



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

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Jeremy Geffen

With the fast-approaching end of Fall Semester—and as we continue to enjoy the holiday season—things are unusually busy on the UC Berkeley campus. The same can be said about Cal Performances, where—this weekend alone—we'll enjoy visits by the splendid **Jazzmeia Horn** (Dec 10), a hit on last spring's *Cal Performances at Home* streaming season and now making her campus debut with new material that offers a positive message of triumph over adversity; and our old friends, the **Canadian Brass** (Dec 11), performing their delightful *Making Spirits Bright for 50 Years and Counting!* holiday program. I'm so happy you could join us during what promises to be a memorable musical weekend; isn't it wonderful that we can gather together again, enjoying great live performances 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 Fall Season concludes next week with the long-awaited return to Zellerbach Hall by the great **Mark Morris Dance Group** (Dec 17–19). And coming up next year, our full calendar offers even more, 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.

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

## **Ilmar Gavilán, violin** **Aldo López-Gavilán, piano**

The musician brothers Aldo López-Gavilán and Ilmar Gavilán—the subject of the 2020 documentary film *Los Hermanos*—form a duo like no other, defined by a sweetly delicate lyricism one moment, and an infectious rhythmic energy the next. They play compositions that weave together dreamy chamber sonorities with Afro-Cuban jazz and folk forms.

**Jan 23**  
**ZELLERBACH HALL**

 **Illuminations**  
Place and Displacement

## **Two Wings: The Music of Black America in Migration**

West Coast Premiere

Jason Moran and Alicia Hall Moran, *producers*  
Jason Moran, *piano*  
Alicia Hall Moran, *mezzo-soprano*  
Tania León, *conductor*  
Imani Winds

In a series of “gripping portraits of a vast social upheaval” (*Chicago Tribune*), Alicia Hall Moran and Jason Moran’s deeply personal *Two Wings* explores the Great Migration of six million Black Americans from the rural South to northern cities and beyond.

**Feb 17**  
**ZELLERBACH HALL**

 **Illuminations**  
Place and Displacement

Saturday, December 11, 2021, 8pm  
Zellerbach Hall

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

Chuck Daellenbach, *tuba*  
Brandon Ridenour and Caleb Hudson, *trumpets*  
Achilles Liarmakopoulos, *trombone*  
Jeff Nelsen, *horn*

*Tonight's program will be announced from the stage  
and last approximately two hours, including one intermission.*



With an international reputation as one of the today's most popular brass ensembles, **Canadian Brass** has truly earned the distinction of "the world's most famous brass group."

Friends Chuck Daellenbach and Gene Watts first came together in 1970 to form a brass quintet—a chamber music setting not entirely new, but never before having garnered the success and fame the group would achieve over the next 40 years. Initially, Watts took on the role of developing new repertoire while Daellenbach was the moving force in marketing, publishing, and managing the business. Three empty chairs were quickly filled and together, the group's imagination and consummate musicianship elevated the art of the brass quintet to what it is today. Here was not only an opportunity to explore the possibilities of an all-brass chamber group but a challenge to bring the sound and the excitement of brass music to new audiences.

Masters of concert presentations, Canadian Brass has developed a uniquely engaging stage presence and a strong rapport with audiences. Each of their concerts celebrates a wide range of music that includes new compositions and arrangements created especially for the ensemble. The hallmark of any Canadian Brass performance is entertainment, spontaneity, virtuosity, and—most of all—fun... but never at the expense of the music: Whatever the style, the music is central and performed with utmost dedication, skill, and excellence.

With a discography of over 130 albums and an extensive worldwide touring schedule, Canadian Brass is an important pioneer in bringing brass music to mass audiences everywhere. The group has sold well over 2 million albums worldwide, with 1.2 million sold in the Nielsen Soundscan era alone (since 1991). The musicians continue to score *Billboard* chart positions—as with their rousing recording of patriotic songs and marches, *Stars & Stripes: Canadian Brass Salute America*, which spent eight weeks in the Top 25 on the *Billboard* Classical Chart (peaking at #2!). Touring legends

with an enthusiastic fan base, Canadian Brass plays to packed houses everywhere throughout the United States, Canada, Japan, and Europe. The group has also toured Australia, the Middle East, the former Soviet Union, and South America. They were the first brass ensemble from the West to perform in the People's Republic of China (where they returned for a five-city tour to great acclaim in the spring of 2010 and for several visits after this, including an appearance on Hunan TV for Chinese New Year), as well as the first brass group to take the main stage at Carnegie Hall. On numerous occasions Canadian Brass has been invited by the Canadian government to play for visiting heads of state, becoming one of Canada's greatest resources and musical ambassadors.

