CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Friday, May 4, 2012, 8pm
Zellerbach Hall

Dianne Reeves

Dianne Reeves is the pre-eminent female jazz vocalist in the world today. As a result of her virtuosity, improvisational prowess and unique jazz and R&B stylings, Ms. Reeves received the Grammy Award for Best Jazz Vocal Performance for three consecutive recordings—a Grammy first in any vocal category.

Ms. Reeves appeared in George Clooney’s Good Night, and Good Luck, the Academy Award-nominated film that chronicles Edward R. Murrow’s confrontation with Senator Joseph McCarthy. The soundtrack recording of Good Night, and Good Luck provided Ms. Reeves her fourth Best Jazz Vocal Grammy in 2006.

Ms. Reeves has recorded and performed extensively with Wynton Marsalis and the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra. She has also recorded with Chicago Symphony Orchestra conducted by Daniel Barenboim and was a featured soloist with Sir Simon Rattle and the Berlin Philharmonic. She was the first Creative Chair for Jazz for the Los Angeles Philharmonic and the first singer to perform at the Walt Disney Concert Hall.

Ms. Reeves worked with legendary producer Arif Mardin (Norah Jones, Aretha Franklin) on the Grammy-winning A Little Moonlight, an intimate collection of ten standards featuring her touring trio. When Ms. Reeves’s first holiday collection, Christmas Time Is Here, was released in 2004, The New York Times raved, “Ms. Reeves, a jazz singer of frequently astonishing skill, takes the assignment seriously; this is one of the best jazz Christmas CD’s I’ve heard.”

In 2007, Ms. Reeves was featured in an award-winning documentary on the all-too-brief life of Billy Strayhorn. Her first solo album in several years, When You Know, was released in 2008. Since then, she has been touring the world in a variety of contexts, including “Sing the Truth,” a musical celebration of Nina Simone which also featured Lizz Wright and Angélique Kidjo. Ms. Reeves performed at the White House State Dinner honoring President of China Hu Jintao in 2011, and in February 2012 she returned to the White House as the featured performer at the Governors’ Ball. A new album is due later this year.

Tonight’s program will be announced from the stage.

Dianne Reeves vocals
Peter Martin piano, musical director
Romero Lubambo guitar
Reginald Veal bass
Terreon Gully drums

Cal Performances’ 2011–2012 season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.