

Thursday, April 13, 2017, 8pm
Zellerbach Hall



Jazz and Sondheim Side by Side

Bill Charlap, *piano*

Renee Rosnes, *piano and arranger*

Ann Hampton Callaway, *vocals*

Steve Wilson, *saxophones and flute*

Sean Smith, *bass*

Lewis Nash, *drums*

René Mandel, Heather Powell, Matthew Szemela, and Yuna Lee, *violins*

Marcel Gemperli and Alexandra Leem, *violas*

Eric Gaenslen and Robert Howard, *cellos*

Scott Dunn, *conductor*

*This evening's performance will be performed without intermission
and last approximately 75 minutes.*

*Jazz residency and education activities generously underwritten
by the Thatcher Meyerson Family.*

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Renee Rosnes and Bill Charlap

Tonight's concert presents piano duo Bill Charlap and Renee Rosnes' remarkable jazz treatments of Stephen Sondheim's unforgettable songs from shows like *Company*, *Follies*, and *Sweeney Todd*. The concert features the dynamic voice of Tony-nominated and platinum award-winning singer/songwriter Ann Hampton Callaway, and a soaring string ensemble arranged by Renee Rosnes and led by Scott Dunn, the distinguished associate conductor of the Los Angeles Philharmonic's Hollywood Bowl Orchestra. Also featuring the brilliant Steve Wilson as guest soloist on alto and soprano saxophones and flute, the elegant artistry of Sean Smith on bass, and the thrilling virtuosity of Lewis Nash on drums, this program will celebrate the beauty and diversity of Sondheim's songwriting genius.

Bill Charlap and Renee Rosnes (*piano*) have a unique musical connection. Two of the premier pianists in jazz, they are also a married couple. Together they create impassioned, eclectic, and extraordinary piano duets. Of their debut Blue Note recording, *DownBeat* wrote, "The counterpoint and compatibilities are so perfectly balanced, the selections and arrangements so handsome, that *Double Portrait* is a prize."

Last year, Charlap received a Grammy Award for Best Traditional Pop Album for his collaboration with Tony Bennett—*The Silver Lining: The Songs of Jerome Kern*. Throughout his career, he has worked with such top artists as Gerry Mulligan, Wynton Marsalis, Phil Woods, and Barbra Streisand. Charlap's April 2016 re-

lease, *Notes from New York* (Impulse!) was awarded five stars in *Downbeat* magazine and features his trio partners of the last 20 years, bassist Peter Washington and drummer Kenny Washington. Charlap is currently enjoying his 13th year as the artistic director of 92Y's Jazz in July festival, which takes place each summer. He is also director of jazz studies at William Paterson University.

Pianist and composer Renee Rosnes hails from Vancouver and quickly established a reputation as a major talent after arriving in New York. Aside from leading her own quartet, she has been a member of the bands of jazz legends Wayne Shorter, James Moody, Bobby Hutcherson, J.J. Johnson, the SFJAZZ Collective, and more recently, bassist Ron Carter. A four-time Juno Award winner, Rosnes has just released her 15th recording as a leader. *Written in the Rocks* (Smoke Sessions) was released in February 2016, and spent three weeks topping the Jazzweek national radio chart.

For more information, please visit www.bill-charlap.com and www.reneerosnes.com.



Ann Hampton Callaway

Ann Hampton Callaway (*vocals*) was named Broadwayworld.com's "Performer of the Year" in 2014 and is a leading champion of the Great American Songbook. She is a platinum award-winning songwriter, with songs appearing on seven of Barbara Streisand's most recent albums. She wrote the theme for the TV series *The Nanny*, and she has written songs for Carole King, Rolf Loveland, and Barbara Carroll. Callaway has performed with more than 25



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Cal Performances Salutes the Thatcher Meyerson Family

This season, Cal Performances' jazz residency and education activities are generously underwritten by the Thatcher Meyerson Family. Their generous gift is inspired by—and in loving memory of—family heads David and Shirley Thatcher.



In 1946, David and Shirley met working on a Democratic campaign in Philadelphia. The couple married the following year, and Shirley always said that she fell for David partly because of his jazz record collection.

Shortly thereafter, the Thatchers moved to California to fulfill David's dream of attending UC Berkeley, where he eventually received his Ed.D. Enthusiastic swing dancers, and always actively engaged in community life, David and Shirley soon welcomed three children to the family. As the years passed, the two campaigned for local Democrats, marched against the Vietnam War, volunteered for the PTA, gave citizenship classes, and edited the *Peace and Justice* newsletter. And through it all, they always included jazz concerts, museum visits, films, and adventurous dining in their family activities.



