

# Welcome to a **season of possibilities**

It is my pleasure to present the Mondavi Center's 24-25 Season of performances.

This will be my 23<sup>rd</sup> season at the Mondavi Center and my first full season as its new executive director. I am thrilled to lead such an extraordinary institution into the future.

Among the diverse array of artists we have put together for you are some familiar names and enduring favorites. We welcome back Joshua Bell, San Francisco Symphony, Terence Blanchard, Pink Martini and Aida Cuevas, just to name a few.

We are also committed, more than ever, to introduce you to the next generation of stars and those exceptional artists that might fly below your radar.

I encourage you to explore my Director's Choice selections, and to join us as we get to know pianists like Bruce Liu and Sean Mason, violinist Théotime Langlois de Swarte with Les Arts Florissants, the amazing Ekep Nkwelle with the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan and a unique theatrical experience at Mrs. Krishnan's Party.

Thank you!



Jeremy Ganter
Executive Director
Robert and Margrit Mondavi Center
for the Performing Arts, UC Davis

BROCHURE KEY
Jackson Hall — JH
Vanderhoef Studio Theatre — VST
Director's Choice Event —

Front Cover: Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan













# **Orchestra**

### London Philharmonic Orchestra

Edward Gardner, principal conductor Randall Goosby, violin

The London Philharmonic Orchestra makes its Mondavi Center debut with performances from acclaimed violinist Randall Goosby, whom the *Los Angeles Times* calls "an angel with nothing to prove. A cool, calm, collected angel."

Featuring Tchaikovsky's towering Symphony No. 4 as well as Goosby's interpretation of Barber's Violin Concerto, the evening promises to be both revelatory and rewarding with a rare opportunity to see one of the world's greatest orchestras right here at home.

**Ludwig van Beethoven** *Egmont* Overture, Op. 84 **Samuel Barber** Violin Concerto **Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky** Symphony No. 4 in F Minor, Op. 36

Wednesday, October 9, 2024 | 7:30 pm | JH





### Academy of St Martin in the Fields

Bruce Liu, piano

Academy of St Martin in the Fields continues to push the boundaries of player-directed performance to new heights with fresh, brilliant interpretations of the world's greatest orchestral music. Appearing without famed music director Joshua Bell (who appears elsewhere this season in recital), they'll be joined by first prize winner of the 18th Chopin Piano Competition 2021 in Warsaw, Bruce Liu, one of the most exciting talents of his generation with a "rock-star status in the classical music world" (*The Globe and Mail*).

Thursday, February 27, 2025 | 7:30 pm | JH



### **London Symphony Orchestra**

**Sir Antonio Pappano**, chief conductor **Janine Jansen**, violin

Ranked among the world's top orchestras, the London Symphony Orchestra is built on the belief that extraordinary music should be available to everyone, everywhere. With violinist Janine Jansen, whom *The New York Times* declared "among the world's star soloists," the program consists of Walker's crowning work, Mahler's symphonic poem and Bernstein's *Serenade*, *after Plato's 'Symposium'*, which the composer himself described as "a series of related statements in praise of love."

George Walker Sinfonia No. 5, "Visions" Leonard Bernstein Serenade, after Plato's 'Symposium' Gustav Mahler Symphony No. 1 in D Major, "Titan"

Saturday, February 22, 2025 | 7:30 pm | JH





### San Francisco Symphony

**Esa-Pekka Salonen**, music director and conductor **Hilary Hahn**, violin

Famed Finnish conductor and composer Esa-Pekka Salonen makes his long-awaited Mondavi Center debut with the San Francisco Symphony for a performance of soaring Beethoven works. Appearing with San Francisco Symphony is threetime Grammy Award-winning violinist Hilary Hahn, who first performed the Beethoven Violin Concerto at 16 and has since become a barrier-breaking performer, fan favorite and 2023 *Musical America* "Artist of the Year" award winner.

