

*This calendar is current as of 9.1.20 and can be accessed in the [Press Room](#) on the Annenberg Center's website. Programs subject to change. Please confirm listings before publication.*

## October 2020

---

### LIVESTREAM

#### **Caleb Teicher and Chris Celiz**

Thursday, October 1, 7 PM

The “king of old-school cool” (*Dance Magazine*), Caleb Teicher returns to the Annenberg Center stage after his hugely successful Philadelphia debut back in 2018. This time, he’s joined by Chris Celiz, “a beatboxer of astonishing sounds and irresistible rhythms,” (*The New York Times*) for an improvised, live event where the virtual audience will inform, change and inspire the performance.

Visit [AnnenbergCenter.org](https://AnnenbergCenter.org) for ticket information.

---

### FILM

#### ***The Surrogate***

Friday, October 2, 7 PM

Jess Harris (Jasmine Batchelor, *The Good Fight*), a 29-year-old web designer for a nonprofit in Brooklyn, is ecstatic to be the surrogate and egg donor for her best friend Josh (Chris Perfetti, HBO’s *Looking*) and his husband Aaron (Sullivan Jones, *Slave Play*). At 12 weeks into the pregnancy, a prenatal test comes back with unexpected results that pose a moral dilemma. As they all consider the best course of action, the relationship between the three friends is put to the test.

*Directed by Jeremy Hersh, 2020, U.S., 93 min, drama, English.*

Visit [AnnenbergCenter.org](https://AnnenbergCenter.org) for ticket information.

---

### LIVESTREAM

#### **Pam Tanowitz Dance**

Thursday, October 15, 7 PM

A highly sought-after choreographer and prolific star of the dance world, Pam Tanowitz “demonstrates her maverick way with movement constantly, and with exciting inventiveness.” (*The New York Times*) The critically acclaimed Pam Tanowitz Dance makes its Philadelphia debut with four dancers in two works that illustrate her flair for taking classical movement and turning it on its head in a beautiful interplay of rhythm, style and idiosyncrasy, challenging expectations while simultaneously exposing the very heart of dance.

Visit [AnnenbergCenter.org](https://AnnenbergCenter.org) for ticket information.

---

**LIVESTREAM****Tivon Pennicott Duo**

Thursday, October 22, 7 PM

What do Stevie Wonder, Jon Batiste, Gregory Porter and Esperanza Spalding have in common? They all call Tivon Pennicott when they need a tenor sax player whose sound “is sweet to listen to, like drinking warm honey” (All About Jazz). This three-time Grammy® Award-winner’s evolving style is rooted in the soulful, sophisticated foundation for groove he honed at church. For his Annenberg Center debut, Pennicott will be joined by drummer Kenneth Salters, a fixture on Manhattan’s West Village independent jazz scene.

Visit [AnnenbergCenter.org](https://www.annenbergcenter.org) for ticket information.

---

**LIVESTREAM****PHILADANCO**

Thursday, October 29, 7 PM

“Virtuosic, spiritually uplifting, and socially conscious” (*The Philadelphia Inquirer*), PHILADANCO is celebrated for its innovation, creativity and preservation of predominantly African-American traditions in dance. Returning to the Annenberg Center stage after last season’s popular holiday hit, *Xmas Philes*, two dancers will perform an evening of solos and duets and then will be joined by the company’s legendary founder and executive and artistic director Joan Myers Brown for a post-show Q&A.

Visit [AnnenbergCenter.org](https://www.annenbergcenter.org) for ticket information.

---

**November 2020**

---

**LIVESTREAM****Veronica Swift**

Thursday, November 12, 7 PM

A recent finalist at the prestigious Thelonious Monk Jazz Competition, vocalist Veronica Swift makes her Annenberg Center debut backed by Philadelphia-based pianist Tim Brey. This rising jazz star is already known for vocals that are “soulfully infused with an infectious passion for jazz past and future.” (All About Jazz) With expansive musical influences, a commanding stage presence and a renowned jazz lineage, Swift is carving out her own identity in the world of jazz and beyond, and she’s just getting started.

Visit [AnnenbergCenter.org](https://www.annenbergcenter.org) for ticket information.

---

**FILM****Aviva**

Friday, November 13, 7 PM

*Aviva* is a uniquely sexy, dancing in the streets, sheets and bars, impressionistic take on a movie romance, set in a New York world of gender fluidity and frequently unclothed bodies. Featuring choreography by former Batsheva Dance Company member and co-star Bobbi Jene Smith, director Boaz Yakin’s (*Fresh, Remember the Titans, A Price Above Rubies*) dreamy film tells a story that is timeless and universal yet up-to-the-moment. The character of Aviva, played by Zina Zinchenko (and at times by Or Schraiber), is a young Parisian who develops an online romance with Eden, played by Tyler Phillips (and at times Smith), a New Yorker. After a long courtship, they meet in person and fall in love, settling into an intimate relationship that leads to marriage, but one laced with conflicts. Incorporating exuberant dance sequences and featuring a pair of principals expressing both masculine and feminine sides, *Aviva* captures a restless and changing today, where who we are as women and men and how we navigate the world are up for grabs.

*Directed by Boaz Yakin, 2020, USA/France, 116 min, dance drama, English.*

Visit [AnnenbergCenter.org](https://www.annenbergcenter.org) for ticket information.

