



*The Summit:  
The Manhattan Transfer Meets Take 6*

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2021–2022

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Jeremy Geffen

Welcome to another busy weekend at Cal Performances! On Thursday evening, the combined vocal forces of the **Manhattan Transfer** and **Take 6** (Mar 17)—10 voices with 20 Grammys between them—will fill Zellerbach Hall with their trademark crystalline harmonies, stirring gospel rhythms, and soaring melodies. The bands' current tour is a hit with audiences and critics alike, with a recent concert in Maryland praised as “an explosion, in gale wind proportions, of musical enjoyment, creative genius, vocal excellence and a boatload of fun” (*DC Metro*).

Next, acclaimed choreographer Michelle Dorrance and her company **Dorrance Dance** (Mar 18–19) arrive in town with a program that demonstrates how powerfully movement and music can be entwined in the bodies of expert dancers. Dorrance's brilliant *SOUNDspace*, adapted on this occasion for the unique qualities of Zellerbach Playhouse, soars as a powerful tribute to the history and legacy of tap dancing and features both Dorrance's own choreography and solo improvisation by company members. This remarkable program reminds us that “If the idea of tap dance makes you think of stale musicals from the early 20th century, Michelle Dorrance is eager to shatter your assumptions” (*Broadway World Washington*).

Finally, in a true season highlight, the mighty **London Symphony Orchestra** (Mar 20), under the direction of luminary conductor Sir Simon Rattle, provides an afternoon of unsurpassed symphonic music on Sunday afternoon at Zellerbach Hall. The wide-ranging program is almost an embarrassment of riches, packed with masterworks by Berlioz, Sibelius, Bartók, and Ravel, along with a more recent audience favorite, *The Spark Catchers*, by the brilliant British composer Hannah Kendall. Trust me—in terms of memorable symphonic music, it doesn't get better than this.

March marks the time of year that traditionally finds Cal Performances operating on all cylinders. From now through the beginning of May, the remainder of our 2021–22 season is filled with adventurous programming. You won't want to miss...

- pianist *extraordinaire* **Mitsuko Uchida** playing and directing Mozart with the **Mahler Chamber Orchestra** (Mar 27)
- the **Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater** (Mar 29 – Apr 3), returning to Zellerbach Hall for the first time since the initial pandemic shutdown in 2020; this year's Ailey programs—featuring more than a dozen works from the company's legendary repertory—have only recently been announced, so make sure to check our website for details
- the renowned **English Baroque Soloists** with conductor **Sir John Eliot Gardiner** in a transfixing program of works by Mozart and Haydn (Apr 10)
- **Angélique Kidjo**, our 2021–22 artist-in-residence, in her new music-theater piece *Yemandjá* (a much-anticipated Cal Performances co-commission and *Illuminations* event, Apr 23).

Fasten your seatbelts; we have all of this—plus much more—in store for you!

We're very proud of our updated winter brochure and know that a few minutes spent reviewing our schedule—in print or online—will reveal a wealth of options for your calendar; now is the perfect time to guarantee that you have the best seats for all the events you plan to attend.

I know you join us in looking forward to what lies ahead, and 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 months.

Jeremy Geffen  
Executive and Artistic Director, Cal Performances

PS. – Stay tuned for exciting news about our brilliant 2022–23 season, to be announced in April!

# London Symphony Orchestra

Sir Simon Rattle, *conductor*

BERLIOZ

HANNAH KENDALL

SIBELIUS

BARTÓK

RAVEL

*Le Corsaire*

*The Spark Catchers*

*Symphony No. 7*

*The Miraculous Mandarin Suite*

*La valse*

**A world-class orchestra!  
A legendary conductor!  
The renowned London  
Symphony Orchestra, under  
the direction of its esteemed  
music director Sir Simon  
Rattle, visits in its Cal  
Performances debut.**