Ludwig van Beethoven Symphony No. 4 in Bb Major, Op. 60 Ludwig van Beethoven Violin Concerto in D Major, Op. 61

Saturday, May 31, 2025 | 7:30 pm | JH





# **String Quartets**

Celebrate 44 years of musicmaking with the Alexander String Quartet's final Mondavi Center concert, and join us in welcoming the next generation of string quartets.

### Alexander String Quartet with Robert Greenberg

Spring 2025 will bring the retirement of the Alexander String Quartet, following a final, celebratory season. Joined by lecturer Robert Greenberg, they'll bring to life the nuances and history behind Beethoven's "The Harp" and Schubert's "Death and the Maiden," considered one of the pillars of the chamber ensemble repertoire. Don't miss your chance to celebrate this foundational piece of Mondavi Center history.

**Ludwig van Beethoven** String Quartet No. 10 in E-flat Major, Op. 74, "The Harp"

Franz Schubert String Quartet No. 14 in D Minor, D. 810, "Death and the Maiden"

Sunday, December 1, 2024 | 2:00 pm | JH



Formed at Julliard, the Isidore String Quartet approaches "the established as if it were brand new, and the new as if it were firmly established." The quartet's vision to revisit, rediscover and reinvigorate the repertory has made them winners of a 2023 Avery Fisher Career Grant and the 14th Banff International String Quartet Competition in 2022. Their compelling program includes Mozart's most famous quartet, Grammy-winning composer Billy Child's moving "Unrequited" and one of Beethoven's last works.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart Quartet in C Major, KV 465, "Dissonance" Billy Childs String Quartet No. 3, "Unrequited" Ludwig van Beethoven String Quartet in E-flat Major, Op. 127

Sunday, February 23, 2025 | 2:00 pm & 7:30 pm | VST

### **Curtis on Tour**

Michelle Cann, piano Erinys Quartet

Curtis on Tour, the Nina von Maltzahn global touring initiative of the famed Curtis Institute of Music is an experience not to be missed. Embracing the school's "learn by doing" philosophy, this year's musicians include the "exquisite" (*The Philadelphia Inquirer*) Michelle Cann, one of the most sought-after pianists of her generation, and the Erinys Quartet, named for the Furies from *Oresteia* by Aeschylus. Not only is the young ensemble the string quartet-in-residence at Curtis, they're also studying with the legendary Dover Quartet.

Antonín Dvořák Piano Quintet No. 2 in A Major Op. 81 Ludwig van Beethoven String Quartet in B-flat Major, Op. 18, No. 6 Florence Price Fantasie nègre No. 1

Sunday, May 4, 2025 | 2:00 pm & 7:30 pm | VST





# Classical



### Benjamin Beilman, violin Steven Osborne, piano

Benjamin Beilman is one of the leading violinists of his generation, winning praise from The Washington Post, The New York Times and The Times. His remarkable talent won him a spot among the youngest faculty members of the renowned Curtis Institute of Music and a successful stint in the Curtis on Tour 2023-24 season. He'll be joined by Steven Osborne—a Royal Philharmonic Society Instrumentalist of the Year—for a riveting performance of some of the classical world's most prized works.

Clara Schumann 3 Romances Johannes Brahms Violin Sonata in G Major, Op. 78 Lili Boulanger 2 Pieces for Violin and Piano

César Franck Violin Sonata in A Maior

Friday, March 7, 2025 | 7:30 pm | JH 🕖

### Joshua Bell, violin

The legendary music director of Academy of St Martin in the Fields returns to the Mondavi Center for a very special recital performance. With a career spanning almost four decades, Grammy award-winning violinist Ioshua Bell is one of the most celebrated artists of his era. He's performed with virtually every major orchestra in the world, for three American presidents and has even inspired a successful children's book. The Man with the Violin.

Friday, April 4, 2025 | 7:30 pm | JH



### Les Arts Florissants

Vivaldi's Four Seasons at 300

Théotime Langlois de Swarte, violin

For their Mondavi Center debut, Baroque superstars Les Arts Florissants are joined by fastrising violinist Théotime Langlois de Swarte in "Vivaldi's Four Seasons at 300" commemorating the legendary work's original publication in 1725. The program frames these iconic masterpieces afresh, setting them alongside music Vivaldi would have known in Venice and compositions that were, in turn, inspired by his bold vision.

