Quinteto Astor Piazzolla
Thu, May 11, 2023 at 8 pm
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 Presents

Quinteto Astor Piazzolla

Thursday, May 11 at 8 pm
Royce Hall

Program duration: 75 minutes (not including encores)
No intermission

Funds provided by the NEA Challenge Grant Endowment.
**Quinteto Astor Piazzolla**

Astor Piazzolla was a master of the bandoneon, the sensual, melancholic button squeezebox that gives tango so much of its distinctive sound. But Piazzolla’s instrument was the quintet.

He organized his first quintet in 1960, after returning to Buenos Aires from a short-lived attempt to settle in New York City, the place where he had spent his childhood. Perhaps a summation of his musical history and interests, Piazzolla’s quintet — bandoneon, violin, acoustic bass, piano, and electric guitar — suggested a hybrid of a jazz band, a chamber music group, and a small tango orchestra. It was also a practical alternative to the large tango ensembles he had led, such as his early *Orquesta Típica* and the Octeto Buenos Aires, a superb octet that couldn't find work even if artistically a success.

Piazzolla led two prominent quintets throughout his career, one from 1960 to 1971 and a second from 1978 to 1988. Even accounting for a few changes over the years, Piazzolla worked with a stable core group of musicians, which allowed him to take chances in his music and write for specific players, not just instruments. His first quintet was crucial in his development of Nuevo Tango. His second quintet, assembled in 1978 and dissolved in 1988, honed his earlier works to a gleam and allowed Piazzolla to stretch out as a performer and composer. During that time, Piazzolla cemented and expanded his global reputation and created masterpieces such as *La Camorra*, his last studio album featuring the quintet.

After Piazzolla’s passing in 1992, his widow, Laura Escalada Piazzolla, created the Astor Piazzolla Foundation to preserve and promote his artistic legacy. The Quinteto Astor Piazzolla, named in tribute to the original ensemble, was established in 1998.

Featuring various lineups since, the Quinteto has toured the United States, Latin America, Europe, and Asia; recorded five full-length albums, *Revolucionario*, which won Latin Grammy for Best Tango Album of 2019, *Fugata*, *En 3x4*, *Triunfal* and *Operation Tango*. 
The current Quinteto Astor Piazzolla comprises Pablo Mainetti, bandoneon, Barbara Varassi Pega, piano, Serdar Geldymuradov, violin, Armando de la Vega, guitar, Daniel Falasca, double bass, and Julián Vat, musical director.

The new album, Operation Tango, released on March 17 2023, marks a departure from previous efforts. The repertoire comprises pieces not written originally by Piazzolla for quintet now arranged for this ensemble.
FRI, MAY 12 AT 8 PM

The Small Glories
Royce Hall Terrace

Roots duo The Small Glories is a powerhouse musical partnership between veteran folk singers Cara Luft and JD Edwards. Delivering songs of love, loss and the natural environment with soaring vocals and the traditional instrumentation of stomping clawhammer banjo, guitar and harmonica, The Small Glories have an intimate performing style that makes audiences feel like they’re on stage.

“Some things just work together: the Lennon and McCartney syndrome – and to witness a performance by The Small Glories is a rare opportunity to experience that indefinable quality that creates perfection...”
— David Allen, Americana UK

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Art in Action

Art in Action is CAP UCLA’s free, public engagement program, where artists, educators, students and audiences come together to do stuff, make stuff and share ideas. It’s how CAP UCLA shares viewpoints and creative practices around the themes explored by artists in the current season.

Put your Art into Action.

*Always free! Always fun!*
Design for Sharing (DFS)

Each year, Design for Sharing (DFS) brings thousands of K-12 public school students from across Los Angeles to CAP UCLA venues for free performances and interactive workshops with professional artists.

DFS programs are open to any public school in greater Los Angeles, and are always free to attend.
SUN, MAY 21 AT 7 PM

Matthew Whitaker
THE THEATRE AT ACE HOTEL

Matthew Whitaker performs selections from his newest album, Connections. This sixteen-track collection serves as a bold declaration of the Yamaha Artist’s maturity as a player, composer and bandleader.

“Matthew Whitaker is music. To see and hear him play is to know that divine talent exists. Beyond his innate musical abilities is a sheer joy and passion to create music.” — WBGO Radio, Newark, NJ

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UCLA Nimoy Theater

CAP UCLA is building a new home for live performance in Westwood!

Located near the UCLA campus on Westwood Boulevard, The Nimoy is a reimagining of the historic Crest Theatre as a flexible, state-of-the-art performance space.

This dynamic and intimately scaled venue will immerse audiences in a profoundly engaging experience of live performance — while providing contemporary performing artists from Los Angeles and around the world expanded opportunities to develop and present new work.

Opening fall 2023
There is no room for racism, intolerance, or inequity.

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.

We STAND AGAINST all forms of discrimination.

We will STRIVE to make our organization more equitable and inclusive.

As part of UCLA’s School of Art & Architecture (SOAA), we — UCLA’s Center for the Art of Performance (CAP UCLA) and Theater Management Services (TMS) — are committed to connecting and creating space for the arts and for all communities.

We acknowledge our organizations’ histories as being predominantly white institutions. We are facing uncomfortable truths about systemic racism as we work to make the deep changes necessary to transform the organizational dynamics in our work culture and business practices and dismantle existing oppressive structures. We know there will be shortcomings, which we will face head on. We commit to continually addressing and adapting to changes as they arise. It is only in an improved, supportive work environment that everyone can be fully present, and respected as their true authentic selves.

This statement was drafted by a committee of staff members from both the Center for the Art of Performance and Theater Management Services, from a variety of backgrounds, viewpoints and perspectives.

Together we stand with UCLA’s School of Art and Architecture’s EDI statement.
CAP UCLA Council Leadership

CAP UCLA Executive Producer Council

The Executive Producer Council is CAP UCLA’s philanthropic leadership group, which develops and contributes resources vital to CAP UCLA’s programming and mission. The Council champions the creative development and presentation of live programs and public dialogue with contemporary performing artists by providing direct support for CAP UCLA’s annual programming. The Council is engaged in dialogue about the artistic and curatorial practices that inform 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 and Special Initiatives: Meryl Friedman
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Artist Liaison Manager: Zarina Rico
Production Associate Technical Director: Duncan Woodbury

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Human Resources Assistant: Erah Lulu

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Venue Manager: Evan “Otter” Wilkinson

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Production Manager: Jeff Wallace
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Custodian: Ranoya Exum

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GENERAL QUESTIONS
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Over time, many generous individuals have initiated leadership gifts to establish endowments that support the performing arts at UCLA in perpetuity.

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Shirley & Ralph Shapiro Director’s Discretionary Fund
Shirley & Ralph Shapiro Endowment for Design for Sharing

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 the constantly curious

Become a member and support CAP UCLA’s ability to engage, challenge, and captivate diverse audiences through the shared experience of extraordinary artistry and the exchange of ideas. As a CAP UCLA member, we invite you to deepen your relationship with artists and ideas by attending special events and participating in activities with other arts enthusiasts, support the development of bold new work and help bolster contemporary performing arts in Los Angeles. And, enjoy priority access to discounted tickets and year-round savings from our dining, retail, and museum partners.

Become a member

cap.ucla.edu/membership