GREEN MUSIC CENTER ANNOUNCES 2021–22 SEASON IN WEILL HALL & SCHROEDER HALL

30+ Compelling Artists highlight an exciting return to live performances

(Sonoma County, CA) — The Green Music Center at Sonoma State University introduced today its new season of programming for 2021–22. This exciting new season marks a return to live performances within Weill Hall and Schroeder Hall. “Nothing can replace the visceral excitement of being part of an audience, in the same space as the performers, feeling and witnessing the power of live performance,” shares Green Music Center Executive Director Jacob Yarrow. “I am beyond excited to introduce this season of programming—a season that brings us back together to celebrate compelling artists.”

This season of programming is highlighted by a wide array of artists, from high profile names like Mary Chapin Carpenter, Juilliard String Quartet, Ladysmith Black Mambazo, and Vienna Boys Choir; to up-and-coming artists like guitarist Jiji, jazz pianist Connie Han and the hip hop/jazz/funk ensemble DDAT. The 2021–22 Season features a variety of genres as well, from jazz luminaries including vocalist Dianne Reeves, trumpeter Sean Jones, and fiery pianist Connie Han to iconic chamber ensembles St. Lawrence String Quartet, Kronos Quartet, and New Century Chamber Ensemble.

Working to further investigate ideas and provide access to diverse artistic experiences, the 21–22 Season will feature artists and ideas from a disparate collection of cultural traditions. Many artists including choreographer/Liz Lerman, Mwenso & the Shakes, and Alphabet Rockers will also be making an impact outside of the concert hall, interacting with Sonoma State students, K-12 schools, and several communities within our region.

In addition to all the challenges of the pandemic, Green Music Center founding donors Donald and Maureen Green both passed away within the past year. As the facility that is graced with their name reopens, this new season will build upon their legacy, paying tribute to their generosity and vision through a commitment to educate, connect, and inspire Sonoma State and neighboring communities.

WHEN TO PURCHASE TICKETS

**Season Subscriptions**
- Donor/subscriber pre-sale: Aug 19 at 10am
- General On-sale: Aug 24 10am

**Single Tickets**
- Donor/subscriber Pre-sale: Aug 31 at 10am
- General On-sale: Aug 31 at noon
To purchase tickets to the 2021–22 Season visit gmc.sonoma.edu or call 1.707.664.4246.

HEALTH & SAFETY AT THE GREEN

We are excited to return to live events that are fun, healthy, and safe! Procedures are in place that follow current public health guidance and performing arts industry standards. Depending on conditions at the time of the performance, you may need to wear a mask and/or attest to being fully vaccinated to access indoor seating areas of the venue. The most up-to-date information is at gmc.sonoma.edu/covid-19.

THESE ARE SOME OF OUR SAFETY PROCEDURES

- Our indoor air handling systems are equipped with MERV-14 filters that exceed CDC standards.
- Enhanced cleaning of all spaces prior to and during events.
- Hand washing areas and sanitizer will be available.
- We encourage you to get vaccinated!
- Drink concessions will be available in the lobby. Visit our web site for more information about food and drink options.

2021–22 Season at the Green Music Center
Weill Hall | Schroeder Hall | Weill Hall Loft

PARTY FOR THE GREEN
NEW ORLEANS STYLE
FEATURING JON CLEARY & THE ABSOLUTE MONSTER GENTLEMEN
Saturday, September 25, 2021

The Green Music Center's annual fundraising event featuring Jon Cleary & the Absolute Monster Gentlemen, cocktails, and dancing—all to support the performing arts in the North Bay. Grammy® Award-winning Jon Cleary is a New Orleans fixture as a skillful tunsmith renowned around the globe as an accomplished keyboardist, guitarist, and a deeply soulful vocalist.

Reception, Concert, & Party
$125 per person
7 P.M. Reception
8 P.M. Concert in Weill Hall
9 P.M. Party with specialty cocktails & dancing in the Trione Courtyard

Subscription discounts do not apply.
JIJI, GUITAR
Sunday, October 10, 2021 at 3 P.M.
Schroeder Hall
Tickets: $30-$40

Fresh off her online appearance in The Green Room, Jiji is set to perform in-person this fall! Experience this adventurous artist who shines on both acoustic and electric guitar, playing an extensive range of music from traditional and contemporary classical music to free improvisation. Jiji is a passionate advocate of new music, performing works by numerous emerging composers, in addition to her own fascinating compositions. As a chamber musician, she performed with members of Eighth Blackbird, Bang on a Can All-Stars, and wildUp.

Supported in part by Oliver's Market

MADELEINE PEYROUX & PAULA COLE
Thursday, October 14, 2021 at 7:30 P.M.
Weill Hall
Tickets: $45-$105

Two iconic performers team up to perform two hit albums. Madeleine Peyroux celebrates a special reissue of her seminal album Careless Love, touring the world to perform the album in its entirety. She’s joined by acclaimed songstress Paula Cole performing her classic album This Fire.