Friday, March 21, 2025 | 7:30 pm | JH 🕡





# Jackson Hall Jazz





### Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra Big Band Holidays

### Featuring vocalists Ekep Nkwelle and Robbie Lee

Get ready for a holiday performance that's sure to please. The Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra (JLCO) brings holiday cheer—and a glimpse at the future of jazz— to Jackson Hall with help from rising star vocalists Ekep Nkwelle and Robbie Lee. Under the music direction of JLCO trombonist, Chris Crenshaw, the evening will feature soulful renditions of holiday classics, playful improvisation and storytelling perfect for audiences of all ages.

Holiday Shows

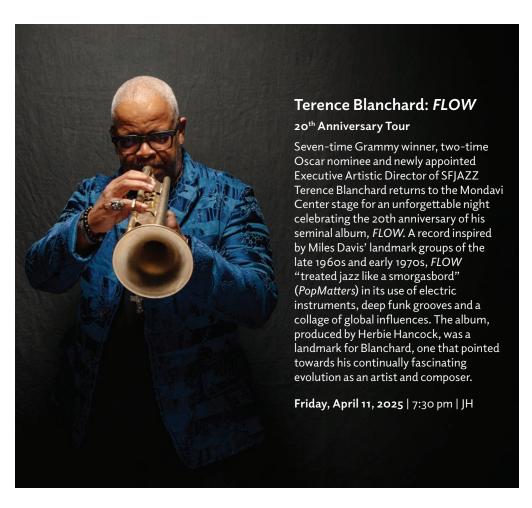
Tuesday, December 3, 2024 | 7:30 pm | JH 🕡

# Pink Martini featuring China Forbes A Holiday Spectacular

Celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Pink Martini returns to the Mondavi Center with its festive holiday show featuring sublime lead singer China Forbes. Pink Martini is renowned for a repertoire featuring songs in 25 languages, so expect a multilingual musical journey as the much-loved 'little orchestra' performs classic holiday songs like "White Christmas," "Santa Baby" and "Auld Lang Syne" along with other fan favorites from their 11 studio albums. In the words of bandleader and pianist Thomas Lauderdale: "Pink Martini is a rollicking around-the-world musical adventure...If the United Nations had a house band in 1962, hopefully we'd be that band."

Wednesday, December 4, 2024 | 7:30 pm | JH







### Julia Keefe Indigenous Big Band

Continuing a little-known but rich history of big bands that formed on reservations during the early 20th century, the Julia Keefe Indigenous Big Band brings charisma, passion, and purpose to every stage. This ensemble features a "who's who" of Indigenous bandleaders, including Mali Obomsawin (Odanak Abenaki), Delbert Anderson (Diné) and Chantil Dukart (Tsimshian), led by celebrated vocalist and luminary Julia Keefe (Nez Perce). Performing pieces from their underappreciated predecessors in jazz like Mildred Bailey (Coeur d'Alene) and Jim Pepper (Kaw/ Mvskoke), alongside works by contemporary Indigenous composers, the band spotlights a vibrant, long-standing tradition of Indigenous improvised music.

Thursday, May 8, 2025 | 7:30 pm | JH 🕡



# **Studio Jazz**



### Sean Mason

Experience the innovation and remarkable breadth of style that has earned Sean Mason a spot among the rising stars in jazz. Noted for a versatile expression that transcends genre limitations, his debut album, *The Southern Suite*, highlights his exceptional skill as a jazz pianist and composer and features a rich roster of influences from J.S. Bach to Cab Calloway, Louis Armstrong to Miles Davis and many points between. His Mondavi Center debut is a chance to discover one of the most celebrated artists on the contemporary music scene live in concert.

