

CONTACT:  
Christina Kellogg 510.643.6714  
ckellogg@calperformances.org  
Joe Yang 510.642.9121  
scyang@calperformances.org

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**ABRAHAM INC. BRINGS ITS GROUNDBREAKING MIX OF  
KLEZMER, FUNK AND HIP-HOP TO ZELLERBACH HALL  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13 AT 7:00 P.M.**

**BERKELEY, October 13, 2011**—Abraham Inc., comprised of clarinetist **David Krakauer**, trombonist and bandleader **Fred Wesley** and accordionist and beat architect **Socalled**, backed by an eclectic ten piece ensemble, will shake **Zellerbach Hall** on **Sunday, November 13** at **7:00 p.m.** with what promises to be an “endlessly surprising yet highly successful hybrid of klezmer, funk and hip-hop” (*JazzTimes*). The three founders of Abraham Inc. first made music together in a rehearsal studio in Carnegie Hall in 2006. Socalled, who had grown up hearing Wesley’s funky trombone riffs sampled in hip-hop songs, arranged the meeting; Krakauer noted that there was instant chemistry among the three. When they began performing together in public, they added horns, guitar, bass, percussion, and a rapper. “This idea didn’t come from a record label, didn’t come from a concert promoter,” Krakauer said in a 2010 National Public Radio interview, “It came from us, the artists. And we’re learning a lot about each other and each other’s traditions.”

Their breakout performance came in May 2008, when Abraham Inc. celebrated soul legend James Brown’s 75th birthday with a performance in Harlem’s renowned Apollo Theater. The one-night-only performance brought the three together along with a stellar back-up crew mashing together klezmer, hip-hop and funk “making a sound new to music lovers” (*New York Amsterdam News*). In 2010 the group put out *Tweet-Tweet*, a nine-song recording; of the record *AllAboutJazz.com* said, “Whether it’s “The H Song”—a revised remake of the Hebrew folk song “Hava Nagila”—or “Trombonic,” which combines Wesley’s rotund soulful horn, clever rap lyrics and [Sheryl] Bailey’s blistering guitar run, the music represents holistic funk music of the first order.” The program in Berkeley will be announced from the stage.

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## ARTISTS

Clarinetist **David Krakauer** is a celebrated classical and klezmer artist. He tours the world with his klezmer ensemble, Klezmer Madness! and is in demand as a soloist with classical and chamber ensembles, including the Kronos Quartet, the Emerson String Quartet and Orquesta Sinfonica de Barcelona. He has longstanding relationships with the Marlboro Music Festival, the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, and the Aspen Music Festival, and has appeared in Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall and in the inaugural season of Zankel Hall. His discography includes "The Twelve Tribes" (2002) which was awarded the *Preis der deutschen Schallplattenkritik* (German Record Critics' Award) jazz album of the year; and "Klezmer NY" (1988) on the Tzadik label. He has been profiled by publications including *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, *Downbeat*, *Jazz Times* and *Chamber Music* magazine. The *San Francisco Chronicle* said Krakauer "is committed to creating a sound that flows out of his experience as a 21st century American Jew living in multiethnic New York."

From his youth in the American South, Trombonist **Fred Wesley** studied classical piano with his grandmother but preferred brass music and the big band sound that his father, Fred Wesley Sr., made as chair of the music department in Mobile Central High School. Wesley Jr. made his professional debut at age 12, and within a few years was sitting in with local R&B acts. Wesley studied music at Alabama State University and played briefly with the Ike & Tina Turner Revue before joining the U.S. Army and playing with the 55th Army Band. After completing military service in 1967, Wesley joined soul legend James Brown's band, the J.B.'s. Though he often clashed with the hard-driven soul legend, Wesley became Brown's musical director and played pivotal roles in classic Brown albums, including *Black Caesar*, *Slaughter's Big Rip-Off*, and *The Payback*. Wesley left Brown in 1975 and joined George Clinton's Parliament-Funkadelic (P-Funk) in time to appear on its seminal *Mothership Connection* LP. While with P-Funk, Wesley pursued solo projects and eventually joined the Count Basie Orchestra. He also played in studio sessions with Earth, Wind & Fire, Barry White, and The Gap Band, and since the 1990s recorded straight-ahead jazz records and taught jazz at the university level. His memoir, *Hit Me, Fred: Recollections of a Sideman*, was published in 2002.

