Sammy Miller and The Congregation

Fri, Jan 19, 2024 at 8 pm
The Nimoy
WELCOME TO THE 2023–24 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’S new home for live performance

It’s an honor and a privilege to welcome you to CAP UCLA’s stunning new home for the performing arts: the UCLA Nimoy Theater. Through our diverse programs, and by providing vital opportunities for artists and partner organizations to develop contemporary work, The Nimoy is poised to make a lasting contribution to the performing arts, UCLA and our Los Angeles communities.

The Nimoy’s inaugural season launches with an interdisciplinary array of projects by influential and groundbreaking local, national and international artists. Together they will share their unique perspectives and crucial visions, creating an opportunity for our audiences to see the world in different and extraordinary ways.

This is your invitation to experience the beauty of sitting in a dark theater, among strangers or loved ones illuminated by the possibilities of the imagination. In this shared space, through the power of the arts, our ideas are challenged and our horizons are broadened — we are transformed.

I look forward to seeing you at The Nimoy!

Edgar Miramontes
Executive and Artistic Director
CAP UCLA Presents

Sammy Miller and The Congregation

Fri, Jan 19, 2024 at 8 pm
The Nimoy

Program duration: 90 minutes
No intermission

Funds provided by the Henry Mancini Tribute Fund.
ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Sammy Miller (Drums + Vocals)
Sammy Miller and The Congregation are on a mission to put the generosity back into jazz and bring art back to the people. Juilliard trained and drummer on a Grammy nominated album, Sammy Miller has been hailed as “the perfect player scholar” (The Wall Street Journal)

Miller has spent the last decade making jazz accessible to a new generation of listeners and learners. From Lincoln Center to The White House, TEDx to The Newport Jazz Festival, with special guests including Jon Batiste and Wynton Marsalis, Miller’s band, Sammy Miller and The Congregation, has headlined the most prominent Jazz festivals for over a decade. The Congregation specializes in joyful jazz – music that feels good.

After working with over 60,000 students in 45 states, Miller launched the music education platform PLAYBOOK to offer teachers the tools to inspire lifelong musicians. Miller recently discussed his music education philosophy in his New York Times op-ed titled We’re Teaching Music to Kids All Wrong.

Get onboard: @smcongregation

Ben Flocks (Tenor Saxophone)
Saxophonist and educator Ben Flocks captivates audiences around the world with his soulful sound. Born in Santa Cruz, California and residing in Los Angeles, Ben leads his own group and plays as a sideman in a variety of musical settings.

Ben has led his band at the Monterey Jazz Festival and the Bern Jazz Festival in Switzerland, and has had the honor to perform with Joshua Redman’s Trio, with Dave Brubeck as a Brubeck Institute Fellow, with Thana Alexa’s Quintet, with
Antonio Sanchez and Migration and with Sammy Miller and the Congregation.

Ben holds a MA in Music Education from San José State University and a BFA from the New School in New York and currently serves on faculty at Glendale Community College, Harvard-Westlake School, and the Stanford Jazz Workshop. Ben has a passion for music education and teaches saxophone lessons, improvisation courses, and ensembles utilizing focused listening and peer-mentorship methods. He also leads interactive concerts in schools for all ages tracing the history of jazz.

**Corbin Jones (Bass)**
California-born, Colorado-raised arranger and multi-instrumentalist Corbin Jones has credits with such artists as Beyoncé, Jay-Z, Lizzo, Lucky Daye, Lupe Fiasco, Gwen Stefani, and Kendrick Lamar. He’s performed at Coachella, Walt Disney Concert Hall, Newport Jazz Festival, Jazz @ Lincoln Center and on NPR’s Tiny Desk Concert Series. A Los Angeles-based graduate of the USC Thornton School’s Jazz Studies program, Jones’ love of groove has led him to a career on not only double bass, but bass guitar, synth bass, sousaphone, baritone saxophone, and leading his own group, The Corbin Jones Big Band.

**David Linard (Piano)**
Grammy Nominated and Juilliard trained, David Linard shares his love for timeless feel-good music as a pianist, composer, educator, and musical director.

In September 2023, he released his debut record, *Nearsighted* with a wide range of special guests - including Alphonso Horne, Tucci Swing and Sammy Miller.

David, as longtime member of Sammy Miller and The Congregation, continues to collaborate closely with Miller
in a plethora of different outlets ranging from the theater, to international jazz festivals, to Miller’s newest project, the musical education platform PLAYBOOK.

