



Photo by Jim Coleman

**Bill T. Jones/Arnie
Zane Company**
What Problem?

Sat, Nov 19, 2022 at 8PM
Royce Hall

**CENTER
FOR THE ART OF
PERFORMANCE
UCLA**

Welcome

TO THE 2022-23 SEASON

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 cultural platforms — by leading artists from around the globe.

Our mission aligns with UCLA's mission of education, research and civic engagement by providing cultural and experiential programs that provoke inquiry and facilitate connection and creativity.

cap.ucla.edu



CAP UCLA and New York Live Arts Present

Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company

Bill T. Jones
Co-Founder & Artistic Director

Janet Wong
Associate Artistic Director

Featuring

The Company

Barrington Hinds, Jada Jenai, Shane Larson, s. lumbert, Danielle Marshall, Marie Lloyd Paspe, Jacoby Pruitt, Nayaa Opong, Huiwang Zhang with Bill T. Jones

Musicians

Phillip Bullock, Shaq Hester, Stacy Penson, Dev Woodson

with

Allyson Adams, Marina Magalhães, Amira Hassnaoui, Nathaniel Whitfield, Theo Bonner Perkins, Kevin Kane, Steve Totland, Manish Peters, Jannai Simmons, Miles Brenninkmeijer, Michelle Morales, Alfonso Cervera, Chang Zhou, Omar Ariel Pablo, Kaitwan Jackson, Laura Smyth, Avery Collins Byrd, Elisheva Glaser, Victoria Vargas, Vera Wagman, Aryk Mathias, Reba Thomas, Yuval Zehavi, Sonia Gonzalez, Aquilah Ohemeng and Moupi Mukhopadhyay

in

What Problem?

Conceived and Directed by Bill T. Jones

Choreography by Bill T. Jones with Janet Wong and current and former Company members

Original Composition by Nick Hallett

Electronic Score by HPrizm aka High Priest, Rena Anakwe and Holland Andrews

Music Direction by Stacy Penson

Lighting Design by Robert Wierzel*

Costume Design by Liz Prince

Dramaturgy by Mark Hairston

Text by Bill T. Jones and Mark Hairston

Approximate run time: 85 minutes, no intermission

Please join us on the Royce Hall Terrace immediately following the performance for a Town Hall Discussion with Bill T. Jones, his company of dancers and local community participants. Light refreshments will be served.

*Denotes Member of the United Scenic Arts Union (USA)

Visual environment, video projection and lighting design conceived by Elizabeth Diller (DS+R) and Peter Nigrini for *Deep Blue Sea* have been adapted for the staging of *What Problem?*

Text excerpts from:

W.E.B. Du Bois *The Souls of Black Folk*
Martin Luther King, Jr. "I Have a Dream"
Kendrick Lamar, "Never Catch Me"
Herman Melville, *Moby Dick*

Musical excerpts from:

"Get Right Church" (traditional), performed by Empire Jubilee Quartet; courtesy of Document Records
"Black Gal (I Don't Want No Jet Black Woman)" (traditional), performed by prisoners of the Mississippi State Penitentiary, recorded by Alan Lomax

Programming & Production Staff

Kyle Maude, Producing Director
Hillery Makatura, Director of Production
Megan Dechaine, Production Stage Manager
Serena Wong, Lighting Supervisor
Shay Watson, Sound Engineer
Charles Cobbertt, III, Assistant Stage Manager
Jada Jenai, Company Manager

Adapted from *Deep Blue Sea* which was originally commissioned by Park Avenue Armory and Manchester International Festival in collaboration with Holland Festival and first performed on September 28, 2021. Additional commissioning support provided by The Mann Center for the Performing Arts with original support for *Deep Blue Sea* provided by The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage, Philadelphia. *What Problem?* Commissioning support provided by Carolina Performing Arts, Lumberyard Center for Film and Performing Arts, Indiana University Auditorium, George Mason University and Dancers' Workshop. Rehearsal support provided by Mana Contemporary and Bethany Arts Community. *What Problem?* was made possible by the New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project, with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

The creation of new work by Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company is made possible in part by the company's Partners in Creation: Anonymous (2), Anne Delaney, Zoe Eskin, Eleanor Friedman, Ruth & Stephen Hendel, Michael P.N.A. Hormel in Loving Memory of Jim Hormel, Suzanne Karpas, Ellen Poss, Jane Bovingdon Semel, in memory of Linda G. Shapiro, Slobodan Randjelović & Jon Stryker.

