CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Saturday, January 19, 2013, 8pm
Zellerbach Hall

Monterey Jazz Festival on Tour

55th Anniversary Celebration

Dee Dee Bridgewater  vocals
Christian McBride  bass, musical director
Benny Green  piano
Lewis Nash  drums
Chris Potter  saxophones
Ambrose Akinmusire  trumpet

PROGRAM

The program will be announced from the stage. Music will be an assortment of classic jazz repertoire and original compositions by band members.

Jazz at Cal Performances is sponsored by Nadine Tang and Bruce Smith.

Cal Performances’ 2012–2013 season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.
THE MONTEREY JAZZ FESTIVAL, the longest continuously running jazz festival in the world, has presented nearly every major jazz star—from Billie Holiday and Louis Armstrong to Esperanza Spalding and Trombone Shorty—since it was founded in 1958. World-renowned for its artistic excellence, sophisticated informality, and longstanding mission to create and support year-round jazz education and performance programs in local, regional, national, and international venues, the Monterey Jazz Festival continues this commitment in 2013 with its third North American Tour. Featuring critically acclaimed, Grammy Award-winning jazz artists, the all-star band consists of vocalist Dee Dee Bridgewater, bassist and musical director Christian McBride, pianist Benny Green, drummer Lewis Nash, saxophonist Chris Potter, and trumpeter Ambrose Akinmusire.

A leader in jazz education, the Festival has also presented the winning bands from its high school competition since 1971, and has showcased talented young musicians in an all-star student big band, now called the Next Generation Jazz Orchestra. Throughout the years, many legendary and influential artists—including Ray Brown, Ron Carter, Max Roach, Dizzy Gillespie, and Benny Golson—have mentored and performed with the all-star students, often premiering original works written for the band. Alumni of the group include Ambrose Akinmusire, Joshua Redman, Patrice Rushen, Dave Koz, Eric Marienthal, Gordon Goodwin, Larry Grenadier, and Benny Green, to name just a few.

Previous Monterey Jazz Festival tours have crisscrossed the United States. In 2008, the 50th Anniversary All-Star Band made a 10-week, 54-date tour across 22 states, and featured the leaders of the past, present, and future with four-time Grammy-winner Terence Blanchard on trumpet; Grammy-winner James Moody on saxophone; musical director Benny Green on piano; Derrick Hodge on bass; Kendrick Scott on drums, and five-time Grammy-nominated vocalist Nnenna Freelon.

In 2010, Monterey Jazz Festival on Tour played a six-week, 34-date tour through 17 states, and featured the nine-time Grammy-nominated NEA Jazz Master Kenny Barron on piano; Grammy-nominated violinist Regina Carter; Grammy-winning guitarist Russell Malone; Grammy-winning vocalist Kurt Elling; bassist Kiyoshi Kitagawa; and Grammy-nominated drummer Johnathan Blake.

The multitalented, two-time Grammy-winning vocalist and Tony Award-winning actress Dee Dee Bridgewater has had an illustrious career. Since her New York debut in 1970, she has appeared with the Thad Jones/Mel Lewis Orchestra, Sonny Rollins, Dizzy Gillespie, Dexter Gordon, Max Roach, Roland Kirk, and many more. As an actress, she has appeared on stages around the world, which include her Tony-winning performance as Glinda the Good Witch in The Wiz on Broadway and her Laurence Olivier Award-nominated portrayal of Billie Holiday in Stephen Stahl’s Lady Day in London. She has also appeared in Sophisticated Ladies, Cosmopolitan Greetings, Black Ballad, Carmen Jazz, and Cabaret. As host of NPR’s Jazzset, Ms. Bridgewater presents today’s best jazz artists in performance on stages around the world, and, over the course of her career, she has recorded many albums, including homages to Horace Silver, Kurt Weill, and the Grammy-winning albums Dear Ella (1997) and Eleonora Fagan (1955–1959): To Billie with Love from Dee Dee (2010). In December 2012, Ms. Bridgewater received an honorary Doctor of Music degree from University of Michigan-Flint. Ms. Bridgewater made her first appearance at the Monterey Jazz Festival in 1973 with the Thad Jones/Mel Lewis Orchestra.

Three-time Grammy-winning bassist Christian McBride (musical director) has been at the forefront of jazz since the early 1990s. As one of the most in-demand bassists in the world, he has recorded and performed with a wide range of artists, including Freddie Hubbard, Pat Metheny, Joshua Redman, Joe Henderson, Betty Carter, Roy Haynes, Benny Green, Kathleen Battle, Diana Krall, Dave Brubeck, Jimmy Smith, Joe Lovano, McCoy Tyner, George Duke, Sting, Chick Corea, Chris Botti, James Brown, Queen Latifah, Carly Simon, Sonny Rollins, and Roy Haynes. As a recording artist, Mr. McBride has released albums on the Verve, Warner Brothers, and Mack Avenue labels, including the critically acclaimed Kind of Brown (2009), recorded with his group Inside Straight, and the Grammy-winning The Good Feeling (2011), his first big-band recording as a leader, arranger, and conductor. As a jazz educator and mentor, he serves as the Artistic Director at the Jazz Aspen Snowmass summer program and is the Co-Director of the Jazz Festival in Harlem; and has held Artistic Director, Creative Chair, and Artist-in-Residence positions at the Henry Mancini and Brubeck Institutes, the Berklee College of Music, the Stanford Jazz Workshop, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, and the Detroit and Monterey jazz festivals. Mr. McBride has appeared at the Festival eight times since 1994.