October 10-12, 2024 | 7:30 pm | VST





### Youn Sun Nah

Youn Sun Nah first heard Nina Simone in high school. From that moment on, she decided to pursue jazz. Long hailed for her style-blurring renditions of artists spanning from Tom Waits and Jimi Hendrix to Marvin Gaye and Metallica, her newest album, *Elles* sees Youn Sun Nah bringing her remarkable voice and unique perspective to a range of songs made famous by such iconic female artists as Björk, Sarah Vaughan, Grace Jones and of course, Nina Simone.

**November 7-9, 2024** | 7:30 pm | VST **D** 

### **Aaron Diehl Trio**

Pianist Aaron Diehl has quietly redefined the lines between jazz and classical, building a global career around his nuanced, understated approach to music-making. Praised for his "melodic precision, harmonic erudition, and elegant restraint" (*The New York Times*), Diehl has performed with musical giants such as Wynton Marsalis and Cécile McLorin Salvant, headlined the Monterey, Detroit, and Newport Jazz Festivals and now brings his exceptional artistry to the Mondavi Center for a chance to experience this one-of-a-kind talent.

**January 16-18, 2025** | 7:30 pm | VST



# **Global Roots**

### Aida Cuevas

Canta a Juan Gabriel 40 años después

We could go on and on about Aida Cuevas and her storied 47-year career. Known as "The Queen of Mariachi," she's also rightfully earned the titles of "Queen of Ranchera Music" and "La Voz de México" (the Voice of Mexico) as the first and only female singer in the traditional mariachi genre to ever win a Grammy and a Latin Grammy. Her Mondavi Center performance features a 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of her iconic album *Canta a Juan Gabriel*, originally produced by her mentor, legendary pop icon Juan Gabriel.

Saturday, October 5, 2024 | 7:30 pm | JH

### Mariza

No other current Portuguese artist has built as successful a name on the international stage as Mariza. Born in Mozambique, she began her 20-year career as a local phenomenon, known only to a few Lisbon admirers. Today, she transcends her own name, regarded as one of the most applauded stars on the World Music circuit and a true ambassador of the melancholy, blues-like Portuguese fado, boldly taking it along new and daring paths, without ever losing sight of its soul.

Friday, October 18, 2024 | 7:30 pm | JH

### **Velocity Irish Dance**

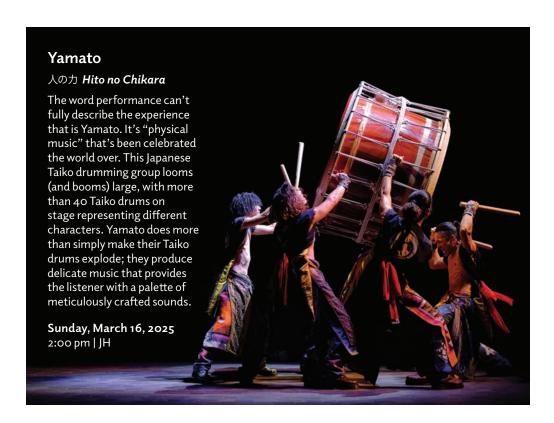
Honoring past traditions but blasting them feet first into the 21st century, Velocity breaks away from the idea of what an Irish dance show should be. Led by Guinness World Record holder for "The Fastest Feet in the World" James Devine and five-time World Champion Irish dancer David Geaney—and featuring an old-school scratch DJ—Velocity is an expressive, free, fast-paced, and edgy experience, driven by passion and pride that's like nothing you've seen before.

Saturday, March 15, 2025 | 7:30 pm | JH









### **DakhaBrakha**

Reflecting fundamental elements of sound and soul, Ukrainian "ethno chaos" band DakhaBrakha creates a world of unexpected new music. Formed in 2004 at the Kyiv Center of Contemporary Art "DAKH" by the avant-garde theatre director Vladyslav Troitskyi, their musical spectrum is at first intimate then riotous, plumbing the depths of contemporary roots and rhythms, inspiring "cultural and artistic liberation" aimed at unlocking the potential of Ukrainian melodies for the country's younger generation and the rest of the world.

