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CONTACT:

Katie Haemmerle, Stanford Live

650.725.1961

khaemmer@stanford.edu

PHOTOS: <http://live.stanford.edu/press>

Stanford Live 2020–21 Season
Examines the Process of Reconciliation and Forgiveness
A season of hope with a star-studded line-up: Patti LuPone, the Mariinsky Orchestra, iskwē, Joyce DiDonato, and more.



Stanford, CA, May 26, 2020—Notions of reconciliation and forgiveness shape the upcoming 2020–21 season, empowering artists who shed light on the histories of Indigenous people across the world and recognize the role reconciliation plays in building inclusive communities today. Cultures and stories that have historically been pushed to the peripheries emerge at the forefront of these artists’ visions, bringing a program of meaningful discussion and hope to Stanford Live.

"This is an important season for Stanford Live and has been years in the planning," says Chris Lorway, Executive Director at Stanford Live. "There has been a lot of discussion amongst our colleagues and advisors about the role the arts can play in the healing process after times of division. Now more than ever we need collective empathy and forgiveness as we chart a new course forward."

The 2020–21 line-up features jazz performances by **Christian Scott aTunde Adjuah** (Oct. 24) and **Jaz Sawyer with Tiffany Austin** (Nov. 13 & 14) and orchestra

performances by the Mariinsky Orchestra led by Valery Gergiev, the **Australian Chamber Orchestra** (Apr. 11) and their **ACO Underground** (Apr. 12), and **Orpheus Chamber Orchestra with Branford Marsalis** (Jan. 13). Hip-hop artist **Frank Waln** and singer-song writer **Raye Zaragoza** (Oct. 8) share the stage in the Bing Studio and **Patti LuPone** (Jan. 15) brings a solo show to the concert hall. Theater performances include **Anthony Hudson/Carla Rossi's *Queer Horror's Gravest Hits*** and **Carla Rossi *Does Drag*** (Nov. 6 & 7), **Cliff Cardinal's *Huff*** (Jan. 21 & 22), and a return visit from **Inua Ellams with *An Evening with an Immigrant*** (Jan. 23 & 24).

Our Commitment to Artists

Supporting artists remains paramount to Stanford Live's mission, especially amid uncertainties around COVID-19. Stanford Live has increased investment in commissions and co-productions over the years, and attention has now turned to also producing work at Stanford.

Two residencies in the upcoming season reflect Stanford Live's commitment to giving artists time, space, and resources to develop new work: A four-week residency with singer-songwriter and activist **iskwē** in January and a two-week residency in May with MacArthur genius fellow **Kyle Abraham and his company A.I.M (Abraham in Motion)**.

Major 2020–21 commissions include a reschedule of **Yang Liping's *Rite of Spring*** (Dec. 11 & 12), the regional premiere of **Samuel Carl Adams'** second commission with the **Australian Chamber Orchestra** (Apr. 11), and ***The Ritual of Breath Is a Rite to Resist*** (April 24), a multimedia song cycle and community meditation on the death of Eric Garner featuring music by Stanford faculty composer Jonathan Berger.

A Season of Many Scenarios

While Stanford Live has moved forward with the rollout of the 2020–21 season, there is a realistic understanding that many of the programs may need to be altered drastically or may not happen at all as a result of COVID-19's global impacts. The season announcement is instead a presentation of a curatorial vision that was years in the making.

“Our season launch is not a statement of fact but rather a statement of hope,” said Lorway. “We hope that we can deliver many of the programs we have planned in some format, but at the same time, we understand the reality that many of the things we wanted to share with you will likely not be possible.”

Stanford Live's approach to the next season plans for a variety of programming scenarios. Some options include switching to outdoor venues and opting for livestreams without audiences. If in-person events are possible, increased safety protocols will be established that accommodate the latest health guidelines and consider the health and safety of patrons, staff, and artists.

For a detailed look at Stanford Live's scenarios, see [Chris Lorway's feature](#) from the May/June issue of Stanford Live's magazine. For more on Stanford Live's approach to the next season, visit our [2020–21 season FAQ page](#).

