



music dance theater

Cal Performances

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY



Aaron Diehl Trio

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2021–2022

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Jeremy Geffen

We've now moved into the heart of Fall Semester and things are hopping on the UC Berkeley campus. The same can be said about Cal Performances, where—this weekend alone—we'll enjoy concerts by an array of world-class musical talent: mandolinist **Avi Avital** and guitarist **Miloš** (Nov 11), American jazz master **Aaron Diehl** and his trio (Nov 12), violinist **Leonidas Kavakos** and pianist **Yuja Wang** (Nov 13), and cellist **David Finckel** and pianist **Wu Han** (Nov 14). Together, we'll take in music by Bach, de Falla, Villa Lobos, and Philip Glass; experience a world premiere by French composer Mathias Duplessy; return to Bach to explore his fascinating musical ties with eminent jazz musicians past and present; and close out the weekend with more timeless music by Bach (there's never enough!) along with works by Busoni, Shostakovich, Mendelssohn, Debussy, and Britten. I'm so happy you could join us during what promises to be a memorable weekend; it's wonderful that we can gather together again, enjoying great music under the same roof!

This robust activity is especially meaningful this year, following such a prolonged period of shutdown! When the pandemic forced Cal Performances to close its doors in March 2020, 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 many 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 proof of vaccination is mandatory today, as is protective masking throughout the event.)

Our season continues in December when the Bay Area's beloved **Kronos Quartet** returns to Zellerbach Hall with two-part program featuring a world premiere by Cal Performances' 2021–22 artist-in-residence **Angélique Kidjo**, new and recent works from Kronos' extraordinary 50 for the Future project, and a selection of works performed with special guest, Persian classical and world music vocalist and composer, **Mahsa Vahdat** (Dec 2). Our full calendar offers more of the same, 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 the 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.

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Friday, November 12, 2021, 8pm
Zellerbach Hall

Aaron Diehl Trio

Aaron Diehl, *piano*
Paul Sikivie, *double bass*
Aaron Kimmel, *drums*

PROGRAM

- | | |
|---|--|
| J.S. BACH (1685–1750) | Prelude and Fugue in C Major, BWV 846* |
| Miles DAVIS (1926–1991) | Deception |
| BACH | Prelude and Fugue in C minor, BWV 847* |
| John Birks “Dizzy” GILLESPIE (1917–1993) | Bebop |
| Toots THIELEMANS (1922–2016)
(arr. Hank Jones) | Bluesette |
| BACH | Prelude and Fugue in G Major, BWV 860* |
| Aaron DIEHL (b. 1985) | Vagabond |
| BACH | Prelude and Fugue in G minor, BWV 861* |
| BACH | Prelude and Fugue in D Major, BWV 850* |
| Armando “Chick” COREA (1941–2021) | Tones for Joan’s Bones |
| BACH | Prelude and Fugue in D minor, BWV 851* |
| Earl “Bud” POWELL (1924–1966) | Tempus Fugue-It |

* From *The Well-Tempered Clavier*, Book I



Pianist and composer **Aaron Diehl** mystifies listeners with his layered artistry. At once temporal and ethereal, his expression transforms the piano into an orchestral vessel in the spirit of beloved predecessors Ahmad Jamal, Erroll Garner, and Jelly Roll Morton. Following three critically acclaimed leader albums on Mack Avenue Records—and live appearances at historic venues from Jazz at Lincoln Center and the Village Vanguard to the New York Philharmonic and the Philharmonie de Paris—the American Pianist Association’s 2011 Cole Porter fellow now focuses his attention on what it means to be present within himself. His forthcoming solo record promises an expansion of that exploration in a setting at once unbound and intimate.

