

**CENTER
FOR THE ART OF
PERFORMANCE
UCLA**

**CAP UCLA Presents Legendary Jazz Guitarist Bill
Frisell's New Band FIVE and Grammy-Nominated
Ambrose Akinmusire's Ensemble Owl Song**

**Bill Frisell FIVE featuring Tony Scherr, Kenny Wollesen, Rudy Royston
and Thomas Morgan**

Ambrose Akinmusire's Owl Song featuring Bill Frisell and Herlin Riley

Saturday, October 14 at 8 pm in The Theatre at Ace Hotel



Courtesy of CAP UCLA

***"Frisell just has a knack for coaxing the most inviting sounds out of the
instrument, and the composition skills to put them in just the right order.
Combine a Colorado youth given to soul and Country & Western with solid jazz***

training, abetted by a decade-long residency in the heart of NYC's avant scene, multiplied by a fun factor of X (he has scored Buster Keaton's films) and you've got a recipe damn near perfection." - The Mirror

"Ambrose Akinmusire makes music that seems full of contradictions and yet is whole, consistent and coherent." — London Jazz News

[LOS ANGELES — September 18, 2023] Legendary Jazz guitarist **Bill Frisell's** new band, **FIVE** and Grammy-nominated trumpeter, vocalist and composer, **Ambrose Akinmusire's** ensemble, **Owl Song**, perform at [UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance \(CAP UCLA\)](https://cap.ucla.edu) on Saturday, October 14 at 8 pm at The Theatre in Ace Hotel. Tickets start at \$40 and are available now at cap.ucla.edu or 310-825-2101.

Two leading pioneers in modern jazz unite for a night filled with innovative music. **Bill Frisell**, the iconic guitarist, introduces his latest ensemble, **FIVE**, comprised of four enduring musical partners: Thomas Morgan and Tony Scherr on bass and Rudy Royston and Kenny Wollesen on drums, all of whom have collaborated with Frisell in various duos and groups. Owl Song will kick off the evening, a trio led by the Grammy-nominated trumpeter and composer Ambrose Akinmusire, showcasing Frisell and drummer Herlin Riley as integral members.

"Long hailed as one of the most distinctive and original improvising guitarists of our time..." by *The New York Times*, guitarist and composer Bill Frisell is known for his masterfully organic blending of classical jazz and American roots traditions and his diverse and expansive array of collaborators throughout his 40-year career. Recognized as one of America's 21 most vital and productive performing artists, Frisell was named an inaugural Doris Duke Artist in 2012. He is also a recipient of grants from United States Artists, Meet the Composer among others. In 2016, he was a beneficiary of the first FreshGrass Composition Commission to preserve and support innovative grassroots music. Upon San Francisco Jazz opening its doors in 2013, Frisell served as one of their Resident Artistic Directors. Frisell is also the subject of a documentary film by director Emma Franz, entitled *Bill Frisell: A Portrait*, which examines his creative process in depth. He has received an honorary doctorate from the Berklee College of Music.

The astonishingly inventive trumpeter, vocalist, avant-garde composer and bandleader Ambrose Akinmusire is joined by his ensemble Owl Song which features Frisell and the grooving New Orleans drummer Herlin Riley. Over the course of his 15-year career, Ambrose Akinmusire has intriguingly positioned himself at the nexus of jazz, simultaneously inhabiting both its core and its outskirts. More recently, he has ventured into the realms of classical and hip-hop music, embarking on an unceasing quest for fresh artistic paradigms. Akinmusire exhibits a remarkable talent for interweaving inspiration drawn from diverse genres, artistic forms, and the tapestry of life itself into compositions that exude both poetry and elegance, coupled with audacious fearlessness.

Akinmusire's unconventional approach to sound and composition has established him as a fixture in the world of music critics, while also securing him grants and commissions from prestigious institutions such as the Doris Duke Foundation, the MAP Fund, the Kennedy Center, The Berlin Jazz Festival, and the Monterey Jazz Festival. In 2007, Akinmusire won the esteemed Thelonious Monk International Jazz Competition, a competition adjudicated by a distinguished panel of judges featuring luminaries like Blanchard, Quincy Jones, Herb Alpert, Hugh Masekela, Clark Terry, and Roy Hargrove. The same year, Akinmusire also won the Carmine Caruso International Jazz Trumpet Solo Competition and released his debut album, *Prelude...To Cora*, under the Fresh Sound label.

The CAP UCLA 2023 spring programs continue on October 19 and 20 with Nano Stern at The Nimoy.

ARTISTS:

Ambrose Akinmusire - Trumpet & Vocalist
Bill Frisell - Guitar
Herlin Riley - Drums
Kenny Wollesen - Drums
Rudy Royston - Drums
Thomas Morgan - Bass
Tony Scherr - Bass

CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAP UCLA presents

Bill Frisell FIVE & Ambrose Akinmusire Owl Song

*Featuring Tony Scherr, Kenny Wollesen, Rudy Royston,
Herlin Riley & Thomas Morgan*

Saturday, October 14 at 8 pm

The Theatre at Ace Hotel

929 S Broadway, Los Angeles, CA 90015

Tickets start at \$40.

Artist's Website:

[Bill Frisell](#)

[Ambrose Akinmusire](#)

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.

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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IMAGES: Images of Bill Frisell and Ambrose Akinmusire are available for download [here](#).