Support for New York Live Arts is provided by the Arnhold Foundation, Blanchette Hooker Rockefeller Fund, Bloomberg Philanthropies, Ed Bradley Family Foundation, The Brant Foundation, Inc., Joseph and Joan Cullman Foundation for the Arts, Dance/NYC, Ford Foundation, Howard Gilman Foundation, Mertz Gilmore Foundation, Harkness Foundation for Dance, Marta Heflin Foundation, Alex Katz Foundation, Lambent Foundation, Alice Lawrence Foundation, Samuel M. Levy Family Foundation, The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Mellon Foundation, Muriel Pollia Foundation, National Performance Network, New England Foundation for the Arts, New York Community Trust, The Poss Family

Foundation, Rockefeller Brothers Fund, Jerome Foundation, Jerome Robbins Foundation, The Fan Fox & Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, San Francisco Foundation, The Semel Charitable Foundation, Scherman Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, Tides Foundation.

Public support for New York Live Arts is from Humanities New York, National Endowment for the Arts, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council member Erik Bottcher, Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine, and the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature.

Corporate support for New York Live Arts includes Con Edison, Google, Tito's Handmade Vodka.

We at New York Live Arts acknowledge and offer deep gratitude to Lenapehoking, where New York Live Arts sits-the land, and waters of the Lenape homeland.



The presentation of Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company was made possible by the New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project, with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and the Mellon Foundation. Additional funds provided by the Royce Center Circle Endowment.



Photo by Jim Coleman

Program Notes

“For the problem of the Twentieth Century is the problem of the color-line . . . the relation of the darker to the lighter races of men . . . And yet, being a problem is a strange experience,—peculiar even for one who has never been anything else.” - W.E.B. Du Bois, *The Souls of Black Folk* (1903)

I have long accepted Dr. King’s immortal words “We Shall Overcome” mixed with the scripture of our democracy as formed and shaped by we the people. And yet there’s always been an uneasy recognition of the truth at the base of the great W.E.B. Du Bois statement concerning “the Problem”. The “Color Line” for Du Bois represented the epitome of otherness, yet we now understand this is much more complex. In our fractious era, I am compelled to elaborate on this “line” in terms of sexual politics, gender identity, class struggles, and especially at this moment in time, immigration.

These ideas collide in my mind and my creative self like tectonic plates. Tectonic activity creates land formations, volcanic eruptions and rearranging of whole continents. *What Problem?* is the latest result of this social/political/spiritual grinding and reformation.

Are you a problem? And what does it mean to be a problem?

All of my work is in pursuit of the “we”. *What Problem?* is the notion of “WE THE PEOPLE”.

~ Bill T. Jones

The Hymn

Text: Herman Melville

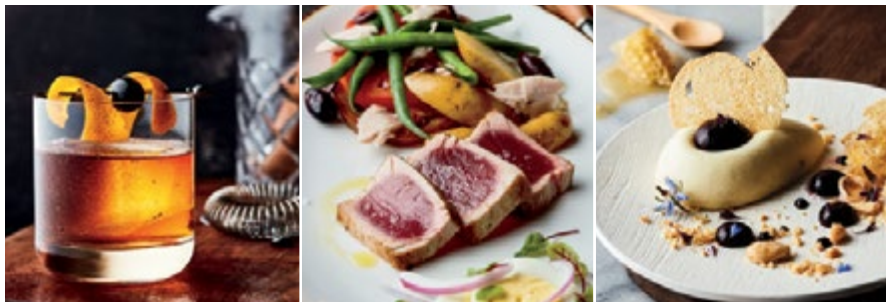
Melody: Chanel Howard

Part I Performed by: Danielle Marshall and Vocalists

Part II Performed by: Danielle Marshall, Marie Lloyd Paspe and Jada Jenai

*The ribs and terrors in the whale
Arched over me a dismal gloom
While all God’s sunlit rays rolled by
And left me deepening down to doom*

*I saw the opening maw of hell,
With endless pains and sorrows there;
Which none but they that feel can tell—
Oh, I was plunging to despair.*



YOUR TICKET TO ALL-STAR DINING

Before you take your seat, take time to eat. A special **PRE-SHOW, PRIX FIXE DINNER** at Plateia, our award-winning restaurant in the UCLA Luskin Conference Center, just a short walk from Royce Hall, is the perfect opening act.

Reservations required: 310-794-3563

P L A T E I A

Proud partner of the UCLA Center for the Art of Performance (CAP)



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Art in Action

Free art engagement activities that dig deeper into the themes and artistic forms being explored by the artists on our season. It is how we play together, make stuff and share ideas.

cap.ucla.edu/aia

Design for Sharing (DFS)

DFS is CAP UCLA's free K-12 arts education program. Since 1969, DFS has been making the performing arts at UCLA an accessible and inspirational part of children's lives. Each year, thousands of students engage with artists and explore their own creativity through performances, workshops or in-class residency activities

cap.ucla.edu/dfs



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UCLA Nimoy Theater

As the performing arts sector adapts to this transformative time, CAP UCLA is developing a dynamic space for a re-imagined future. The Nimoy is envisioned as a much-needed public platform for contemporary performance and a cultural gathering space where the potential of performing artists and audiences will evolve together. There will be updates throughout the season as we near the opening.

cap.ucla.edu/the_Nimoy

There is no room for racism.