Millions of television viewers have welcomed Canadian Brass into their homes through appearances on *The Tonight Show*, *Today*, and *Entertainment Tonight*, and recently, more than half a billion viewers witnessed a special Chinese New Year concert on China's most popular station. The group has appeared as guest artists on *Evening at Pops with John Williams and the Boston Pops*; Beverly Sills' *Music Around the World*; numerous PBS specials, including a celebrated appearance on *Sesame Street*; and are frequent guests of many major symphony orchestras. Canadian Brass was the featured group on the soundtrack to the 1988 film *The Couch Trip*, starring Dan Aykroyd and Walter Matthau. Consummate artists, the quintet has also created unique and interactive videos that have attracted a large international audience, including a series of DVDs featuring the group in concert and teaching. They are on the cutting edge of technology offering fans multimedia airplay, downloads, YouTube videos, and streaming opportunities, as well as digital applications with iPhone and other smart phone carriers. You can find them twittering and on Facebook with their fan base growing daily.

The varied Canadian Brass repertoire features brass standards as well as a wide-ranging library of original arrangements. These include



the works of Renaissance and Baroque masters, classical works, marches, holiday favorites, ragtime, Dixieland, Latin, jazz, big band, Broadway, and religious music, as well as popular songs and standards. Having started with a limited base, Canadian Brass has created its own musical world by transcribing, arranging, and commissioning more than 600 works, including critically acclaimed compositions by Michael Kamen, Luther Henderson, Bramwell Tovey, Don Gillis, and others. They have transformed a previously neglected group of instruments with a limited repertoire, becoming a versatile and vital ensemble that can play everything from Gabrieli to Gershwin. Canadian Brass is especially noted for its famous holiday concerts at Christmastime and was at the forefront of re-establishing Scott Joplin with today's audiences through their research, arrangements, and recordings of Joplin's "rags" and other works.

Education plays a key role in the story of Canadian Brass and each member is uniquely attuned to the responsibilities of training the next generation of players. On their travels around the world, the group's members often

pause for master classes and are more than happy to work with students and young audiences. Canadian Brass is currently Ensemble in Residence at the University of Toronto after having been Chamber Quintet-in-Residence for many years at the Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara, and has created an innovative brass summer course at the Eastman School of Music. The musicians' support of education is also clearly evident in their outreach and interaction with El Sistema, the acclaimed global music education program in Venezuela.

In conjunction with the Hal Leonard Corporation, Canadian Brass has made available their extensive library of brass music for performers of all levels as well as assorted learning tools. Since 1998, the group has been a recording artist at Opening Day Entertainment Group (ODEG, distributed by IDLA), releasing over 25 CDs on the imprint to date. Opening Day is owned and run by Chuck Daellenbach together with his wife, MB. Canadian Brass sheet music and recordings are available from the ensemble's online store.

The Canadian Brass is represented by IMG Artists in New York.

# Memphis Jookin': The Show featuring Lil Buck

West Coast Premiere

In the West Coast premiere of this dazzling show, Lil Buck—along with a DJ and an expert eight-dancer crew—transports us to the streets, the hallways, and the clubs where Memphis Jookin' was born.

"His agile physical instrument is astounding... [and] fueling it all is the emotion that drives his magnetic dancing. There is struggle and pain, joy and healing, and ultimately, a transformation."

—The New York Times

**Feb 25 & 26**  
ZELLERBACH HALL





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 Donna M. Williams  
 Linda Williams and Paul Fitzgerald  
 Viviana Wolinsky  
 Elaine Wong  
 E. William and Mary Alice Yund  
 Martha and Sheldon Zedeck  
 Amy and Tom Zellerbach  
 Ming Zhao  
 John Zimmermann and Diana Graham  
 Donlyn Lyndon and Alice Wingwall  
 Michael Condie

### Honorary Gifts

Erik Hora in honor of  
 Judge Peggy Fulton Hora  
 Germaine LaBerge in honor of  
 David McCauley  
 Susan Pollack in honor of  
 Susan Graham Harrison

### Memorial Gifts

Anonymous in memory of Leon Bell  
 Linh Do and Erno Pungor  
 in memory of Julie Do  
 Rossannah Reeves  
 in memory of Alan Leslie Reeves  
 Orville Schell in memory of Baifang Schell  
 Max Vale in memory of Griffin Madden  
 Helen Marcus  
 in memory of David Williamson

\* *Gift was entirely or partially in support of Cal Performances' Educational and Community Programs*

### 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.

WAYNE SHORTER & ESPERANZA SPALDING'S

## ...(Iphigenia)

West Coast Premiere

A Cal Performances Co-commission

Wayne Shorter, *composer*  
esperanza spalding, *librettist and performer*  
Lileana Blain-Cruz, *director*  
Clark Rundell, *conductor*  
Members of the Wayne Shorter Quartet

Frank Gehry, *set designer*  
Montana Levi-Banco, *costume designer*  
Jen Schreiber, *lighting designer*  
Mark Grey, *sound designer*

**A living legend of jazz  
collaborates with one of  
the brightest lights of the  
younger generation in this new  
work that reimagines what  
opera can be, and asks us to  
reexamine the stories we have  
inherited and the choices we  
make as a society.**

...(Iphigenia) is co-commissioned by Cal Performances; The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts; The Broad Stage, Santa Monica, CA; ArtsEmerson Boston, MA; Carolina Performing Arts; and Mass MoCA.

Produced by Real Magic, Cath Brittan, and Octopus Theatricals

**Feb 12**  
**ZELLERBACH HALL**