artists that defy easy categorization share their thoughts on how communities can engage in some radical imagination to create a new future.

***L.A. Omnibus: In Conversation with Donna Rifkind***

**Thu, October 8, 2020 at 7 p.m.**

Between the wars, hundreds of German and Eastern European artists fled fascism and landed in Los Angeles — many to find refuge at the home of another émigré, screenwriter and activist Salka Viertel. Literary critic Donna Rifkind will discuss her biography of Viertel: *The Sun and Her Stars: Salka Viertel and Hitler's Exiles in the Golden Age of Hollywood*. Donna's research for the book spanned 10 years and multiple continents, where she uncovered the often-hidden stories of the artistic and intellectual refugees who influenced the Hollywood of the 1930s.

***L.A. Omnibus: In Conversation with Lynell George***

**Tue, December 8, 2020 at 7 p.m.**

Lynell George has been observing and writing about Los Angeles her entire life, as a reporter for *The Los Angeles Times* and *KCET*, and in her books: *No Crystal Stair: African Americans in the City of Angels*, and *After/Image: Los Angeles Outside the Frame*. She will share her insights and talk about her new book, *A Handful of Earth, A Handful of Sky: The World That Made Octavia E. Butler*. CAP UCLA audiences will remember Toshi Reagon's *Parable Of The Sower*, based on Octavia Butler's novel of the same name, which was the final live performance of the 2019-20 Season prior to COVID-19 gathering restrictions.

***L.A. Omnibus: A Musical and Poetic Conversation about Unity and Belonging with Omar Offendum***

**TBA Early 2021**

Omar Offendum is a Syrian-American rapper/spoken word artist and musician, well known for his signature blend of hip-hop and Arabic poetry. Offendum was recently named a Kennedy Center Citizen Artist Fellow, as well as a member of both the Pillars Fund cohort for Muslim narrative change and the RaceForward Butterfly Lab cohort for immigrant narrative strategy.

Funds for *L.A. Omnibus* are provided in part by the Arthur E. Guedel Memorial Lectureship Fund and the Sally & William A. Rutter Endowment for the Performing Arts.

**CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:**

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[\*L.A. Omnibus\*](#)

Thursday, September 17, 2020

Thursday, October 8, 2020

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

More events announced 2021

Online

Free with [RSVP](#)

**Artists website:** [Constance Hockaday](#) | [Daniel Alexander Jones](#) | [Kristina Wong](#) | [Donna Rifkin](#) | [Lynell George](#) | [Omar Offendum](#)

**ABOUT CAP UCLA**

[UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance](#) (CAP UCLA) is the public-facing research and presenting organization for the performing arts at the University of California, Los Angeles—one of the world's leading public research universities. We are housed within the UCLA School of the Arts & Architecture along with the Hammer and Fowler museums. The central pursuit of our work as an organization is to sustain the diversity of contemporary performing artists while celebrating their contributions to culture. We acknowledge, amplify and support artists through major presentations, commissions and creative development initiatives. Our programs offer audiences a direct connection to the ideas, perspectives and concerns of living artists. Through the lens of dance, theater, music, literary arts, digital media arts and collaborative disciplines, informed by diverse racial and cultural backgrounds, artists and audiences come together in our theaters and public spaces to explore new ways of seeing that expands our understanding of the world we live in now.

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**PRESS REQUESTS:** Contact Geena Russo, Communications Manager at [geena@arts.ucla.edu](mailto:geena@arts.ucla.edu).

**IMAGES:** Images for the 2020-21 season are available for download [here](#). Photo Credit: Courtesy of CAP UCLA.