Diehl conjures three-dimensional expansion of melody, counterpoint, and movement through time. Rather than choose one sound or another, he invites listeners into the chambered whole of his artistry. Born in Columbus, Ohio, Diehl traveled to New York in 2003, following his success as a finalist in JALC’s Essentially Ellington competition and a subsequent European tour with Wynton Marsalis. His love affair with rub and tension prompted a years-long immersion in distinctive repertoire from Monk and Ravel to Gershwin and William Grant Still. Among other towering figures, Still in particular inspires Diehl’s ongoing curation of Black American composers in his own performance programming, unveiled recently at 92nd St. Y.

Diehl has enjoyed artistic associations with Wynton Marsalis, Benny Golson, Jimmy Heath, Buster Williams, Branford Marsalis, Wycliffe Gordon, Philip Glass, and multi-Grammy Award-winning artist Cécile McLorin Salvant.

He recently appeared with the New York Philharmonic and the Cleveland Orchestra as featured soloist.

Diehl holds a bachelor’s degree in music (jazz studies) from Juilliard. A licensed pilot, when he’s not at the studio or on the road, he’s likely in the air. Follow both his earthbound and aerial exploits via Instagram at www.instagram.com/aaronjdiehl.

Paul Sikivie is an American jazz double bassist. Originally from Gainesville, Florida, he has lived in New York City since 2007, when he began studies at Juilliard. He has played with many artists of international stature, including long associations with Cécile McLorin Salvant, Aaron Diehl, Matt Wilson, Johnny O’Neal, Ted Nash, and Grant Stewart. Since 2015, Sikivie has turned his attention towards composition and arranging. Most notably, he melded string quartet and jazz piano trio for six pieces on McLorin Salvant’s *Dreams and Daggers*, which was awarded the 2018 Grammy for Best Jazz Vocal Album.

Aaron Kimmel is a native of Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania. He holds a bachelor’s degree in music from the Juilliard School, where he studied with Kenny Washington and Billy Drummond, and he is now a freelance drummer living in New York City. Kimmel frequently appears at Smalls and Dizzy’s Club Coca-Cola, performing as a sideman with Benny Green’s trio and Aaron Diehl, among others. He has also played with such jazz luminaries as Harry Allen, Ken Peplowski, Eric Alexander, Joe Magnarelli, Grant Stewart, Terell Stafford, Ryan Kisor, Toshiko Akiyoshi, Brian Lynch, Ann Hampton Callaway, Mary Stallings, and Jon Faddis.

Mark Morris Dance Group

Dancing Honeymoon (1998; music arranged by Ethan Iverson)

Jenn and Spencer (2013; music by Henry Cowell)

V (2001; music by Robert Schumann)



Breathtakingly lyrical, giddily lighthearted, formally brilliant, ethereally transcendent—Mark Morris Dance Group returns to its West Coast home away from home with a program of repertory gems that traverse the expansive terrain that defines the work of this pace-setting company.

Dec 17–19
ZELLERBACH HALL

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CELEBRATE THE SEASON!

Damien Sneed *Joy to the World: A Christmas Musical Journey*

Sneed is joined by a stellar cast of 10 singers and musicians performing holiday classics such as "Silent Night," "O Come, O Come Emmanuel," "The Christmas Song," excerpts from Handel's *Messiah*, and more.

Dec 3
ZELLERBACH HALL



Canadian Brass *Making Spirits Bright for 50 Years and Counting!*

This very special holiday program features favorite songs like "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year," "Go Tell It on the Mountain," and "Carol of the Bells"; and familiar classical, choral, and popular music arranged to make brass instruments sing.

Dec 11
ZELLERBACH HALL



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

COVID-19 Information

Proof of vaccination status is required for entrance and masking is mandatory throughout the event. COVID-19 information is updated as necessary; please see Cal Performances' website for the most up-to-date policies and information.

UC Berkeley does not promise or guarantee that all patrons or employees on site are vaccinated.

Unvaccinated individuals may be present as a result of exemptions, exceptions, fraudulent verification, or checker error. None of these precautions eliminate the risk of exposure to COVID-19.