

GREEN MUSIC CENTER AT SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

WEILL HALL | SCHROEDER HALL

PUNCH BROTHERS

Punch Brothers are the acoustic quintet of mandolinist Chris Thile, guitarist Chris Eldridge, bassist Paul Kowert, banjoist Noam Pikelny and violinist Gabe Witcher. Says the Washington Post, "With enthusiasm and experimentation, Punch Brothers take bluegrass to its next evolutionary stage, drawing equal inspiration from the brain and the heart." Their latest album, the T Bone Burnett-produced *The Phosphorescent Blues* (released in 2015 on Nonesuch Records), addresses the power and the pitfalls of our super-connected world with straight-up poignancy and subversive humor.

Punch Brothers formed in 2006. Its first Nonesuch record, *Punch*, was released in 2008 and combined elements of the band's many musical interests. In 2009, they began a residency at NYC's intimate club, The Living Room, trying out new songs and ultimately spawning the Grammy-nominated *Antifogmatic* (2010). In 2012, the band released *Who's Feeling Young Now?*, which *Q* praised for its 'astonishing, envelope-pushing vision', while Rolling Stone said, 'The acoustic framework dazzles - wild virtuosity used for more than just virtuosity.'

Recently, Chris Thile took over hosting duties of *Live from Here* (formerly *A Prairie Home Companion*) in 2016 and released *Thanks for Listening* in late 2017 - a collection of songs written for Chris' popular radio show.

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