

CONTACT: **Louisa Spier**
Cal Performances
(510) 919-6649
lspier@calperformances.org

Jeanette Peach
Cal Performances
(949) 378-7338
jpeach@calperformances.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 21, 2020

Updated October 6, 2020 in red.

[Press Room](#)

[Cal Performances at Home online press kit](#)

**CAL PERFORMANCES AT UC BERKELEY PRESENTS
NATHALIE JOACHIM AND SPEKTRAL QUARTET
PERFORMING *FANM D'AYITI (WOMEN OF HAITI)*
IN *CAL PERFORMANCES AT HOME*,
PERFORMING ARTS STREAMING SERIES
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14 AT 7PM (PDT)**

**Fall 2020 streaming series features a premiere each week
October 1, 2020 through January 14, 2021**

This performance will be viewable for three months following the streaming premiere

Berkeley, September 21, 2020 — Cal Performances at UC Berkeley presents Nathalie Joachim and Spektral Quartet performing *Fanm d'Ayiti (Women of Haiti)* in a virtual recital premiere that will begin streaming on Wednesday, October 14 at 7pm (PDT). The performance is one of 16 new, professionally produced full-length performances in the *Cal Performances at Home* performing arts streaming series. The recording of a new performance will premiere each week beginning October 1, 2020 through January 14, 2021. On the evenings of each streaming premiere, a special digital “watch party” will feature a participatory live chat element. More information about *Cal Performances at Home* can be found at <https://calperformances.org/at-home/>.

WHO

Composer, flutist, and vocalist Nathalie Joachim, already familiar to Cal Performances' audiences for her appearances as part of Eighth Blackbird, collaborates with Chicago's Spektral Quartet in *Fanm d'Ayiti (Women of Haiti)*, a suite of kaleidoscopic original compositions and arrangements that explores Joachim's Haitian heritage and celebrates the songs and stories of Haiti's most compelling female artists. Singing in *kreyòl* (Haitian Creole), Joachim weaves her own luminous voice with those of her grandmother, a girls choir from her family's hometown, and interviews with activist women performers who fought for social justice in the world's first free Black republic. Folk songs blend seamlessly with chamber strings

and electronic soundscapes in Joachim’s deft—and highly personal—musical journey, recorded in September for Cal Performances audiences in Chicago’s venerable Black Ensemble Theater and Performance Center. The studio release of *Fanm d’Ayiti* received a Grammy nomination for Best World Music Album and has been praised for bridging “vast expanses of time and place, bringing together the sounds of Haitian folk music, Western classical music, electronic, and hints of pop... in service to one of the deepest of traditions—the tradition of innovation” (*The Nation*).

WHAT Professionally produced, full-length streaming performance.

Program: *Fanm d’Ayiti*

WHEN Streaming premiere Wednesday, October 14 at 7pm (PDT). Following the premiere, this performance will be available to view on demand for three months **until January 12, 2021**.

WHERE Viewable online, streamed to any device with an internet connection. Access to the event will be provided upon registration. For more information on how to view *Cal Performances at Home*, please visit calperformances.org/at-home/frequently-asked-questions.

TICKETS \$15 for a single viewer, \$30 for two viewers, and \$60 per household viewing. \$5 tickets are available for UC Berkeley students. *Cal Performances at Home* content is also a benefit for Cal Performances donors at the \$225 level and above. For more information on becoming a donor, please visit calperformances.org/friends.

Tickets are available at calperformances.org/at-home or by phone at (510) 642-9988.

PRESS Complimentary press passes are available for reviewing journalists who wish to view the streaming premiere live on Wednesday, October 14 at 7pm (PDT). To request a press pass for the streaming premiere, please email publicrelations@calperformances.org.

Video of an in-depth conversation between Nathalie Joachim and Cal Performances executive and artistic director Jeremy Geffen will be live beginning one half-hour before the streaming premiere. Advance access to the interview is available for journalists by request. Send inquiries to publicrelations@calperformances.org.

Photos of Nathalie Joachim and Spektral Quartet are available to download from the [online press kit](#).

Over 35 *Now, More Than Ever* YouTube playlists of the performing arts, curated by Jeremy Geffen since the beginning of sheltering-in-place orders, can be found at news.calperformances.org/now-more-than-ever.

CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

STREAM PREMIERE

Wednesday, October 14, 7pm (PDT)

Nathalie Joachim and Spektral Quartet
Fanm d'Ayiti (Women of Haiti)

Nathalie Joachim, *flute, vocals*
Clara Lyon, *violin*
Maeve Feinberg, *violin*
Doyle Armbrust, *viola*
Russell Rolen, *cello*

Program:

Composer, flutist, and vocalist Nathalie Joachim, already familiar to Cal Performances' audiences for her appearances as part of Eighth Blackbird, collaborates with Chicago's Spektral Quartet in *Fanm d'Ayiti (Women of Haiti)*, a suite of kaleidoscopic original compositions and arrangements that explores Joachim's Haitian heritage and celebrates the songs and stories of Haiti's most compelling female artists. Singing in *kreyòl* (Haitian Creole), Joachim weaves her own luminous voice with recordings of those of her grandmother, a girls choir from her family's hometown, and interviews with activist women performers who fought for social justice in the world's first free Black republic. Folk songs blend seamlessly with chamber strings and electronic soundscapes in Joachim's deft—and highly personal—musical journey. The digital audio recording of *Fanm d'Ayiti* received a Grammy nomination for Best World Music Album and has been praised for bridging “vast expanses of time and place, bringing together the sounds of Haitian folk music, Western classical music, electronic, and hints of pop... in service to one of the deepest of traditions—the tradition of innovation” (*The Nation*).

Tickets: \$15 for a single viewer, \$30 for two viewers, and \$60 per household viewing. \$5 tickets are available for UC Berkeley students.

Following the premiere, this performance will be available to view on demand for three months. (Subject to change.) Pre-performance programming begins at 6pm (PDT).