

CÉCILE MCLORIN SALVANT

VOCALS Cécile McLorin Salvant

PIANO Glenn Zaleski

BASS Yasushi Nakamura

DRUMS Kyle Poole

Zellerbach Theatre

Sunday, November 2 @ 7 PM

There will be no intermission.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Cécile McLorin Salvant is a composer, singer and visual artist. The late Jessye Norman described her as “a unique voice supported by an intelligence and full-fledged musicality, which light up every note she sings.” Salvant has developed a passion for storytelling and finding the connections between vaudeville, blues, theatre, jazz, Baroque and folkloric music. She is an eclectic curator, unearthing rarely recorded, forgotten songs with strong narratives, interesting power dynamics, unexpected twists and humor.

Salvant won the Thelonious Monk competition in 2010 and since received three consecutive Grammy® Awards for Best Jazz Vocal Album for *The Window*, *Dreams and Daggers* and *For One To Love*, and was nominated for the award in 2014 for her album *WomanChild*. In 2020, Salvant received the MacArthur fellowship and the Doris Duke Artist Award. Nonesuch Records released her twice Grammy®-nominated *Ghost Song* in 2022, and in 2023, the highly anticipated, twice Grammy®-nominated follow up, *Mélusine*, an album mostly sung in French, along with Occitan, English and Haitian Kreyòl.

Nonesuch recently released *Oh Snap*, an album comprised of 12 very personal songs composed and produced by Salvant. The album features longtime collaborators Sullivan Fortner, Yasushi Nakamura and Kyle Poole, as well as cameos from singers June McDoom and Kate Davis. Salvant wrote these short, intimate songs as part of a creative quest: to place spontaneity and joy at the center of her writing process. She originally recorded them alone, at home, never intending for them to be released, using digital tools and effects that she had never played with before, like GarageBand, Logic, AutoTune, Midi plugins, drum loops, vocal effects, reverb and filters. The songs reflect Salvant’s wide-ranging musical influences from her 1990s childhood in Miami—from boy bands to grunge to classical to folk—and include party tracks with beats, samba grooves and quiet folk songs.

Born and raised in Miami, Florida, of a French mother and Haitian father, she started classical piano studies at five, sang in a children's choir at eight, and started classical voice lessons as a teenager. Salvant received a bachelor's in French law from the Université Pierre-Mendes France in Grenoble while also studying Baroque music and jazz at the Darius Milhaud Music Conservatory in Aix-en-Provence, France.

Salvant's recent work, *Ogresse*, is a musical fable in the form of a cantata that blends genres (folk, Baroque, jazz, country). Salvant wrote the story, lyrics and music. It is arranged by Darcy James Argue for a thirteen-piece orchestra of multi-instrumentalists. *Ogresse* is both a biomythography and an homage to the Erzulie (as painted by Gerard Fortune) and Sara Baartman that explores fetishism, hunger, diaspora, cycles of appropriation, lies, othering and ecology. It is in development to become an animated feature-length film, which Salvant will direct.

Salvant also makes large-scale textile drawings. Her visual art can now be found at Picture Room in Brooklyn, NY.

25 ★ 26 SEASON

UPCOMING JAZZ

Ephrat Asherie Dance with Arturo O'Farrill
Shadow Cities

Nov 14-15

Dianne Reeves
Christmas Time is Here

Dec 7

Isaiah Collier & Keyon Harrold
JAN 24

Tyshawn Sorey
Members, Don't Git Weary
FEB 6

Delbert Anderson Quartet
APR 26

Arturo O'Farrill
Afro Latin Jazz Ensemble
MAY 8



Jerris Madison