

Martha Redbone *Martha Redbone's Roots Project*

Fri, Feb 9, 2024 at 8 pm The Nimoy

> CENTER FOR THE ART OF PERFORMANCE UCLA

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 Martha Redbone Martha Redbone's Roots Project

Fri, Feb 9, 2024 at 8 pm The Nimoy

Program duration: 90 minutes No intermission



Funds provided by the NEA Challenge Grant Endowment.

PERFORMERS

Martha Redbone: vocals, percussion Aaron Whitby: piano, backing vocals Charlie Burnham: violin, backing vocals Fred Cash: bass, backing vocals Toby Williams: drums

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Martha Redbone: Redbone is one of the most vital voices in American Roots music. A multi award-winning musician, the charismatic songstress is celebrated for her tasty gumbo of roots music embodying the folk and mountain blues sounds of her childhood in the Appalachian hills of Kentucky mixed with the eclectic grit of her teenage years in pre-gentrified Brooklyn. With her gospel singing father's voice and the spirit of her Cherokee/Choctaw mother's culture, Redbone broadens the boundaries of American Roots music with songs and storytelling that share her life experience as an Indigenous Black woman and mother in the new millennium. Redbone gives voice to issues of social justice, bridging traditions from past to present, connecting cultures, and celebrating the human spirit.

Her latest CD *The Garden of Love - Songs of William Blake*, produced by Nitty Gritty Dirt Band founder/Grammy Winner John McEuen is an unexpected twist – "a brilliant collision of cultures" (*New Yorker*) Martha's magnificent voice, Blake's immortal words and a masterful cornucopia of roots music (folk, country, piedmont blues, gospel, bluegrass, soul and traditional Native). Redbone, along with longtime collaborator Aaron Whitby are the Composers of original music and score, arrangers and orchestrators of the 2022 Broadway revival of *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/ When the Rainbow is Enuff*, the 1976 classic choreopoem by the late Ntozake Shange, premiered at the Booth Theater and garnered seven Tony award nominations. Redbone and her longtime collaborator Aaron Whitby are the 2020 Drama Desk Award recipients for Outstanding Music in a Play and the 2020 Audelco Award recipient for Outstanding Composer of Original Music and Score for off-Broadway revival *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/ When the Rainbow is Enuff* at the Public Theater. Redbone is a 2021 United States Artist Fellow. For more info, please visit martharedbone.com

Aaron Whitby: London-born and raised Whitby, producer, composer/songwriter and pianist, mentored by Walter "Junie" Morrison of Parliament Funkadelic and Ohio Players, is best known for the multiple award-winning albums he has written and produced with longtime collaborator Martha Redbone. Whitby also tours with wife Redbone whose band he leads. He engineered Natalie Cole's Grammy winning single "Living for Love" and has recorded and/or performed with George Clinton, Randy Brecker, Lisa Fischer, John McEuen, Raul Midon, Nona Hendryx, Vernon Reid, Omar Faruk Tekbilek, Mino Cinelu, Snehasish Mozumder, Keith Secola and many more. Whitby's own album project Cousin from Another Planet, a jazz/funk exploration of his more esoteric musical vocabulary, released in 2019 to critical acclaim features Charlie Burnham. Keith Loftis. Fred Cash. Jerome Harris, Gary Fritz and Rodney Holmes.

Charlie Burnham: Brooklyn born and raised Charles Burnham is a singular, versatile and virtuosic American violinist and composer, whose highly imaginative improvisational style crosses bluegrass, delta punk, free jazz, blues, classical and chamber jazz. Worldly and otherworldly sounds can be heard from Burnham's soulful voice. He has graced the recordings of many: Cassandra Wilson, James Blood Ulmer, Steven Bernstein, Susie Ibarra, Peter Apfelbaum, Henry Threadgill, String Trio of New York, Ted Daniel, Medeski, Martin & Wood, Living Colour, Queen Esther, John Zorn, Steve Swell, Rufus Wainwright, Krishna Das, Kenny Wollesen, Norah Jones, Billie Joe Armstrong, Jason Kao Hwang, The Woes, Hem, Elysian Fields and many more. Burnham also performs on harmonica and mandolin and is a highly regarded singer.

Fred Cash Jr.: Chicago native, Cash has recorded and toured with Martha Redbone since 2000. Cash attended the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago. Cash hails from a musical family, his father is Fred Cash Sr. of the legendary vocal group The Impressions and Fred Jr is one of the most in- demand bass players around. He has recorded for film and TV and worked with such artists in addition to Martha Redbone as Alicia Keys, Nona Hendryx, George Clinton, Henry Butler, Jean-Paul Bourelly, India Arie, Jerry Butler, Toshi Reagon, Michelle Dorrance, Sweet Honey in the Rock, Barbara Streisand, Marika Hughes and many, many more.

Toby Williams: Music goes back a long way in Chicago native Toby Williams' family. His great-great grandfather Jackson McKibbon played tuba and guitar, his daughters were dancers, his bassist son Al McKibbon played with Dizzy Gillespie and Thelonious Monk and Toby's drummer father Phillard Williams played with Earth , Wind and Fire. Toby has toured and recorded with Curtis Mayfield, Jerry Butler, Wayner Shorter, Henry Threadgill, Keb Mo, Leslie Uggams, Deela Reece and many, many more all over the world. He has been playing with Martha and Aaron since 2001.

DESIGN FOR SHARING (DFS)

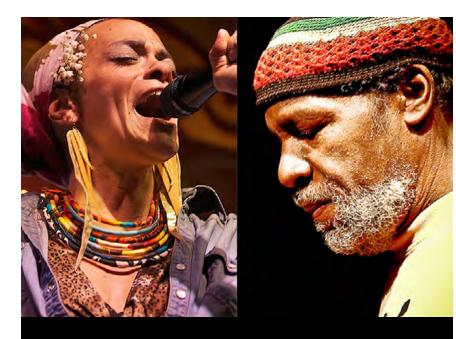
Each year, Design for Sharing (DFS) brings thousands of K-12 public school students from across Los Angeles to CAP UCLA venues for free performances and interactive workshops with professional artists.

DFS programs are open to any public school in greater Los Angeles, and are always free to attend.

cap.ucla.edu/dfs

CAP Ucla





Poetry Uncut: Part II J. Ivy hosts Ursula Rucker and Abiodun Oyewole

Sat, Feb 10, 2024 at 8 pm The Nimoy

Afro-Indigenous vocalist, songwriter, and composer, Martha Redbone is known for her powerful, seductive voice, which delivers a "unique gumbo" of folk, blues and gospel inspired by her childhood in Harlan County, Kentucky and infused with the eclectic grit of pre-gentrified Brooklyn.

"Rucker's is an intense, focused performance that effectively channels her natural stage presence." – NME

cap.ucla.edu/poetry_parttwo



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





India Carney Riding the Rollercoaster: An Artist's Life in Los Angeles

Feb 15 – 16, 2024 at 8 pm The Nimoy

Singer / songwriter India Carney curates and performs in a twonight celebration of music, featuring some of L.A.'s trailblazing young musicians. India is a graduate of UCLA and an alum of the YoungArts program, a national initiative that identifies exceptional young artists. Feb 15 highlights India and her band while Feb 16 is a showcase of past YoungArts winners living in Los Angeles, hosted by India.

cap.ucla.edu/carneynightone cap.ucla.edu/carneynighttwo

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.

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General Questions

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UCLA Central Ticket Office

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Theater Rental Information

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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



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

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