Careless Love is a rich collection of songs by masters ranging from Bob Dylan to James P. Johnson to Leonard Cohen’s “Dance Me to the End of Love.”

This Fire brought Paula Cole worldwide acclaim with hits “Where Have All the Cowboys Gone?” and “I Don’t Want to Wait,” which was the theme song to the hit TV show Dawson’s Creek.

Supported in part by Gables Inn

MWENSO & THE SHAKES, Love Will Be the Only Weapon
Saturday, October 16, 2021 at 7:30 P.M.
Weill Hall
Tickets: $25-$55

The magnetic performer Michael Mwenso, alongside his band The Shakes, specializes in entertaining, high-energy shows with deep cultural connections. The musicians and dancers in the Shakes hail from places as wide-ranging as Madagascar, South Africa, France, Hawaii, and Jamaica. They will lead us on a kaleidoscopic journey through Black ancestral music and traditions, by way of Fats Waller, Muddy Waters, James Brown, and other musical legends—all with effortless verve.

Supported in part by Redwood Credit Union.

LUCKY PLUSH PRODUCTIONS
RINK LIFE
Dance-theater work created by Julia Rhoads
Saturday, October 23, 2021 at 7:30 P.M.
Weill Hall
 Tickets: $25-$75

Lucky Plush Productions offers a unique hybrid of dance and theater that creates a palpable sense of immediacy and shared, real-time experience with audiences—which is truly essential in 2021. In Rink Life, the performers find themselves in a space inspired by the visual aesthetics and social dynamics of 1970's roller rink culture.

Made possible, in part, by the New England Foundation for the Arts' National Theater Project, with lead funding from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and additional support from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation.

INVOKE
Friday, October 29, 2021 at 7:30 P.M.
Weill Hall Loft
Tickets: $25-$45

Described as “not classical...but not not classical” (David Srebnik, SiriusXM Classical Producer), Invoke continues to successfully dodge even the most valiant attempts at genre classification. This string quartet occasionally adds a few more instruments to encompass traditions from across America, including bluegrass, Appalachian fiddle tunes, jazz, and minimalism. Invoke weaves all of these styles together to create truly individual music written by and for the group.

Supported in part by Cartograph Wines

APOLLO’S FIRE
VIVALDI’S FOUR SEASONS: REDISCOVERED
Saturday, October 30, 2021 at 7:30 P.M.
Weill Hall
Tickets: $25-$85

Apollo’s Fire and Artistic Director Jeannette Sorrell present Vivaldi’s Four Seasons as the revolutionary acts of musical storytelling they were meant to be—all brilliantly performed by virtuosic musicians. The stories that Vivaldi intended to tell are made clear through projected images of baroque Italian paintings, and the sounds of bird calls, storms, barking dogs, and more.

Supported in part by Exchange Bank

ETHAN LIPTON & HIS ORCHESTRA
Thursday, November 18, 2021 at 7:30 P.M.
Weill Hall Loft
Tickets: $25-$45
This award-winning quartet was named New York’s “Best Lounge Act” by New York Magazine. Their music is steeped in American traditions—jazz, folk, country, blues, and rock—but tackles modern subjects with urgency, humor, and a well of deep feeling. It all adds up to a cockeyed view of an odd, disjointed age.

Supported in part by Sonoma-Cutrer

DDAT
Friday, November 19, 2021 at 7:30 P.M.
Weill Hall
Tickets: $25-$55

Combining hip hop, jazz, funk, and soul with their original southwestern feel, DDAT creates a unique sound that has been described as “funky,” “poetic,” “forward thinking,” and “outside the box.” Named by NPR as one of the top 10 bands in the US, performances by DDAT are full of energy and excitement.

Supported in part by Oliver’s Market.

JUILIARD STRING QUARTET
BEETHOVEN EXTRAVAGANZA
Sunday, November 21, 2021 at 3 P.M.
Weill Hall
Tickets: $25-$85

Hailed by The Boston Globe as “the most important American quartet in history,” the ensemble draws on a deep and vital engagement to the classics, while embracing the mission of championing new works. The program includes the Beethoven Quartet, Opus 130 paired with new pieces by the celebrated German composer Jörg Widmann, which were designed to accompany Beethoven’s work. The Green Music Center is a proud co-commissioner of this project.

Supported in part by Cartograph Wines.

VIENNA BOYS CHOIR
CHRISTMAS IN VIENNA
Sunday, November 28, 2021 at 3 P.M.
Weill Hall
Tickets: $45-$105

The Vienna Boys Choir has been delighting music lovers across the globe for six centuries with their purity of tone, distinctive charm, and popular repertoire. Christmas in Vienna showcases these gifted musicians with voices of unforgettable beauty in an extraordinary program featuring Austrian folk songs, classical masterpieces, popular songs, and, of course, holiday favorites.

Supported in part by Exchange Bank and Oxford Suites.