David and Shirley's middle child, Maris Thatcher Meyerson, remembers coming to Zellerbach Hall with her parents shortly after it opened in 1968. Now serving on Cal Performances' board of trustees as co-chair of the Education and Community Outreach Committee, Maris is grateful to continue her parents' legacy of giving back to the community.

major US orchestras and big bands, and has appeared in tributes to Ella Fitzgerald, Peggy Lee, and Harold Arlen at Carnegie Hall. She has also performed with her sister, Liz, in two shows: *Sibling Revelry* and *Relative Harmony*. Her latest recording is 2014's critically acclaimed *From Sassy to Divine: The Sarah Vaughan Project*. Her website is annhamptoncallaway.com.

Steve Wilson (*saxophones and flute*) has brought his distinctive sound to more than 100 recordings, prompting profiles in the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, and last month's *JazzTimes*. He has been a member of the Dave Holland Quintet and Chick Corea's sextet, Origin, and he is currently a touring member of the Maria Schneider Orchestra, the Billy Childs and Buster Williams quartets, and Christian McBride's Inside Straight and Big Band. In March 2015 Wilson released his eighth recording as a leader, *Live in New York: The Vanguard Sessions*, with his quartet, Wilsonian's Grain. He is a member of duos with drummer Lewis Nash (which released its debut album, *Duologue*, last year) and pianist Bruce Barth; and he leads a trio with pianist Renee Rosnes and bassist Peter Washington. Wilson's website is stevewilsonmusic.com.

Sean Smith (*bass*) has performed with jazz superstars like Gerry Mulligan, Rosemary Clooney, Benny Carter, Johnny Griffin, Clark Terry, and the Jacky Terrasson Trio, as well as with Tracy K. Smith, winner of the 2012 Pulitzer Prize for Poetry. As a leader, he has made several CDs with his quartet, including *Trust*, which was named one of the best jazz albums of the year by the *Huffington Post*. Last year the Sean Smith Ensemble was awarded the 2015 CMA/ASCAP Award for Adventurous Programming, and in June 2015 the Sean Smith Trio performed at the Blue Note. As a sideman, Smith can be heard on more than 100 recordings. A prolific composer, his music has been played and recorded by Phil Woods, Bill Charlap, Mark Murphy, Gene Bertoncini, and others. His website is seansmithjazz.com.

Lewis Nash (*drums*) is a modern master of the drums. Born in Arizona, he developed an early interest in music, beginning to play drums at age 10. In 1981 Nash moved to New York City and debuted in the trio of Betty Carter; by 1984 he was playing with bassist Ron Carter's group. From 1986 through 1988, Nash was a member of the Branford Marsalis Quartet, an association that is documented on the Grammy nominated recording *Random Abstract*. In 1989 he toured with Sonny Rollins, Stan Getz, Art Farmer, Clark Terry, and Milt Jackson. From 1990 to 2000 Nash was a member of the Tommy Flanagan Trio. During this time, he also toured and recorded with the Carnegie Hall Jazz Band and the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra. His impressive discography of more than 400 recordings includes collaborations with contemporary stars and historical trailblazers such as Dizzy Gillespie, Oscar Peterson, Benny Carter, Hank Jones, John Lewis, Diana Krall, Joe Lovano, McCoy Tyner, Gary Burton, Natalie Cole, Bette Midler, Nancy Wilson, Kenny Rankin, Melissa Manchester, and George Michael.

Scott Dunn is the associate conductor of the Los Angeles Philharmonic's Hollywood Bowl Orchestra and has appeared with such headliners as Elvis Costello, Steve Martin, the Indigo Girls, and Il Volo. In June 2015 he led the Seattle Symphony in *Disney's Fantasia: Live in Concert*, and the following month he conducted *Danny Elfman's Music for the Films of Tim Burton* (with additional orchestrations by Dunn) at Lincoln Center and the Sydney Opera House; he repeated the program last fall with the Atlanta Symphony. Dunn was conductor for two recent releases of music by Vernon Duke: Duke's complete works for violin with violinist Elmira Darvarova and the Vienna Radio Orchestra, with Dunn doubling as pianist; and the cast album of the new musical *Miasia*, featuring Duke's music.