Friday, May 8, 2015, 8pm
Zellerbach Hall

Donal Fox Inventions Trio

Tonight's program will be announced from the stage.

Jazz at Cal Performances is sponsored by Nadine Tang and Bruce Smith.
Cal Performances' 2014–2015 season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.
SCARLATTI JAZZ SUITE PROJECT

With his award-winning Scarlatti Jazz Suite Project, Donal Fox has forged a unique amalgam of jazz, Latin, and classical music. Combining deep grooves with sophisticated contrapuntal lines, he and his Inventions Trio create a striking musical collage that is at once stirring, visceral, imaginative, and intellectually curious. Mr. Fox mines the rich resources of jazz and classical literature, crafting an expanding repertoire of original compositions seamlessly wedded to the undeniable pulse of Afro-Cuban jazz. His inventive blend marches boldly toward new sounds, effortlessly “confounding the genre police” (DownBeat).

Says Howard Mandel, senior contributor to DownBeat: “Internationally acclaimed pianist, composer, and improviser Donal Fox is simply without peer. He is a bravura concert artist whose performance of bracingly original repertoire such as Peace Out for improvised piano and orchestra and the Scarlatti Jazz Suite Project have earned him prestigious honors…gratifying residencies and appointments…and the awed applause of critics and audiences alike. Audacious and exacting though Fox’s music is, he communicates directly and seeks to elevate everyone’s musical interactions beyond expectation and conventions. Fox has a singular presence in today’s circle of serous cultural activists.”
DONAL FOX is internationally acclaimed as composer, pianist, and improviser in both jazz and classical music. His numerous awards include a Guggenheim fellowship in music composition and a fellowship from the Bogliasco Foundation. He served as the first African-American composer-in-residence with the St. Louis Symphony and was a visiting artist at Harvard University, where he received a Certificate of Recognition from the President of Harvard College for his contribution to the arts. Mr. Fox recently premiered his Monk and Bach Project at Jazz at Lincoln Center, his Scarlatti Jazz Suite Project at Tanglewood, and gave the world première of his concerto Peace Out, for improvised piano and orchestra, at Carnegie Hall with the American Composers Orchestra. He has been Composer-in-Residence at the Oberpfälzer Künstlerhaus (Germany), Djerassi Resident Artist Program, Liguria Study Center (Italy), and Tanglewood Contemporary Music Festival, among others. Mr. Fox has performed and recorded with many artists, including Oliver Lake, John Stubblefield, David Murray, Elliott Sharp, Regina Carter, George Mraz, Al Foster, Stefon Harris, Christian Scott, Terri Lyne Carrington, Maya Beiser, Hilary Hahn, and poet Quincy Troupe, among others. He has recorded as composer and pianist for the New World, Evidence, Music & Arts, Passin’ Thru, Yamaha Original Artist Series, and Wergo record labels. His works are published by Margun Music, G. Schirmer, and Leonelli Music. He is a recipient of the prestigious American Academy of Arts and Letters Academy Award in Music and a Martin Luther King, Jr. Visiting Scholar Emeritus at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Mr. Fox was recently featured on the Emancipation/one.oldstyle/five.oldstyle/zero.oldstyle series presented by WQXR, part of the NEXT New York Conversation, and the Coca-Cola Generations in Jazz Festival at Jazz at Lincoln Center.

Mr. Fox is a Steinway Artist and is exclusively represented by Bernstein Artists, Inc. Acoustic and electric bassist John Lockwood, originally from South Africa, has toured the United States and Europe with Joe Henderson, Freddie Hubbard, Gary Burton, the Mel Lewis Big Band, Donal Fox, and The Fringe. He has also performed with the Buffalo Philharmonic, the Boston Pops, the MIT Symphony, Pat Metheny, Dizzy Gillespie, Woody Shaw, Toots Thielemans, Stan Getz, Art Farmer, and Clark Terry. Mr. Lockwood received his B.M. in composition from Berklee College of Music. He currently teaches jazz studies and contemporary improvisation at the New England Conservatory of Music and is Associate Professor of bass studies at Berklee.

Yoron Israel’s varied credentials and illustrious career includes five recordings as a leader and hundreds of recordings as an accompanist. He has performed worldwide and recorded with such renowned artists as Ahmad Jamal, Art Farmer, Abbey Lincoln, David “Fathead” Newman, Kenny Burrell, Horace Silver, James Williams, Cedar Walton, Dr. Lonnie Smith, Oliver Lake, Eliane Elias, Sonny Rollins, Red Holloway, Joe Lovano, Tom Harrell, Roy Hargrove, Vanessa Rubin, and Cyrus Chestnut, among numerous others.

Mr. Israel is Professor and Assistant Chair of Percussion at Berklee College of Music. He has been teaching on the collegiate level, since 1992, on the faculties at Rutgers University, William Paterson University, and Mannes College The New School for Music. He also presents music camps, clinics, and workshops throughout the world. His educational DVD, Creative Improvisation for the Drum Set, is published by Hal Leonard and Berklee Press. Mr. Israel received his M.M. from Rutgers University and B.M. from Roosevelt University.

Mr. Israel is an endorser of Sonor drums, Zildjian cymbals, Evans drum heads, Vater drumsticks, mallets, brushes, and accessories, and Hamilton stands.

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