Anywhere

Not on our stages, in our offices, on our loading docks, in the box office lines, or on the dance floor.

With anyone

Not with our staff, crew, artists, volunteers, ushers, audiences or fans.

We uphold and embrace principles of antiracism, equity, diversity and **AUTHENTIC** inclusion as integral to our mission.

We must **EMPOWER** the historically underrepresented.

We must **UPLIFT** excluded voices.

We must **RESIST** structural racism.

We will **COMMIT** fiercely to our responsibility to observe, absorb, consider, contemplate, endure, share and engage in this change.

There is no room for discrimination, intolerance or inequity.

We stand against all forms of discrimination and look forward to furthering our work towards making our organization more equitable.

As part of the UCLA's School of Art & Architecture ecosystem (SOAA), we, UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance (CAP UCLA) and Theater Management Services (TMS), serve to connect and create space for the arts and for all communities. We acknowledge our organizations' histories as being predominantly white institutions. We are now facing these uncomfortable truths and we are working to make the deep changes necessary to eliminate this systemic racism, dismantle any existing oppressive structures and pledge to transform the organizational dynamics in our work culture and business practices. There will be shortcomings that we will face head on, and we commit to staying fluid and adapting to changes as often as they come. It is only in an improved, supportive work environment that everyone can be present as their true authentic selves.



Together we stand with UCLA's School of Art and Architecture's EDI statement: arts.ucla.edu/resource/equity-diversity-and-inclusion/

CAP UCLA Council Leadership

CAP UCLA Executive Producer Council

The Executive Producer Council is CAP UCLA's philanthropic leadership group that develops and contributes resources vital to the Center's programming and mission. The Council comprises individuals who champion the creative development, presentation and public dialogue with contemporary performing artists by providing direct support for the Center's annual programming. They are engaged in the artistic and curatorial practices that inform the annual programs, long-term initiatives and collaborative planning efforts which stand at the heart of CAP UCLA's mission and public purpose.

Design for Sharing (DFS) Council

The Design for Sharing Council is a group of dedicated supporters whose efforts help to resource the K-12 arts education programs of DFS.

cap.ucla.edu/councils



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Co-Interim Director/Director of Education
& Special Initiatives – Meryl Friedman
Production Manager –
Bozkurt “bozzy” Karasu
Artist Liaison Manager – Zarina Rico

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Bernie Macapinlac
Human Resources Assistant – Erah Lulu

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Venue Manager – Evan “Otter” Wilkinson
Production Manager – Jeff Wallace
Crew Coordinator – Don Kidd
Audio/Video Supervisor – John Coleman
Lighting Supervisor – Anthony Gutierrez
Rigging Supervisor – Robert Ory
Audio/Video Assistant – Duncan Woodbury
Lighting Assistant – Evan Drane
Rigging Assistant – Joe Ceglia
Patron Services Manager – James Porter
House Manager – Ernie Ybarra
F.O.H. Staff – Pia Shekerjian
F.O.H. Staff – Melih Ercan
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Custodian – Ranoya Exum

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Rental Events Coordinator – Christina Montaña

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Assistant Director Central Ticket Office –
Gerardo Galeano
Customer Service Supervisor (Phone Room) –
Danielle Almaguer-Castrence

CAP UCLA ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

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GENERAL QUESTIONS

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(please allow 48 hours for a response)

TICKETING

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UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance gratefully acknowledges our donors, sponsors and members whose gifts directly support the vitality of contemporary performing arts. Thank you!

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Special Thanks

As we continue to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, CAP UCLA would like to acknowledge the critical support we received from a **Shuttered Venue Operators Grant**. This historic initiative—part of the American Rescue Fund Act passed by Congress in March 2021—represents a significant commitment to the arts and a recognition of the value of the arts and culture sector to the nation's economy and recovery. We would especially like to thank members of Congress who supported the inclusion of university-based performing arts centers and helped make this vital funding possible.

Join CAP UCLA

We are committed to presenting groundbreaking artists and performances that keep people inspired and connected globally and across cultures. Our community of supporters are vital collaborators in all that we do. Join the collective of arts enthusiasts dedicated to creativity and deepen your relationship to the artistic process.

cap.ucla.edu/support

cap.ucla.edu