---

**LIVESTREAM****Meg Bragle, Mezzo-soprano, and Richard Stone, Lute**

Sunday, November 15, 7 PM

Solitude has long been considered essential for creativity and art, but what happens when that solitude is imposed rather than chosen? Mezzo-soprano and Penn Department of Music Artist-in-Residence Meg Bragle, and lutenist Richard Stone, co-director of Philadelphia's Tempesta di Mare come together for an intimate meditation on solitude, with music by Purcell, Dowland, Encina, Boyer and more.

Visit [AnnenbergCenter.org](https://www.annenbergcenter.org) for ticket information.

---

**LIVESTREAM****Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers**

Thursday, November 19, 7 PM

Described as "deeply spiritual and remarkable" (*Dance Magazine*) and known for lush works of poetic sensibility, Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers returns to the Annenberg Center stage for a program including a preview of a new work as well as a world premiere surprise. Featuring six dancers, the evening will reflect on the state of the world amidst a pandemic with prevailing messages of hope and unity. Lin seeks to illustrate how isolation can provide opportunities to reflect, grow and evolve, allowing us to form a deeper connection with all humanity.

Program:

*Inside my Home* (solo)

*When will life be normal again?*

*Renaissance* (solo)

*Spring Duet*

*Good Morning* (excerpt preview of latest work *Fish and Girl*)

World premiere surprise (solo)

Post-show Q&A

Visit [AnnenbergCenter.org](https://www.annenbergcenter.org) for ticket information.

---

**FILM*****My Darling Vivian***

Friday, November 20, 7 PM

In 1951, Catholic schoolgirl Vivian Liberto met handsome Air Force cadet Johnny Cash at her local San Antonio skating rink. Their whirlwind summer romance laid the foundation for a feverish three-year-long correspondence while Johnny was stationed in Germany. Thousands of letters later, the two married upon his return in 1954. Within a year, Johnny's musical career blossomed and a family started. By 1961, "Johnny Cash" was a household name, number one on the music charts and perpetually on tour. Meanwhile, only two weeks postpartum, Vivian settled into their custom-built home in Casitas Springs, California with their four young daughters. Plagued by bobcats, rattlesnakes, all-hours visits from fans and a growing resentment toward her husband's absence, Vivian was pushed to a near-breaking point when she and her daughters were targeted by hate groups over her perceived race. In *My Darling Vivian*, meet the first Mrs. Cash as her daughters, Rosanne, Kathy, Cindy and Tara, share with us firsthand, for the first time, the entire story of love, isolation, fear, heartbreak and survival.

*Directed by Matt Riddlehoover, 2020, U.S., 90 min, documentary, English.*

Visit [AnnenbergCenter.org](https://www.annenbergcenter.org) for ticket information.

---

**December 2020**

---

**FILM*****Two Beats One Soul***

Thursday, December 3, 7 PM

Husband-and-wife music producers Ray Chew and Vivian Scott Chew embark on an ambitious, two-week journey to Havana, Cuba to create a collaboration of Afro-Caribbean-rooted sounds that evolved into what we now consider modern-day Salsa music. Bringing together artists from the U.S. and Cuba, the film shines a light on Cuban culture and takes the viewer through the creative process and challenges of producing an album while providing an auditory sensation that touches the soul. The film features Eric Benét, Louie Vega and Sergio George (who has produced albums for Jennifer Lopez), Marc Anthony and more. Walk away feeling the passion, positive energy, triumph and love that keep this musical marriage strong.

*Directed by Sara Nesson and Billie Woodruff, 2020, U.S., 75 min, documentary, English.*

Visit [AnnenbergCenter.org](https://www.annenbergcenter.org) for ticket information.

---

**LIVESTREAM****Martha Graham Dance Company**

Thursday, December 10, 7 PM

With the “most skilled and powerful dancers you can ever hope to see,” (*The Washington Post*) this iconic company returns to our stage for an evening of solos and duets. Enjoy parts of Graham’s beloved *Appalachian Spring* and *Dark Meadow Suite*, as well as the full solo work, *Ekstasis*. Offering a delectable taste of Graham’s signature choreographic style, these works illustrate why the Martha Graham Dance Company is one of the most celebrated contemporary dance companies on the planet.

The performance will include a Q&A with the dancers and Janet Eilber, Artistic Director of Martha Graham Dance Company.

Visit [AnnenbergCenter.org](https://www.annenbergcenter.org) for ticket information.

---

**LIVESTREAM****Sullivan Fortner**

Thursday, December 17, 7 PM

With “an extravagant amount of talent and a hyperactive flow on the keyboard,” (*The New York Times*) Sullivan Fortner makes his Annenberg Center debut. This Grammy® Award-winning pianist pulls distinct elements from different eras for a musical style that preserves the tradition and evolves the sound of jazz and blues. Celebrate the holidays with an evening of solo piano by this up-and-coming jazz star.

Visit [AnnenbergCenter.org](https://www.annenbergcenter.org) for ticket information.

# # #

---

**Press Contacts**

---

Katherine Blodgett, for the Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts

Email: [katherineblodgett@gmail.com](mailto:katherineblodgett@gmail.com)

Phone: 215.431.1230

Alexander Freeman, Director of Marketing and Ticketing, Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts

Email: [freemana@ac.upenn.edu](mailto:freemana@ac.upenn.edu)

Phone: 215.898.9081