During the pandemic, Linard, with the Brooklyn based band Wayne Tucker and the Bad Mothas played in Prospect Park nearly daily, creating a (surprisingly well attended) makeshift jazz club out of a park curb. Although they’re back indoors now, this band continues to be a staple of the New York music scene.

**Molly Miller (Guitar)**
Since Dr. Molly Miller picked up the guitar at age seven, she’s been captivating audiences with her sophisticated and raw style. She’s one of Los Angeles’s most sought-after musicians, recording and touring with artists such as Jason Mraz, Black Eyed Peas and Sin Bandera, at venues such as the Hollywood Bowl, Royal Albert Hall and Coachella.

Miller heads her own trio, Molly Miller Trio, with legends Jennifer Condos and Jay Bellerose. Their music has been showcased on NPR’s Fresh Air and their 2021 release, *St. George*, was featured in major outlets such as *Guitar Player, Guitar World, Fretboard Journal*, and *Vintage Guitar*. Molly Miller Trio has toured opening for Jason Mraz and performed at iconic spaces such as Monterey Jazz Festival, Dizzy’s at Lincoln Center, and SF Jazz.

Soon after earning her Doctorate in Musical Arts from the University of Southern California in 2016, she became the chair of the Guitar Department at Los Angeles College of Music. She returned to her alma mater, USC, as a Professor of Studio Guitar in 2022.
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.

cap.ucla.edu/dfs
Terri Lyne Carrington
New Standards

Sat, Jan 27, 2024 at 8 pm
Royce Hall

Called a “true titan of jazz,” drummer Terri Lyne Carrington is an NEA Jazz Master and three-time Grammy Award-winner. Her latest project, New Standards, features women composers with an all-star band and selections from the songbook ranging from ballads to experimental compositions.

“Terri Lyne Carrington can play drums at the highest level. She’s a master. She’s one of the most experienced people in the music business — not only jazz, but any genre you can name.” — Herbie Hancock

cap.ucla.edu/tlc
UCLA NIMOY THEATER

CAP UCLA has 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 immerses 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.

cap.ucla.edu/nimoy
LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We at UCLA’s Center for the Art of Performance acknowledge the Gabrielino/Tongva peoples as the traditional land caretakers of Tovaangar (the Los Angeles basin and South Channel Islands).

As a land grant institution, we pay our respects to the Ancestors (Honuukvetam), Elders (Ahihirom), and relatives/relations (Eyoohinkem) past, present and emerging.
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
Samora Pinderhughes and Friends
The Healing Project

Thu, Feb 1, 2024 at 8 pm
Royce Hall

Vocalist, pianist, artist and filmmaker Samora Pinderhughes’ The Healing Project is a searing examination of the prison industrial complex in the United States, amplifying testimonials of those affected by incarceration and policing by uniting those who have been silenced with deeply affecting storytellers.

“...one of the most affecting singer songwriters today, in any genre.” – The New York Times

cap.ucla.edu/healing
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Artist Liaison Manager: Zarina Rico
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Assistant Director Central Ticket Office: Gerardo Galeano

Royce Hall
Director of Operations: Heidi Snyder
Venue Manager: Evan “Otter” Wilkinson

Royce Hall Production
Production Manager: Jeff Wallace
Stage Manager: Lauren “Ren” Westbury
Event Manager: Thomas Colen
Audio/Video Supervisor: John Coleman
Audio/Video Assistant: Erich Schroeder
Lighting Supervisor: Antony Gutierrez
Lighting Assistant: Evan Drane
Rigging Supervisor: Robert Ory
Staff Stage Technician: Eric Erickson

Royce Hall Patron Services
Patron Services Manager: James Porter
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F.O.H. Staff: Melih Ercan
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Royce Hall Custodial
Custodian Supervisor: Ranoya Exum
Custodian Lead: Delshena Murphy
Custodian Lead: Montrell Calloway

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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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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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NAME YOUR SEAT

The opening of The Nimoy offers donors a rare opportunity to create a lasting legacy while celebrating their passion for contemporary performing arts at UCLA. Learn more about naming a seat in The Nimoy — CAP UCLA’s newest home for live performance — and other opportunities to become a part of this state-of-the-art theater.

cap.ucla.edu/give-nimoy
JOIN THE CONSTANTLY CURIOUS

We invite you to become a CAP UCLA Member and support our ability to create a space for shared experiences, extraordinary artistry and the exchange of ideas.

- Enjoy priority access and discounts
- Support extraordinary artistry
- Deepen relationships with artists and other arts

Become a member
cap.ucla.edu/membership

cap.ucla.edu