Wednesday, April 9, 2025 7:30 pm | JH



# Movement





### Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan

### 13 Tongues by Cheng Tsung-lung

"When you're talking about Cloud Gate, 'magic' is not too strong a word." Effusive praise from no less a source than Time Out magazine. Formed in Taiwan in 1973, Cloud Gate is known for transforming ancient aesthetics into a thrilling and modern celebration of motion. 13 Tongues is inspired by artistic director Cheng Tsung-lung's childhood and has been lauded as "a sensationally big, indulgent, and visually arresting expression of cultural memory" (The Times) similar to the storyballet spectacle stylings of Mondavi Center favorites Ballet Preljocaj or Akram Khan.

Thursday, November 7, 2024 | 7:30 pm | JH 1



### **Bereishit Dance Company**

### Balance & Imbalance Iudo

Bereishit is like nothing we've seen on the Mondavi Center stage. Founded in 2011 by acclaimed choreographer Soon-ho Park, the company is known for its contemporary approach to traditional Korean culture with work that beautifully connects the forms and themes of sports and traditional arts. The company's inspired program consists of Balance & Imbalance, a meditation on human relationships and Judo, a piece that explores violence and sports rules, or conflict and cooperation.

Thursday, February 20, 2025 | 7:30 pm | JH 🕡









### Nava Dance Theater and Rupy C. Tut

### **Broken Seeds Still Grow**

Nava Dance Theater and Rupy C. Tut created Broken Seeds Still Grow, a multidisciplinary dance and visual art production, to explore the continuing impact of the 1947 British-India Partition, one of the most formative events in South Asia's recent history. Through Bharatanatyam, the Indian classical dance form that expresses South Indian religious and spiritual themes, and mixed visual media, they examine the hyphenated-American immigrant experience, linking it to the displacement of their ancestors during Partition. This innovative dance project sources poetry, eyewitness accounts and current events to understand the current political climate while reflecting on what it means to belong in the United States.

March 14-15, 2025 | 7:30 pm | VST

### Circa

### Opus

10 acrobats and a string quartet celebrate the music of Russian composer Dmitri Shostakovich in a work of stunning power, virtuosity and physical poetry.

Opus explores the complex relationships between the individual and the group, between the march of history and what dictates the heart, and between the tragic and the comic. It's a melding of music and bodies at the highest level producing a groundbreaking work of intense power, one *The Guardian* calls "extraordinarily moving."



# **Opera**



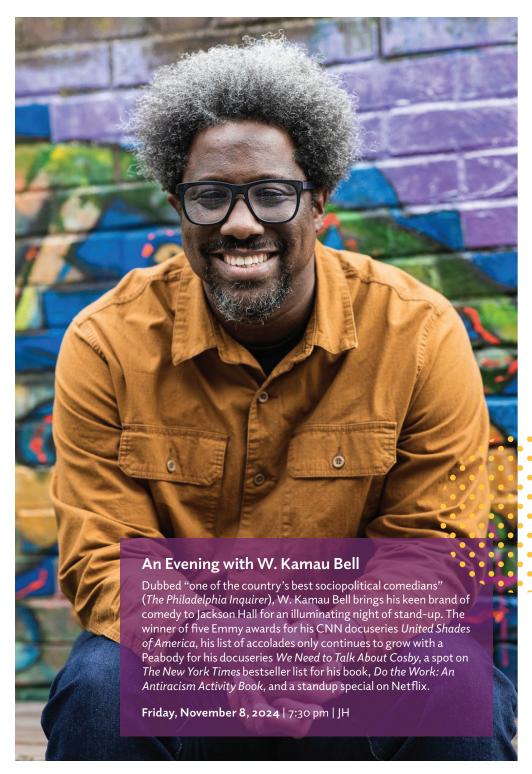
### Barbara K. Jackson Rising Stars of Opera

UC Davis Symphony Orchestra and singers from the San Francisco Opera Center

Since its inception in 2010, Rising Stars of Opera has featured vocal artistry, stirring arias and a glimpse at the opera stars of tomorrow; and every ticket has been free to the public thanks to Barbara K. Jackson. Today, Rising Stars of Opera features several singers from the acclaimed San Francisco Opera Center performing a wide range of great arias with full orchestral accompaniment from our own UC Davis Symphony Orchestra.

