

For Immediate Release: September 21, 2023

[Cal Performances press room](#)



Images of Sheku Kanneh-Mason are available for download from the Cal Performances [press room](#).  
A video of Kanneh-Mason performing on NPR Music's *Tiny Desk Concerts* can be viewed [here](#).

**CAL PERFORMANCES AT UC BERKELEY PRESENTS  
SHEKU KANNEH-MASON, *CELLO*  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1 AT 7:30PM  
AT ZELLERBACH HALL**

**Berkeley, September 21, 2023**—Cellist Sheku Kanneh-Mason returns to Zellerbach Hall on Wednesday, November 1 at 7:30pm to make his Cal Performances solo recital debut. His concert program of new and familiar works will include staples by Bach, Britten, and Cassadó, alongside music composed especially for him by Welsh composer Gwilym Simcock, English composer Edmund Finnis, and Cuban composer Leo Brouwer. In advance of the performance, Kanneh-Mason will also be featured in a live conversation over Zoom with cellist/journalist Lev Mamuya on Thursday, October 5 at 12noon PST. That event is free and open to the public with registration at [San Francisco Classical Voice](#).

Twenty-four-year-old Kanneh-Mason has already achieved considerable international success as a performer, and his recent accomplishments have solidified his status as a musical prodigy. In 2018, he performed a soulful rendition of Schubert's "Ave Maria" at the royal wedding of Prince Harry

and Meghan Markle. His most current recording, *Song*, released in 2022, features a wide range of classical, folk, and pop repertoire, along with Kanneh-Mason's own arrangements and improvisations. His sophomore album, *Elgar*, released in 2020, rose to the top of the UK classical charts and he was honored as Male Artist of the Year at the 2021 Classic BRIT Awards, in recognition of his talent and the impact he continues to make in classical music. Kanneh-Mason debuted at Cal Performances during the 2019–20 season in a recital with his sister, pianist Isata Kanneh-Mason.

UC Berkeley students can access exclusive discounts, including half-price tickets in all sections of the theater, and are also eligible to purchase a limited number of \$10 tickets for the best seats in the house for Kanneh-Mason's recital, beginning at 12 noon on Wednesday, October 18 through the [Golden Bear Circle](#) seating program.

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**CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:**

**Wednesday, November 1, 7:30pm**

**Zellerbach Hall  
Bancroft Way at Dana Street,  
UC Berkeley campus**

***Classical Recital***

**Sheku Kanneh-Mason, *cello***

**Program:**

J.S. Bach/Cello Suite No. 2 in D minor, BWV 1008

Gwilym Simcock/*Prayer for the Senses*

Britten/Cello Suite No. 1, Op. 72

Leo Brouwer/Cello Sonata No. 2

Edmund Finnis/Five Preludes

Cassadó/Suite for Cello Solo

British cellist Sheku Kanneh-Mason returns to Berkeley to make his Cal performances solo recital debut at Zellerbach Hall with a program of new and familiar works. Kanneh-Mason was the winner of the 2016 BBC Young Musician competition, and debuted in Berkeley during Cal Performances' 2019–20 season in a recital with his sister, pianist Isata Kanneh-Mason. His concert program on

November 1 includes staples by Bach, Britten, and Cassadó, alongside works composed especially for him by Welsh composer Gwilym Simcock, English composer Edmund Finnis, and Cuban composer Leo Brouwer.

Sheku Kanneh-Mason will also be featured in a live conversation over Zoom with cellist/journalist Lev Mamuya on Thursday, October 5 at 12noon PST. That event is free and open to the public with registration at [San Francisco Classical Voice](#).

**Tickets:** \$40–\$96 (prices subject to change). UC Berkeley students can access exclusive discounts, including half-price tickets in all sections of the theater, and \$10 tickets for a limited number of prime seats for this performance that go on sale at 12 noon on October 18 as part of Cal Performances' [Golden Bear Circle program](#). More information about student tickets and discounts is available at [calperformances.org/ucb-students](#).

Tickets for all performances are available at [calperformances.org](#), by phone at (510) 642-9988, or in person at the Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall, Tuesday–Friday, 12–5:30pm and Saturday–Sunday, 1–5pm. For information about discounts, visit [calperformances.org/discounts](#).

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