



Chucho Valdés Trio

PROGRAM

There will be no intermission.

Friday, April 13 @ 8 PM

Zellerbach Theatre

Media Sponsor: 

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Winner of six Grammy® Awards and three Latin Grammy® Awards, the Cuban pianist, composer, arranger and bandleader Chucho Valdés has been a key figure in the evolution of Afro-Cuban jazz for the past 50 years. His musical education includes formal studies and countless nights on the best stages in Cuba as the pianist with his father, Bebo Valdés, and his orchestra Sabor de Cuba, and also with the seminal Orquesta Cubana de Música Moderna. In the early 70s, Valdés distilled these experiences into the foundation of Irakere, an ensemble that marked a before and after in Afro-Cuban jazz. Valdés was the director, pianist, main composer and arranger of Irakere for more than 30 years. But since 2005, he has focused on his personal career, highlighting his work as a pianist and leading small ensembles. His 2014 recording, *Border-Free*, finds Valdés at the top of his game, leading his Afro-Cuban Messengers, a spectacular quintet comprising yet another generation of young brilliant Cuban musicians, in a search that transcends styles and traditions. In conjunction with the U.S. tour in 2015, Chucho Valdés: Irakere 40 released *Live at Marciac* (Jazz Village/Harmonia Mundi) recorded at the Jazz in Marciac festival in France.