

# CENTER FOR THE ART OF PERFORMANCE UCLA

## CAP UCLA Presents Back-to-Back Performances at The Nimoy:

### **Ethiocolor**

Friday, September 29 at 8 pm

### **Conrad Tao & Caleb Teicher: *Counterpoint***

Saturday, September 30 at 8 pm



[LOS ANGELES — September 7, 2023] [UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance \(CAP UCLA\)](#) is thrilled to present two exceptional performances that promise to captivate and inspire audiences at The Nimoy in September including, the nine-member Ethiopian ensemble **Ethiocolor** on Friday, September 29 at 8 pm, followed by ***Counterpoint***, a collaboration from pianist-composer Conrad Tao and dancer-choreographer Caleb Teicher on Saturday, September 30 at 8 pm. Tickets for the entire season are available now at [cap.ucla.edu](#), by phone 310-825-2101 or at the UCLA Central Ticket Office.

On Friday, September 29 at 8 pm, immerse in the mesmerizing world of Ethiocolor, led by the charismatic Melaku Belay. With deep roots in Ethiopia's rich Azmari culture, this nine-member ensemble transcends time, fusing ancient traditions with modern sensibilities. Through a spellbinding synergy of dance and music, Ethiocolor takes audiences on a journey that defies boundaries and unites hearts across cultures. Melaku Belay, acclaimed as a "walking earthquake" by *The New York Times*, brings to life the rhythmic marvel of eskista, a

shoulder-shimmying dance, while his Fendika Cultural Center in Addis Ababa has become a global hub of artistic exchange.

Ethiocolour is part of Center Stage, a public diplomacy initiative of the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs with funding provided by the U.S. Government, administered by the New England Foundation for the Arts in cooperation with the U.S. Regional Arts Organizations. General management is provided by Lisa Booth Management, Inc.

Conrad Tao and Caleb Teicher present a captivating collaboration on Saturday, September 30 at 8 pm, as the two merge their exceptional talents to create *Counterpoint*. A harmonious convergence of pianistic brilliance and dynamic choreography, *Counterpoint* showcases the artistic fusion of two distinct worlds. Tao's evocative piano compositions, ranging from Bach to Gershwin, intertwine seamlessly with Teicher's expressive dance, as they explore the fluid boundaries between their respective disciplines. The result is an experience that pushes artistic frontiers and extends the realms of both music and dance.

Conrad Tao has appeared worldwide as a pianist and composer and has been dubbed “the kind of musician who is shaping the future of classical music” by *New York Magazine* and an artist of “probing intellect and open-hearted vision” by *The New York Times*. Tao has performed as soloist with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony, Cleveland Orchestra, New York Philharmonic and Boston Symphony. As a composer, his work has been performed by orchestras throughout the world; his first large-scale orchestral work, *Everything Must Go*, received its world premiere with the New York Philharmonic and its European premiere with the Antwerp Symphony and he was the recipient of a New York Dance and Performance “Bessie” Award, for Outstanding Sound Design / Music Composition, for his work on *More Forever*, in collaboration with dancer and choreographer Caleb Teicher.

Caleb Teicher is a NYC-based dancer and choreographer specializing in musically-driven dance traditions and interdisciplinary collaboration. Teicher began their career as a founding member of Michelle Dorrance’s critically acclaimed tap dance company, Dorrance Dance, while also freelancing in contemporary dance (The Chase Brock Experience, The Bang Group), Lindy Hop (Syncopated City Dance Company) and musical theater (West Side Story International Tour and London). As a solo performer and collaborator, Teicher is known for choreographic collaborations with diverse musical talents: world-champion beatboxer Chris Celiz, composer/pianist Conrad Tao; the National Symphony Orchestra and indie rock legends Ben Folds and Regina Spektor.

The CAP UCLA 2023 spring programs continue on Saturday, October 7 with Edgar Arceneaux: *Boney Manilli* and Saturday, October 7 and Sunday, October 8 with Ann Carlson + inkBoat: *These Are the Ones We Fell Among*.

**CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:**

CAP UCLA presents  
**Ethiocolour**

Friday, September 29 at 8 pm  
UCLA Nimoy Theater  
1262 Westwood Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90024

**Conrad Tao & Caleb Teicher**  
Saturday, September 30 at 8 pm  
UCLA Nimoy Theater  
1262 Westwood Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90024

## **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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