



21/22 SEASON



The Grammy-nominated violinist returns following her *Cal Performances at Home* streaming debut last fall. Fluent in both classical and contemporary concert repertoire, Lark is also an accomplished bluegrass and folk music fiddler.

Here she performs Beethoven's virtuosic Sonata in G major, Op. 30, No. 3; Michael Torke's *Spoon Bread*, named after a popular treat in Lark's native Kentucky; John Corigliano's *STOMP*, a solo study modeled on American fiddle music; and Ravel's dazzling and delicate Violin Sonata in G major.

Oct 3
ZELLERBACH HALL



Jeremy Geffen

ords cannot adequately express my pleasure in welcoming you to this evening's presentation of *Not Our First Goat Rodeo*, Cal Performances' first in-person event since March 2020. That tonight's concert features our great and longtime friends Yo-Yo Ma, Stuart Duncan, Edgar Meyer, Chris Thile, and Aoife O'Donovan is just icing on the cake! It's wonderful to be together again!

When the pandemic forced Cal Performances to close its doors last year, no one could have imagined what lay ahead. Since then, we've witnessed a worldwide health crisis unlike any experienced during our lifetimes, an extended period of political turmoil, recurring incidents of civil unrest and racially motivated violence,

and a consciousness-raising human rights movement that has forever—and significantly—changed how each of us views social justice in our time.

Of course, the pandemic remains with us to this date and future challenges—including adjustments to "normal' procedures and policies—can certainly be expected. I encourage you to check Cal Performances' website regularly for the most current information regarding our COVID-19 response. First and foremost, I assure you that there is nothing more important to us than the health and safety of our audience, artists, and staff. (And I remind one and all that while protective masks are not mandatory at tonight's outdoor concert—*except* in indoor settings such as restrooms—they are still strongly recommended.)

As we look forward to the upcoming season, which begins on October 3 with a much-anticipated recital by violinist Tessa Lark and pianist Amy Yang, now is a good time to start planning for a brighter future. Our complete 2021–22 lineup is packed with the kind of adventurous and ambitious programming you've come to expect from Cal Performances. In particular, I want to direct your attention to this year's *Illuminations*: "Place and Displacement" programming, through which we'll explore both loss and renewal, disempowerment and hope, while seeking paths forward for reclaiming and celebrating vital cultural connections that can fall victim to political and social upheaval.

Please take the opportunity to explore our complete schedule through our website and season brochure and begin planning your performance calendar; now is the perfect time to guarantee that you have the best seats for all the events you plan to attend.

Throughout history, the performing arts have survived incredible challenges: periods of war, economic collapse, and, yes, terrible disease. And if it will take time for us—collectively and individually—to process the events of the past 18 months, I'm certain that the arts have the power to play a critical role as we come to terms with what we have experienced and move together toward recovery.

I know you join us in looking forward to what lies ahead, to coming together once again to encounter the life-changing experiences that only the live performing arts deliver. We can't wait to share it all with you during the coming year.

Cal Performances is back. Welcome home!

Jeremy Geffen
Executive and Artistic Director, Cal Performances





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Saturday, August 21, 2021, 8pm Greek Theatre

Not Our First Goat Rodeo

Yo-Yo Ma – Stuart Duncan Edgar Meyer – Chris Thile with guest Aoife O'Donovan

COVID-19 Information:

Proof of vaccination status or negative COVID-19 test from within 48 hours of the beginning of the event is now required for entrance. Please note that, per the Bay Area's reinstated indoor masking mandates, masking will be required in all indoor spaces at the Greek Theatre, including restrooms.

COVID-19 information is updated as necessary; please see Cal Performances' website for the most up-to-date policies and information.







ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Not Our First Goat Rodeo Yo-Yo Ma – Stuart Duncan Edgar Meyer – Chris Thile With guest Aoife O'Donovan

An astounding group of virtuosos—Yo-Yo Ma on cello, Stuart Duncan on fiddle, Edgar Meyer on bass, and Chris Thile on mandolin—reunite live for the first time in nearly a decade. Joined by featured vocalist Aoife O'Donovan, the lively talents of these exceptional artists come together onstage to create a singular sound that's part composed, part improvised, and totally, uniquely American—music so complex to pull off that the group likens it to a goat rodeo, airplane pilots' nickname for a situation in which many different things need to go right to avoid disaster. In the words of the *Los*

Angeles Times, this concert presents "unlikely musicians on unlikely instruments in concerts... that [are] part blues, part bluegrass and a smidgen of Bach."

2011's Grammy Award-winning Goat Rodeo Sessions was the first step in this path-breaking collaboration, producing music that NPR's World Cafe called "organic yet composed in a way that only four deeply talented, in-tune musicians could make it," hinting "at Appalachia, Chinese classical, Celtic and jazz influences." Now the group reunites to perform a collection of all-new music, accompanied by a new album on Sony Masterworks. These five musicians' diverse traditions and experiences intersect to create a compelling sound that is at once global and American, a shared voice that speaks powerfully to the American experience.

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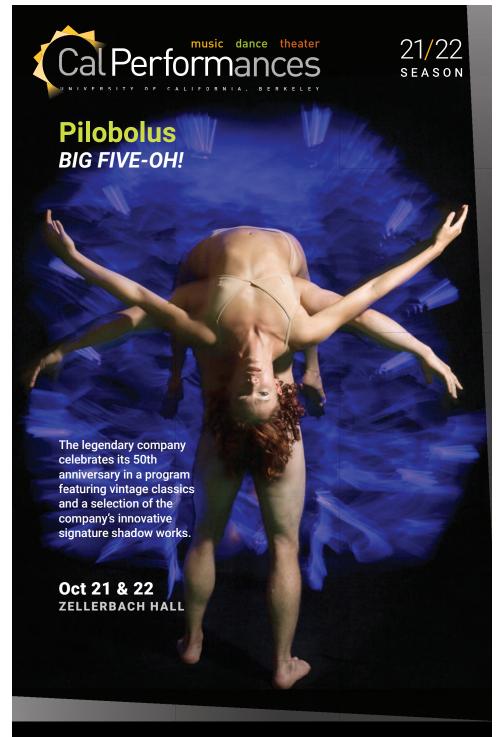
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