



Alfredo Rodriguez

Fri, Mar 22, 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

Alfredo Rodriguez

Fri, Mar 22, 2024 at 8 pm

The Nimoy

Program duration: 75 minutes

No intermission



FEATURING

Armando Lopez: Drums

Han Beyli: Electric Bass

ABOUT ALFREDO RODRIGUEZ

Born and raised in Havana, Cuba, Alfredo Rodriguez's world was confined by the numerous restrictions imposed by his country. With limited options, his parents enrolled him in a classical conservatory, but he was quickly shut down by his first teacher who declared him devoid of talent. Despite pushback, his love for piano grew so strong that he wasn't even deterred by not having a piano to practice on at home; instead, he painted piano keys on his parents' dinner table so he could run his scales.

In 2006, at age 19, he received an invitation to represent Cuba at the Montreux Jazz Festival (MJF) in the International Solo Piano Competition. After applying and auditioning as a composer, alongside twelve of the top pianists in the world, he was accepted and made his way to Switzerland, where he ended up being invited to festival founder Claude Nobs' chalet to play for the guests, one of whom happened to be legendary producer Quincy Jones. Upon Jones' return to Los Angeles, he couldn't get Alfredo out of his mind. He called his VP, Adam Fell, and explained that Alfredo was one of the best pianists he had ever seen and they needed to work with him. Little did they know, Alfredo had only received permission to travel to Switzerland to play in the competition (as it was difficult for Cubans to obtain a travel visa), and also learned it would be illegal to work with him due to the Cuban embargo.

Cubans were not allowed to work in the U.S., and could only arrive at U.S. border stations to seek political asylum – meaning that Alfredo would have to relinquish his Cuban citizenship and jeopardize his ability to return home until he obtained a green card. After a year and a half of contemplating, he mustered up the courage and made the difficult decision to leave his family behind for a country that could offer him the platform he needed to share the broader message of his music with more people.

It's evident the journey was worth it because not only has Alfredo earned frequent appearances on prestigious stages around the world such as the Playboy Jazz Festival, North Sea Jazz Festival, Jazz in Marciac, Umbria Jazz and Jazz A Vienne, but additionally, Rodriguez was nominated for a Grammy® in the category of "Best Arrangement, Instrumental or A Cappella," for the track "Guantanamera," from his album, *The Invasion Parade*. Additionally, during his first tour in China, Rodriguez was asked to work with Tan Dun, Siedah Garrett and Quincy Jones to compose the English version of the 2010 Shanghai World Expo theme song, becoming the first non-Chinese artist to be bestowed this honor. He's also been featured over the years by *All Things Considered*, *Downbeat*, *The New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times* and *Wall Street Journal* among many others, and performed for *NPR Music's* Tiny Desk Concert.

Rodriguez continues to share his music along with his impactful message of perseverance and cross culturalization on an international tour, while sharing a variety of viral social media videos in which he plays well-known compositions in a Cuban timba style.



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





Third Coast Percussion

Perspectives

Fri, Apr 5, 2024 at 8 pm
The Nimoy

Grammy-winning quartet Third Coast Percussion brings their eclectic and genre-redefining musicality to The Nimoy. With a repertoire including works by Danny Elfman, Philip Glass and Jlin, among others across a variety of genres, Third Coast Percussion celebrates the extraordinary depth and breadth of percussive possibilities.

“Impressively combining creative fearlessness with reverent precision” – *BBC Music Magazine*

cap.ucla.edu/third-coast



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





Poetry Uncut: Last Call

Hosted by J. Ivy

Sat, Apr 6, 2024 at 8 pm

The Nimoy

Grammy award-winning spoken-word artist J. Ivy (CAP UCLA's resident poet) hosts the last installment in our Poetry Uncut series, featuring local Los Angeles poets and spoken-word artists.

cap.ucla.edu/last-call

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



**CAP
UCLA**

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Student Arts Coordinator: Theo Bonner-Perkins

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Venue Manager: Evan "Otter" Wilkinson

Royce Hall Production

Production Manager: Jeff Wallace
Stage Manager: Lauren "Ren" Westbury
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Audio/Video Supervisor: John Coleman
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Royce Hall Custodial

Custodian Supervisor: Ranoya Exum
Senior Custodian: Brandi Jeffrey
Custodian Lead: Delshena Murphy
Custodian Lead: Montrell Calloway

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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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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



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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 enthusiasts

Become a member
cap.ucla.edu/membership

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