Sunday, February 2, 2025 | 2:00 pm | JH

# Humor



# Family, Film and Music



### Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse Live in Concert

Following sold-out shows worldwide of the first in the Oscar-winning Spider-Man™ animated Spider-Verse film series, *Spider-Man™*: *Across the Spider-Verse* comes to spin a musical web over the Mondavi Center audience. Featuring an incredible and groundbreaking soundtrack that's been heralded for its unique mix of orchestral meets electronic music and scratch DJ'ing, this new show sees the film presented on a huge HD screen. It's all accompanied by musicians and instrumentalists including a full orchestra, a scratch DJ on turntables, percussion and electronic instruments, performing music from the film live to picture.

Saturday, October 19, 2024 | 7:30 pm | JH



### 123 Andrés

123 Andrés' joy-filled bilingual performances are known for getting audiences out of their seats, dancing, singing and learning, and their Mondavi Center show is sure to charm guests of all ages. Latin Grammy and Grammy winners for "Best Children's Music Album," this husband and wife duo of teaching artists share a doctorate in music and a master's in education. They bring this impressive pedigree and a hearty dose of infectious energy to their Spanish and English music, books and live shows designed to entertain both parents and children.

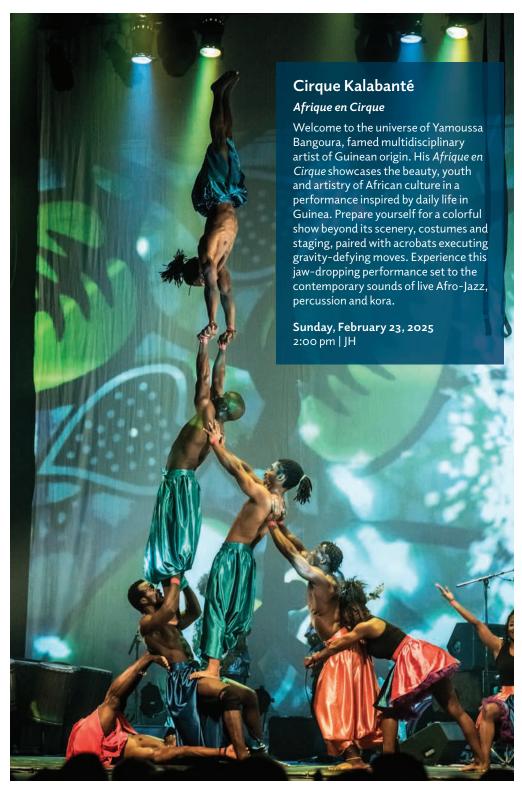
Sunday, November 17, 2024 | 2:00 pm | JH



### **Encanto: The Sing-Along Film Concert**

Treat the *Encanto* lovers in your family to a sing-along unlike any other. For one night, fans are encouraged to dress up like Mirabel, Luisa, Isabela or any of their favorite characters from the film and sing along with the Grammy-winning songs penned by living legend Lin-Manuel Miranda—including the breakout hit "We Don't Talk About Bruno"—and accompanied by a live band. Don't miss your chance to take part in this lively celebration of the Madrigal family.