**Sun, Mar 20, 3pm**

**ZELLERBACH HALL**

Thursday, March 17, 2022, 7:30pm  
Zellerbach Hall

***The Summit:  
The Manhattan Transfer Meets Take 6***

**The Manhattan Transfer**

Janis Siegel  
Cheryl Bentyne  
Alan Paul  
Trist Curless

**Take 6**

Claude McKnight  
Alvin Chea  
David Thomas  
Mark Kibble  
Joel Kibble  
Khristian Dentley

**Trio**

Yaron Gershovsky, *piano*  
Boris Kozlov, *bass*  
Ross Pederson, *drums*

*This performance will last 75 to 90 minutes  
and be performed without an intermission.*



**Mahler Chamber Orchestra**  
**Mitsuko Uchida, *piano and director***  
**Mark Steinberg, *concertmaster and leader***

MOZART Piano Concerto in A major, K. 488  
PURCELL Four Fantasias (arranged for string orchestra)  
MOZART Piano Concerto in C minor, K. 491

Following her exquisite *Cal Performances at Home* all-Schubert recital last spring, the magisterial pianist Mitsuko Uchida returns for a concert with the dynamic Mahler Chamber Orchestra that draws a line from Henry Purcell's uniquely English form of Baroque music to Mozart's Viennese masterworks.



**Sun, Mar 27, 3pm**  
ZELLERBACH HALL



Currently celebrating its 50th anniversary, **The Manhattan Transfer** continues to set the standard as one of the world's most innovative vocal groups with their unique blend of pop, jazz, R&B, rock 'n' roll, swing, and *a cappella* music. Founded by the late Tim Hauser in 1972, the group features Janis Siegel (alto), Alan Paul (tenor), Cheryl Bentyne (soprano), and newcomer Trist Curless (bass), who replaced Hauser following his passing in 2014.

The Manhattan Transfer has defied categories to win 10 Grammy Awards and sell millions of records worldwide. They became the first act to win in the pop and jazz categories in the same year, taking home Best Pop Performance by a Duo or Group with Vocal for "Boy From New York City" and Best Jazz Performance Duo or Group for "Until I Met You (Corner Pocket)" in 1981. In 1985, their album *Vocalese* earned 12 Grammy nominations.

**Take 6**, heralded by Quincy Jones as the "baddest vocal cats on the planet," is the quintessential *a cappella* group and a model for vocal genius. Six virtuosic voices united in crystal-clear harmony, against a backdrop of synco-

pated rhythms, innovative arrangements, and funky grooves that bubble into an intoxicating brew of gospel, jazz, R&B, and pop. With praise from such luminaries as Ray Charles, Stevie Wonder, Brian Wilson, Ella Fitzgerald, and Whitney Houston, Take 6 is recognized as one of today's pre-eminent *a cappella* groups.

With the popularity of televised vocal competitions and singing-driven comedy-dramas like *Glee* and *Smash*, Take 6 is the original torchbearer. Two major recent events reminded everyone of this as Take 6 triumphed among a gathering of stars including Celine Dion, Lionel Richie, Justin Timberlake, and Stevie Nicks. At Walmart's 50th anniversary celebration, Take 6 captivated the audience with its rendition of the Louis Armstrong hit "What A Wonderful World." The group then closed the show with Ladysmith Black Mambazo to a standing ovation. Two weeks later at the behest of legendary Producer Phil Ramone, Take 6 thrilled a sold-out audience at the Songwriters Hall of Fame Awards, performing with and honoring legendary singer-songwriter Ben E. King on his classic "Stand By Me."

# Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater

Robert Battle, *artistic director*

Matthew Rushing, *associate artistic director*

**PROGRAM A** Tues, Mar 29, 7:30pm & Fri, Apr 1, 8pm

**Robert Battle Tenth Anniversary**

**ROBERT BATTLE** *Mass* (2004; music: John Mackey)  
*In/Side* (2008; music: "Wild is the Wind,"  
 recorded by Nina Simone)  
*Ella* (2008; music: Ella Fitzgerald)  
*For Four* (2021; Bay Area Premiere,  
 music: Wynton Marsalis)  
*Unfold* (2007; music: Gustave Charpentier,  
 recorded by Leontyne Price)  
*Takademe* (1999; music: "Speaking in Tongues II,"  
 performed by Sheila Chandra)  
*Love Stories finale* (2004; music: Stevie Wonder)  
*Revelations* (1960; music: traditional spirituals)

**AILEY**

**PROGRAM B** Wed, Mar 30, 7:30pm & Sat, Apr 2, 8pm

**RENNIE HARRIS** *Lazarus* (2018; music: Darrin Ross)  
**AILEY** *Revelations* (1960; music: traditional spirituals)

**PROGRAM C** Thu, Mar 31, 7:30pm

**JAMAR ROBERTS** *Holding Space* (2021; West Coast Premiere,  
 staged version; Cal Performances Co-Commission;  
 music: Tim Hecker)  
**ROBERT BATTLE** *For Four* (2021; Bay Area Premiere;  
 music: Wynton Marsalis)  
**AILEY** *Reflections in D* (1963; music: Duke Ellington)  
**ASZURE BARTON** *BUSK* (2009; music: various artists)

**PROGRAM D** Sat, Apr 2, 2pm

**All-Alvin Ailey**

**AILEY** *Blues Suite* (1958; music: traditional;  
 performed by Brother John Sellers)  
*Pas de Duke* (1976; music: Duke Ellington)  
*Cry* (1971; music: Alice Coltrane, Laura Nyro,  
 and The Voices of East Harlem)  
*Revelations* (1960; music: traditional spirituals)

**PROGRAM E** Sun, Apr 3, 3pm

**ASZURE BARTON** *BUSK* (2009; music: various artists)  
**JAMAR ROBERTS** *Holding Space* (2021; West Coast Premiere,  
 staged version; Cal Performances Co-Commission;  
 music: Tim Hecker)  
**AILEY** *Revelations* (1960; music: traditional spirituals)

**March 29–April 3**  
**ZELLERBACH HALL**



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 James Wheeler and J. L. Shon  
 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

### COVID-19 Information

Proof of vaccination status, including booster, 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.



music dance theater  
**Cal Performances**

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

21/22  
SEASON

# Angélique Kidjo's *Yemandja*

Bay Area Premiere  
A Cal Performances Co-commission

**Starring Angélique Kidjo**  
**Conceived by Angélique Kidjo, Jean Hebrail,**  
**and Naima Hebrail Kidjo**  
**Book and Lyrics by Naima Hebrail Kidjo**  
**Music by Angélique Kidjo and Jean Hebrail**  
**Developed with and Directed by Cheryl Lynn Bruce**

Kerry James Marshall, *production designer*  
Darryl Archibald, *music director*  
Kathy Perkins, *lighting designer*  
Rasean Davonte Johnson, *projections designer*  
Mary Jane Marcasiano, *costume designer*  
Beatrice Capote, *choreographer*  
Kumi Ishizawa, *sound designer*  
Ilyon E., *dramaturg*  
Ann James, *sensitivity coach*  
Andrea Zee, *casting*

In her first foray into musical theater, Cal Performances' 2021–22 artist-in-residence—and three-time 2022 Grammy nominee—Angélique Kidjo explores themes of love, betrayal, honor, and revenge against a backdrop of slavery in 19th-century West Africa. Named after a Yoruban deity, *Yemandja* is a panoramic work of magic realism, a stunning parable about gods and humans.

**Sat, Apr 23, 8pm**  
**ZELLERBACH HALL**

*Yemandja* is co-commissioned by ArtsEmerson, The Broad Stage at Santa Monica College, Cal Performances, Ruth and Stephen Hendel, The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Mass MoCA, and the Yale Schwarzman Center. Produced by THE OFFICE performing arts + film.

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