Born in New York in 1961, pianist Benny Green grew up in Berkeley, California, and as a teenager, he worked with Eddie Henderson and Chuck Israels. Arriving in New York City in 1982, and studying with Walter Bishop Jr., Mr. Green worked with Betty Carter from 1983 to 1987, and then played with Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers through 1989. In 1993, after hearing Mr. Green perform with Freddie Hubbard’s quintet, Oscar Peterson chose Mr. Green as the first recipient of the City of Toronto’s Glenn Gould International Protégé Prize in Music. That same year he joined Ray Brown’s trio. In 1997, Mr. Green resumed his freelance career, leading his own trios, accompanying singers like Diana Krall, and giving solo piano performances. As a leader, Mr. Green has recorded many albums for the Criss Cross, Blue Note, Toshiba, and Telarc labels, and has appeared on over 100 recordings with many artists, including Betty Carter, Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers, Freddie Hubbard, Bobby Watson, Milt Jackson, Diana Krall, and Ray Brown. He acted as the Musical Director for....
Drummer Lewis Nash grew up in Phoenix, Arizona, and by the age of 18 he was a first-call sideman for visiting musicians. He moved to New York in 1980 to join Betty Carter’s band. Since then, Mr. Nash’s versatility has made him one of the most in-demand drummers of the past several decades—recording and touring with Tommy Flanagan, Oscar Peterson, Sonny Rollins, Ray Brown, Gerald Wilson, Horace Silver, Ron Carter, Hank Jones, Benny Carter, Milt Jackson, Art Farmer, McCoy Tyner, Joe Lovano, Christian McBride, Branford Marsalis, Wynton Marsalis, Pat Martino, Clark Terry, Diana Krall, Joe Williams, Nancy Wilson, and many others, and releasing three recordings as a leader for the Criss Cross, Concord, Koch, Emarcy, Verve, and Storyville labels. As a sideman, Mr. Potter has appeared on more than 100 others with a wide variety of artists, including Herbie Hancock, John Scofield, the Mingus Big Band, Jim Hall, Dave Douglas, and Ray Brown. Over the years, he has been a regular member of Paul Motian’s Electric Bebop Band, Steely Dan, and bassist Dave Holland’s groups, including Holland’s Monterey Quartet, which also featured pianist Gonzalo Rubalcaba and drummer Eric Harland at Monterey’s 50th Anniversary in 2007. His most recent membership is with Pat Metheny’s Unity Band, Mr. Metheny’s first group in 30 years to feature a saxophonist. Making an appearance with the Unity Band at the 55th Monterey Jazz Festival in 2012, Mr. Metheny said that “[Chris] is one of the greatest musicians I have ever been around.” Mr. Potter made the first of his eight Festival appearances in 1997.

Trumpeter Ambrose Akinmusire was born in Oakland, California, attended Berkeley High School, and was a member of the 1999 and 2000 Monterey Jazz Festival High School All-Star Band. Steve Coleman hired the 19-year-old Mr. Akinmusire for an extensive European tour with his Five Elements band. Mr. Akinmusire moved to New York City in 2000 to attend the Manhattan School of Music, performing with Lonnie Plaxico, Stefon Harris, Josh Roseman, Vijay Iyer, Charlie Persip, the Mingus Big Band, and the San Francisco Jazz Collective along the way. In 2005, he returned to the West Coast for a master’s degree at the UCLA, and simultaneously attended the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz, where he studied with Terence Blanchard, Herbie Hancock, Wayne Shorter, Billy Childs, and Gary Grant. After his graduation in 2007, Mr. Akinmusire won both the Thelonious Monk International Jazz Competition and the Carmine Caruso International Jazz Trumpet Solo Competition in the span of one week. In 2011, after performing live and making appearances on recordings with Steve Coleman, Vijay Iyer, Alan Pasqua, Walter Smith III, Josh Roseman, Esperanza Spalding, Aaron Parks, Jimmy Heath, Jason Moran, Terri Lyne Carrington, Ron Carter, Jason Moran, Wallace Roney, Herbie Hancock, Wayne Shorter, and others, Mr. Akinmusire released When the Heart Emerges Glistening on Blue Note Records. The New York Times wrote that Mr. Akinmusire’s quintet “seems destined for much wider recognition,” and named When the Heart Emerges Glistening as their top CD of the year. The Los Angeles Times said that he “sounds less like a rising star than one that was already at great heights and just waiting to be discovered.” Mr. Akinmusire was Monterey’s Artist-in-Residence in 2012, and has made four appearances at the Festival since the 1990s.