

# MADELEINE PEYROUX

**VOCALS & GUITAR** Madeleine Peyroux

**GUITAR** Jon Herington

**KEYBOARDS** Sam Yahel

**BASS** Paul Frazier

**DRUMS** Graham Hawthorne

Zellerbach Theatre

Sunday, May 12 @ 7 PM

There will be no intermission.



Co-presented with World Cafe Live.

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## ABOUT MADELEINE PEYROUX'S ALBUM, *LET'S WALK*

"Let us advance our mortal bodies up  
Where hearts and minds will go  
Let's walk, let's roll."

So sings Peyroux on the upbeat title track of her captivating ninth album, *Let's Walk*, the acclaimed singer-songwriter's most assured, courageous work to date. Powered by the distinctive, honeyed croon that delivered her from the Paris streets to concert halls, the album's 10 unabashedly personal songs, all co-written by the versatile Peyroux, deftly interweave jazz, folk and chamber pop, with themes ranging from the confessional to the political, from whimsy to yearning. In every note, Peyroux digs deep, rendering this exquisite work with the disarming grace and gravitas of an artist in peak form.

For the ardently civic-minded Peyroux, *Let's Walk* continues the scintillating conversation with her audience – and with the world at large. "This music is part of a dialogue," she says. "That's what art is. It's engagement, community. I believe more than anything in getting together with people and listening to music and conversing. Music is the only way I've ever built community."

*Let's Walk* was a long time coming, but well worth the wait. Following Peyroux's 2018 album, *Anthem*, the enforced isolation of the global pandemic made any real-time community gathering impossible. From a creative standpoint, however, COVID-19 offered Peyroux a silver lining: she seized the opportunity to hunker down with longtime collaborator, multi-instrumentalist Jon Herington (Steely Dan, Lucy Kaplansky). The pair reflected on the seismic era at hand and wrote and re-wrote in what Peyroux calls "a shadow of reckoning." When multiple Emmy and Grammy® Award-winning producer Elliott Scheiner (Fleetwood Mac, The Eagles) heard a sampling of the new material, he mandated there be no covers on the album. The longtime studio veteran knew the time was ripe to highlight Peyroux's incisive, often topical lyrics meshed with Herington's ear for melody and arrangements.

As the road beckons this spring, Peyroux's community of loyal fans is in for a treat. Thanks to the serendipitous delay, her collaborators Herington and Scheiner, the spare, slow burning *Let's Walk* material will be set free in venues around the world, effortlessly dovetailing with Peyroux's beloved versions of Leonard Cohen, Bob Dylan and Tom Waits (to name a few) classics. As she learned in her busking years, a great song can wield powerful magic and inspire the best in any type of crowd. With *Let's Walk*, Madeleine Peyroux takes full ownership of that magic.

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## JAZZ & WORLD MUSIC HIGHLIGHTS

**OCT 5** Joshua Redman Group  
featuring Gabrielle Cavassa

**OCT 27** Sweet Honey  
and the Rock

**NOV 10** Abdullah Ibrahim Trio

**DEC 8** Bria Skonberg:  
Jingle Bell Swing

**FEB 7** Shemekia Copeland

**MAR 22** Angélique Kidjo

**MAY 9** Lakecia Benjamin



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