

Illuminations: Where UC Berkeley Meets the Arts Onstage

Music and the Mind

Cal Performances' new *Illuminations* series invites the public into the heart of the groundbreaking work that UC Berkeley academic departments and research centers are known for throughout the world. Featuring performances, discussions, and public programs created in collaboration with campus partners, the series harnesses the power of the performing arts to explore questions that have the power to transform our understanding of the world and shape the future. *Illuminations* aims to bring together a diverse community—longtime Cal Performances patrons, first-time visitors, academics and teachers, students, visiting artists, and members of the wider public—and to present events that pull back the curtain to reveal the dynamic relationship between cutting-edge thinking on campus and the world beyond. The 2020–21 season of *Illuminations* programming focuses on two themes relevant to and resonant with modern life: **Music and the Mind** and **Fact or Fiction**.

Illuminations: Music and the Mind

We do not “need” music to survive, yet rarely do we meet anyone who claims not to love it. Music has the power to unite, entertain, move, and comfort us. However, our relationship with music is full of mystery. From where does something so abstract and seemingly non-essential for human life draw its power? What can listening—an act both simple and complex—teach us about how our brains work? And what is current scientific research revealing about the therapeutic power of music to treat long-term degenerative diseases?

Music and the Mind: Partnerships

UC Berkeley partners include the Berkeley Brain Initiative, the UC Berkeley faculties of Molecular & Cell Biology and Psychology, and Berkeley Public Health. Off-campus partners include UC San Francisco's Weill Institute for Neurosciences and the Weill Neurohub, a partnership between UC Berkeley, UC San Francisco, and the University of Washington.

Music and the Mind: Related Events

Additional details regarding *Illuminations*-related public events will be announced throughout the season. For information, visit calperformances.org/illuminations.

Music and the Mind: Performances

Tetzlaff Quartet

Beethoven's Late String Quartets

Saturday, December 5, at 8pm, Hertz Hall

BEETHOVEN String Quartet in C-sharp minor, Op. 131
 String Quartet in A minor, Op. 132

Sunday, December 6, at 3pm, Hertz Hall

BEETHOVEN String Quartet in B-flat major, Op. 130
 with *Grosse Fuge* in B-flat major, Op. 133

String Quartet in F major, Op. 135

The Tetzlaff Quartet's performances of late Beethoven string quartets bring to life the previously unimaginable soundscapes created entirely in the mind of a profoundly deaf composer, a man isolated within his soundless world. These extraordinary universes of musical expression are a testament to the power of human imagination and continue to resonate deeply within us today, centuries after their composition.

Matthew Whitaker, *piano and Hammond B3 organ*

Saturday, December 19, at 8pm, Zellerbach Playhouse

The extraordinary 18-year-old jazz pianist and Hammond B3 organist Matthew Whitaker has been performing around the world since the age of 11. Scientists recently have begun studying him in hope of discovering the amazing ways this blind prodigy's brain visualizes music.

Renée Fleming and Special Guests

Sunday, April 18, at 3pm, Zellerbach Hall

A special afternoon of music and discussion performed and hosted by soprano Renée Fleming, who has made the relationship between music and the mind the subject of her recent work. In collaboration with faculty from the Berkeley Brain Initiative, the UC Berkeley faculties of Molecular & Cell Biology and Psychology, Berkeley Public Health, UC San Francisco's Weill Institute for Neurosciences, and the Weill Neurohub, a partnership between UC Berkeley, UC San Francisco, and the University of Washington, the program offers insights into music's untapped potential and its complex relationship with the human brain.

Mark Morris Dance Group: *Dance for PD*[®]

The Mark Morris Dance Group's inspiring *Dance for PD*[®] program offers dance classes for people with Parkinson's disease, profound interactions that demonstrate the connection between movement, rhythm, our need for social connection, and—most importantly—joy. Presented in association with the **Mark Morris Dance Group's** performances of Rameau's *Platée* (May 7–9, 2021).