Friday, November 22, 2024 | 7:30 pm | JH



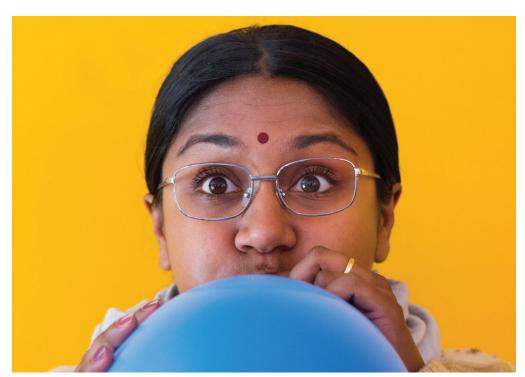
# **Theater**

### Mrs. Krishnan's Party

### Indian Ink Theatre Company

Mrs. Krishnan is throwing a party like no other, and you're invited! Step into the back room of Mrs. Krishnan's convenience store where garlands decorate the ceiling, food simmers on the stove, laughter abounds and strangers become friends in this joyous celebration of life. Watch the actors juggle cooking, music and guests in this immersive theatrical production where no two nights are the same.

**April 2-5, 2025** | 7:30pm | VST **D April 5-6, 2025** | 2:00pm | VST









# Season-at-a-Glance

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10/5 Aida Cuevas

10/9 London Philharmonic

Orchestra

10/10-12 Sean Mason

**10/18** Mariza

10/19 Spider-Man: Across the

Spider-Verse Live in Concert

### **NOVEMBER**

11/7 Cloud Gate Dance Theatre

of Taiwan

11/7-9 Youn Sun Nah

11/8 An Evening with

W. Kamau Bell

11/17 123 Andrés

11/22 Encanto: The Sing-Along

Film Concert

### **DECEMBER**

12/1 Alexander String Quartet

with Robert Greenberg

12/3 Jazz at Lincoln Center

Orchestra Big Band Holidays

12/4 Pink Martini featuring

China Forbes

### **JANUARY**

1/16-18 Aaron Diehl Trio

### **FEBRUARY**

2/2 Barbara K. Jackson Rising

Stars of Opera

2/13-15 Heloísa Fernandes Quartet

**2/20** Bereishit Dance Company

2/22 London Symphony Orchestra

2/23 Isidore String Quartet

2/23 Cirque Kalabanté

2/27 Academy of St Martin in the

Fields | Bruce Liu, piano

### **MARCH**

3/7 Benjamin Beilman, violin and

Steven Osborne, piano

3/14-15 Nava Dance Theatre and

Rupy C. Tut

3/15 Velocity Irish Dance

3/16 Yamato

3/21 Les Arts Florissants

### **APRIL**

4/2-6 Mrs. Krishnan's Party

4/4 Joshua Bell, violin

4/6 Circa

4/9 DakhaBrakha

4/11 Terence Blanchard: FLOW

### MAY

5/4 Curtis on Tour

5/8 Julia Keefe Indigenous Big Band

5/31 San Francisco Symphony



# **Subscribe Today!** Great Seats, Less Money.

Mondavi Center subscribers have first access to the best available seats and save money all season long.

### SELECT YOUR OWN SUBSCRIPTION SEATS

Tickets go on sale May 20, 2024, and subscribers can select their own seats both online and over the phone.

### We offer two tiers of Choose-Your-Own (CYO) Subscriptions:

CYO 3 — Save 10%

Choose three or four events and save 10% on your package and any additional tickets purchased throughout the 2024-2025 season

CYO 5 — Save 15%

Choose five or more events and save 15% on your package and share any additional tickets purchased throughout the 2024-2025 season

### **Additional Discounts**

UC Davis faculty and staff save 25% on all subscription packages of three events or more.

UC Davis students save 50% on all subscription packages.

Build your subscription at mondaviarts.org/subscribe

### **BECOME A MEMBER!**

Thanks to the collective generosity of dedicated individuals like you, the Mondavi Center can present a full range of performing arts to our community and region. Your belief in the power of the arts and investment in our mission-driven work helps ensure they remain vital in our community.

When you become a member, you unlock a host of benefits that truly enhance your experience

both in and out of the center. Benefits of membership include early ticket sales, public recognition and intimate receptions with artists, just to name a few.

We encourage you to help keep the arts alive and thriving in our community. For a complete list of donor levels and benefits, visit mondaviarts.org/giving.

### THANK YOU TO OUR 2024-25 SEASON SPONSORS

The Nancy and Hank Fisher Family Fund



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# **Mondavi** Center

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