Stanford Live's Promise to Patrons

In light of COVID-19's impacts around the world, there are many factors that may affect Stanford Live's season. Some performances may need to move venues in order to work more safely—and some may be rescheduled or canceled entirely. Through it all, Stanford Live promises to keep all patrons informed. Refunds and exchanges will be available for all canceled or rescheduled performances.

We take a moment to recognize that Stanford sits on the territory of Huichin, the ancestral and unceded land of the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe, who are the successors of the historic and sovereign Verona Band of Alameda County. This land was and continues to be of great importance to the Ohlone people. We recognize that every member of the community has benefited—and continues to benefit—from the use and occupation of this land. Consistent with our values of community and diversity, we have a responsibility to acknowledge and make visible the University's relationship to Native people.

Fall Schedule (all programs subject to change)

Chamber

Sundays with the St. Lawrence with guest artist Todd Palmer

Sunday, Sep. 27, 2020, 2:30 PM
Bing Concert Hall

Singer-Songwriter

Frank Waln and Raye Zaragoza

Thursday, Oct. 8, 2020, 7:00 PM
Bing Studio

William Prince

Friday, Oct. 23, 2020, 7:00 PM
Bing Studio

Recital

Takacs Quartet with Jeremy Denk

Sunday, Oct. 11, 2020, 2:30 PM
Bing Concert Hall

Garrick Ohlsson and Kirill Gerstein: *Dual Pianos*

Sunday, Nov. 1, 2020, 2:30 PM
Bing Concert Hall

Discussion/Performance

National Geographic Live: Wild Hope with Ami Vitale

Thursday, Nov. 5, 2020, 7:30 PM
Bing Concert Hall

Folk

Derek Gripper and Yacouba Sissoko

Thursday, Oct. 22, 2020, 7:30 PM
Bing Studio

Huun-Huur-Tu

Thursday, Nov. 12, 2020, 7:00 PM & 9:00 PM
Bing Studio

Jazz

Fandango at the Wall: Arturo O’Farrill and the Afro-Latin Jazz Orchestra with special guests Villalobos Brothers

Friday, Oct. 23, 2020, 7:30 PM
Bing Concert Hall

Christian Scott aTunde Adjuah: *Ancestral Recall*

Saturday, Oct. 24, 2020, 7:00 PM & 9:00 PM
Bing Studio

Jaz Sawyer featuring Tiffany Austin: *Freedom Now Suite, The Jazz Connection to Africa (family matinee), and The Message Forward*

Friday, Nov. 13, 7:00 PM
Saturday Nov. 14, 2:30 PM & 7:30 PM
Bing Studio

Family

Somos Amigos: Songs on Common Ground: Sonia De Los Santos and the Okee Dokee Brothers

Sunday, Nov. 8, 2020, 2:30 PM
Bing Concert Hall

Comedy

The Wrong Side of History: Colin Quinn

Oct. 9 & 10, 2020, 7:00 & 9:00 PM
Bing Studio

Theater

Anthony Hudson/Carla Rossi: *Queer Horror Gravest Hits and Carla Rossi Does Drag*

Friday & Saturday, Nov. 6 & 7, 2020, 8:00 PM
Bing Studio

Tickets and More Information

Events will appear on live.stanford.edu on Wednesday at noon. Member presale access begins on June 9. Tickets go on sale to the general public on July 16. In order to best prepare for potential changes in light of COVID-19, only tickets to shows scheduled from September through November will be available for purchase during the summer onsale. Visit live.stanford.edu for updates on sales to later performances.

About Stanford Live

Stanford Live presents a wide range of fine performances from around the world, fostering a vibrant learning community and providing distinctive experiences through the performing arts. From its home at Bing Concert Hall, Stanford Live functions simultaneously as a public square, a sanctuary and a lab, drawing from all Stanford University has to offer to connect performance to the most significant issues, ideas and discoveries of our time.

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