Montreal-based musician, photographer, magician, and writer **Socalled** was born Josh Dolgin in Ottawa, Ontario, and raised in Chelsea, Quebec. He picked up the accordion as a teenager after years of piano lessons (forced on him by his mother) and played in a variety of bands—salsa, gospel, rock, funk—before discovering electronic music, MIDI and hip-hop. He has appeared on a dozen recordings as pianist, singer, arranger, rapper, writer, and producer, and sings with Toronto-based Beyond the Pale. He also conducts the Addath Israel choir for High Holidays, and performs with what he calls “a crew of mixed up freaks and geniuses from around the world,” including Killah Priest (of the Wu-Tang Clan), Susan Hoffman-Watts, Frank London, and Irving Fields. He produced the Greekbeat soundtrack for the award-winning documentary *Man of Greece*, and has made his own documentaries and animations. Socalled has released several recordings, including *The Socalled Seder: A Hip-Hop Haggadah* (2005), *Ghettoblaster* (2007), and the new *Sleepover*, which features more than 30 guest artists.

Other performers appearing with Abraham, Inc. in Berkeley include **Michael Sarin** (percussion), **Jerome Harris** (bass), **Sheryl Bailey** (guitar), **Allen Watsky** (guitar), **Freddie Hendrix** (trumpet), and **Brandon Wright** (tenor saxophone).

Abraham Inc.’s official website is [abrahamincmusic.com](http://abrahamincmusic.com).

### TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Abraham Inc.**, featuring clarinetist **David Krakauer**, trombonist **Fred Wesley**, and hip-hop artist **Socalled** on **November 13** in Zellerbach Hall are priced at **\$20.00, \$26.00, \$30.00, \$36.00, \$40.00, and \$50.00**. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at [www.calperformances.org](http://www.calperformances.org); and at the door. Half-price tickets are available for purchase by UC Berkeley students. UC faculty and staff, senior citizens, other students and UC Alumni Association members receive a \$5 discount (Special Events excluded). For more information, call Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988, or visit the Cal Performances web site at [www.calperformances.org](http://www.calperformances.org).

For select performances, Cal Performances offers UCB student, faculty and staff, senior, and community rush tickets. Rush tickets are announced three hours prior to a performance and are available in person only at the Ticket Office beginning one hour before the performance; quantities may be limited. Rush ticket sales are limited to one ticket per person; all sales are cash only. Rush ticket prices are \$10.00 for UCB students; \$15.00 for UCB faculty and staff (UCB ID required) and seniors age 65 or older; and \$20.00 for all other community members. Information is available on Cal Performances' Facebook page and at 510-642-9988; press 2 for the rush hotline, three hours prior to a performance only.

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Cal Performances thanks Wells Fargo, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and Bank of America for their major support of the Season.

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**CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:**

**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS**

**Sunday, November 13 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus**  
Bancroft Way at Telegraph Ave., Berkeley

*World Stage*

**Abraham Inc.**

**David Krakauer**, klezmer and chamber clarinetist

**Fred Wesley**, funk trombonist and arranger

**Socalled**, hip-hop artist and beat architect

**Program:**

The three founders of Abraham Inc. and their ten piece ensemble create a musical collaboration unlike any other. The program will be announced from the stage.

**Tickets:** \$20.00, \$26.00, \$30.00, \$36.00, \$40.00 and \$50.00, available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at [www.calperformances.org](http://www.calperformances.org); and at the door.

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