



Photo by Christophe Raynaud de Lage

Tiago Rodrigues

By Heart

Oct 24 - Oct 25, 2025 at 8 pm
The Nimoy

**CENTER
FOR THE ART OF
PERFORMANCE
UCLA**

WELCOME TO THE 2025–26 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



Throughout history, in moments of uncertainty and transformation, it is the arts that have helped us hold the line — and imagine the horizon. As we move through a shifting political and cultural landscape, we return to the stage not only to reflect, but to lead.

Artists have long been the truth-tellers, the visionaries, the builders of bridges where none existed. In the face of fear or division, they light the way forward — sparking dialogue, resisting silence and creating the emotional commons where we rediscover our shared humanity. Art doesn't just document history — it shapes it. It asks bold questions. It offers sanctuary. And it dares us to dream.

For our 2025–26 season CAP UCLA invites you into a radical act of gathering across 30 performances with more than 100 artists from around the globe. Imagine a world where strangers become companions in belonging, where performance becomes public square and where artistic voices help us build a more compassionate and courageous society.

This season is more than a series of performances — it is a call to community. Exciting new theater, revolutionary music and dance remind us that unity is not an ideal — it is an act. The stage becomes our platform, our laboratory, our refuge. Here, we witness. We reckon. We rejoice.

Even in tumultuous times — especially in those times — art meets the moment. And so do we.

With hope and imagination,



Edgar Miramontes

Executive and Artistic Director





Photo by Christophe Raynaud de Lage

CAP UCLA presents

Tiago Rodrigues ***By Heart***

Oct 24 - Oct 25, 2025 at 8 pm
The Nimoy

Program duration: 105 minutes
No intermission

Notice of filming and photography: This event is being recorded for archival documentation. Audience participation is an element of the performance. By volunteering to participate, you consent to be included in the archival video.

Villa
Albertine 

PALIHOTEL
WESTWOOD VILLAGE



Supported by Theatre & New Forms, a program of Villa Albertine and Albertine Foundation.
Additional support provided by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation Endowment Fund.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Executive production Festival d'Avignon

Based on an original creation by the company Mundo Perfeito

Coproduction O Espaço do Tempo, Maria Matos Teatro Municipal

With the support of Camões Centre culturel portugais à Paris for the 77th edition of the Festival d'Avignon

Support for creation Governo de Portugal - DGArtes

Executive production of the original creation Magda Bizarro, Rita Mendes

CREDITS

Written, directed and performed by Tiago Rodrigues

English translation by Tiago Rodrigues, **revised by** Joana Frazão

Extracts and quotations from William Shakespeare, Ray

Bradbury, George Steiner and Joseph Brodsky

Scenography, costumes and props by Magda Bizarro



Photo by Christophe Raynaud de Lage

ABOUT *BY HEART*

Going blind, Tiago Rodrigues's grandmother looks for a final book to learn by heart. So was born *By Heart*, this essential show, created in 2013.

In *By Heart*, Portuguese playwright and actor Tiago Rodrigues teaches a poem to ten people. These ten people never saw the performance and they have no idea which text they will be learning by heart in front of the audience. While teaching them, Rodrigues unfolds a mix of stories of his soon-to-be-blind grandmother and stories of writers and characters from books that are, somehow, connected both to the old lady and himself. The books are also there, on stage, inside wooden fruit crates. As each couple of verses is taught to the group of ten people, improbable connections emerge between Nobel Prize winner Boris Pasternak, a cook from the north of Portugal and a Dutch TV program called *Beauty and Consolation*, and the mystery behind the choice of each poem is slowly solved.

ABOUT TIAGO RODRIGUES

The first ambition of Portuguese actor Tiago Rodrigues is to play with people who'd want to come together and invent shows. His encounter with the Belgian company tg STAN in 1997, when he was about 20, definitively confirmed his attachment to the absence of hierarchy in a creative group. He would develop his acting, his dramatic writing, and his taste for the collective. The freedom of performance and decision given him then would forever influence his future shows.

Tiago Rodrigues thus found himself repeatedly and early in his career in a position of instigator, and little by little came to direct and write projects he "stumbled upon." In parallel to that, he also wrote screenplays, articles, poems, prefaces, op-eds, etc.

In 2003, he co-founded with Magda Bizarro the company

Mundo Perfeito, with which he created many shows without settling down in any specific location, becoming the guest of many national and international institutions. In France, he notably performed his Portuguese version of Shakespeare's *Antony and Cleopatra* in 2015, and *Sopro* in 2017, which, like all his plays translated into French, were published by Les Solitaires intempestifs. *By Heart* is presented in 2014 at the Théâtre de la Bastille, which later invites him to lead an "occupation" of the theater during two months in spring 2016, during which he created *Bovary*. Director of the Teatro Nacional Dona Maria II in Lisbon from 2015 to 2021, Tiago Rodrigues nevertheless continues to create shows using the limited means he has appropriated as his own artistic syntax. On a larger scale, he has become a builder of bridges between cities and countries, at once host and advocate of a living theatre. In 2022, he accepts the Comédie de Genève's invitation to be its first associate artist, and creates *Dans la mesure de l'impossible*, based on the testimonies of people working in humanitarian aid.

After being appointed as the future director of the Festival d'Avignon in July 2021, while presenting Chekhov's *The Cherry Orchard* in the Cour d'honneur du Palais des papes, he took up his post in September 2022.



Photo by Christophe Raynaud de Lage

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



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Pony Cam ***Burnout Paradise***

Sat, Nov 1, 2025 at 8 pm

Sun, Nov 2, 2025 at 6 pm

The Nimoy

From Australia's award-winning collective Pony Cam, *Burnout Paradise* is a frenetic, physical and darkly comedic showdown performed on treadmills. Four performers spiral through escalating tasks, confronting burnout, broken systems and the struggle to set boundaries.

"One of the most frenetically uproarious shows you will ever experience." – *Time Out*

cap.ucla.edu/ponycam



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





Wild Up at The Nimoy ***What I Call Sound***

Sat, Nov 8, 2025 at 8 pm

The Nimoy

Wild Up at The Nimoy is a three-concert series celebrating ecstatic freedom in music, from improvisation to minimalism and beyond. The first installment highlights the works of Bobby Bradford, William Roper, Eric Dolphy and more.

“[A] fun-loving, exceptionally virtuosic family.”
– *The New York Times*

cap.ucla.edu/call-sound

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



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Venue Manager: Evan "Otter" Wilkinson
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Royce Hall Production

Production Manager: Jeff Wallace
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Royce Hall Custodial

Custodian Supervisor: Ranoya Exum
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THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

CAP UCLA gratefully acknowledges our donors, sponsors and members.

This list reflects donations and commitments to the UCLA Nimoy Theater campaign as well as annual gifts made from Jan 1, 2024 to Aug 31, 2025.

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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. We gratefully acknowledge:

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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



BECOME A CAP UCLA MEMBER

Membership is an invitation — to be closer to the creative process, to champion new ideas and to help the arts thrive.

Members receive priority access, ticket benefits and invitations to special gatherings that deepen the experience of our shared journey.

Join today at cap.ucla.edu/membership

