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[Press Room](#)



Images of Julia Bullock are available for download from the Cal Performances [press room](#).

**CAL PERFORMANCES AT UC BERKELEY PRESENTS
JULIA BULLOCK, SOPRANO, AND JOHN ARIDA, PIANO
SUNDAY, MARCH 25 IN HERTZ HALL**

**Recital is part of the 2017–18 Berkeley RADICAL
Blurring Boundaries thematic strand, which shines the spotlight on artists
whose work dissolves the boundaries of their art forms**

Berkeley, February 16, 2018 — Cal Performances at UC Berkeley welcomes back versatile soprano Julia Bullock, with pianist John Arida, on Sunday March 25 at 3pm in Hertz Hall. Bullock was a highlight of the 2016 Ojai at Berkeley festival, where she portrayed both the French philosopher and mystic Simone Weil in a new-music oratorio by Kaija Saariaho, and the dancer/singer Josephine Baker in a jazz suite by Tyshawn Sorey.

Praised for her engaging stage presence and the authoritative power of her vocal delivery, Bullock explores a wide range of carefully curated repertoire in her recitals, from French *chanson* and German lieder to operatic arias, Broadway show tunes, contemporary art song, and music from the African-American jazz and blues traditions. On March 25 Bullock will perform a program including songs by Schubert, Fauré, and Samuel Barber, as well as Billie Holiday, Alberta Hunter, and Nina Simone. She also performs a selection of arrangements of works by lesser-known African-American songwriters and composers of the early 20th century, such as Spencer Williams, Maceo Pinkard, and Lovie Austin, whose song “Big Hearted Blues” was a hit for blues singer Bessie Smith.

This eclectic approach is reflected in Bullock’s diverse career as an international touring artist, performing as a soloist with orchestras like the Berliner Philharmonic, the London Symphony Orchestra, and the New York Philharmonic; in opera productions at the Festival d’Aix-en-Provence and English National Opera; in concert performances of dramatic works by Adams, Gershwin, and Bernstein; and in intimate chamber and cabaret settings at the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and the New York Festival of Song.

In the spirit of the performances comprising this season’s Berkeley RADICAL *Blurring Boundaries* programming strand, Bullock’s recital program refuses to acknowledge the historic distinctions between art song and popular song, between what is classical and what is vernacular, between “high” and “low” forms. Her repertoire choices join disparate historical moments and physical geographies, as she embodies the voices of diverse people across time and place. Bullock’s programming, and her varied career as a performer, offer us a new vision of the classical music recital for the 21st century.

Ticket Information

Tickets for *Julia Bullock and John Arida* on Sunday, March 25 at 3pm in Hertz Hall are \$46 (prices subject to change). Half-price tickets are available for UC Berkeley students. Tickets are available through the Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall, at (510) 642-9988, at calperformances.org, and at the door. For more information about discounts, go to calperformances.org/discounts.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Sunday, March 25, 3pm

Hertz Hall

Bancroft Way at College Avenue
UC Berkeley campus

Recital

Julia Bullock, soprano

John Arida, piano

Program: In recital, soprano Julia Bullock, with pianist John Arida, lends her expressive directness to her carefully curated programs, mixing art song by Schubert, Barber, and Fauré with selections from the African-American jazz and blues traditions of Nina Simone and Billie Holiday.

Berkeley RADICAL: This performance is part of Cal Performances' Berkeley RADICAL *Blurring Boundaries* strand, which shines the spotlight on artists whose work dissolves the very boundaries of their art forms, creating performances that cut across cultures and disciplines, accepted definitions of classical and contemporary, and even notions of time and space. More information at calperformances.org/berkeley-radical-blurring-boundaries.

Tickets: \$46 (prices subject to change)

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