JOY TO THE WORLD
Joy To The World: A Christmas Musical Journey takes the listener through Damien Sneed’s original arrangements of gospel, jazz, and classical favorites. The performance features a cast of 10 singers and musicians performing well-known holiday classics such as “Silent Night,” “This Christmas,” “Joy To The World,” excerpts from The Messiah, and many others.

Damien Sneed is a remarkable pianist, organist, singer, and arts educator whose work spans multiple genres. He has worked with jazz, classical, pop, and R&B legends including the late Aretha Franklin, Wynton Marsalis, Jessye Norman, Diana Ross, Stevie Wonder, and more.

Supported in part by Clover Sonoma and Redwood Credit Union.

Mary Chapin Carpenter, Marc Cohn, and Shawn Colvin unite for a memorable show that will feature the three Grammy® Award-winning artists on stage together, performing their favorite songs and sharing stories.

Supported in part by Sonoma Cutrer, the Press Democrat, and Oxford Suites.

Celebrate the winter solstice and its warm traditions with a concert of original and traditional acoustic music. This season marks the 35th anniversary of the multi-platinum Winter Solstice album series from Windham Hill Records. Singer, fiddler, and pianist Barbara Higbie joins guitarist Todd Boston, and cellist Mia Pixley, to lead a joyous holiday concert.

Supported in part by Oliver’s Market.

San Francisco Gay Men’s Chorus
The Holidays Are Here...Again!
Saturday, December 18, 2021 at 5 P.M.
Weill Hall
Tickets: $25-$75
Having skipped one entire holiday season, we are about to explode with pent-up excitement. We’ve chosen the very best of the last 10 years along with brand new pieces, literally one showstopper after another. You’ll hear and see and feel all the things we missed last holiday, from the sublime, such as the Randol Bass “Gloria” to a whacky take on “Bohemian Rhapsody.” We’ll all be singing and dancing for joy when we see you in the audience again.

**HANDEL’S MESSIAH**  
**AMERICAN BACH SOLOISTS AND AMERICAN BACH CHOIR**  
Sunday, December 19, 2021 at 3 P.M.  
Weill Hall  
Tickets: $35-$95  

The American Bach Soloists return to Weill Hall to perform the perennial holiday classic—Handel’s *Messiah*. Under the leadership of Co-Founder and Music Director Jeffrey Thomas, the ensemble has been a leader in Historically-Informed Performance Practice since 1989. They have achieved their vision of assembling the world’s finest vocalists and period-instrument performers to bring this brilliant music to life.

Supported in part by Balletto Wines.

**NEW CENTURY CHAMBER ORCHESTRA**  
*Hope Leads Appalachian Spring*  
Friday, January 21, 2022 at 7:30 P.M.  
Weill Hall  
Tickets: $25-$85  

Led by Music Director and violinist Daniel Hope, New Century Chamber Orchestra presents works from the mid-20th Century that shaped the American sound for a new generation, headlined by Aaron Copland’s *Appalachian Spring*. Soprano Leah Hawkins joins New Century for a suite of newly arranged songs by influential composers of the Harlem Renaissance.

**PIAF! THE SHOW**  
Thursday, January 27, 2022 at 7:30 P.M.  
Weill Hall  
Tickets: $25-$75  

A musical celebration of the life and music of the legendary French chanteuse **EDITH PIAF**, Piaf! The Show narrates the rags-to-riches story of the Parisian singer’s career through her unforgettable songs, complemented by a visual tapestry of previously unreleased photographs and images of famous Parisian locations of the Edith Piaf era.

Supported in part by Cartograph Wines.
Family Day with
**ALPHABET ROCKERS**
Saturday, February 5, 2022 at 2 P.M.
Weill Hall
Tickets: General Admission - Adults $25/Kids (12 and under) $12.50

Oakland-based **Alphabet Rockers** make music that makes change. Led by Kaitlin McGaw (she/her) and Tommy Shepherd (he/him), they create brave spaces to shape a more equitable world through hip-hop. Their Grammy® nominated 2018 album, *Rise Shine #Woke* has reached 300,000 children and families since its release, inspiring kids to stand up to hate and be their brave and beautiful selves. Their latest album, *The Love* (2019) lifts up voices of our trans, two-spirit, and gender non-conforming community.

Family Day will have a festive feel with refreshments, a balloon artist, and a variety of activities led by Sonoma State education students for children of all ages!

Supported in part by Oliver's Market.

---

**LADYSMITH BLACK MAMBAZO**
Thursday, February 17, 2022 at 7:30 P.M.
Weill Hall
Tickets: $25-$55

For 60 years, South Africa's Ladysmith Black Mambazo has warmed the hearts of audiences worldwide with uplifting vocal harmonies, signature dance moves, and charming onstage banter. After establishing themselves as one of South Africa's most successful music groups in the 1970's, they shot to international stardom in 1987 when Paul Simon famously incorporated the group's rich harmonies into the landmark album *Graceland*. In 2018, the group received not one, but two Grammy® Award nominations for two separate albums, a first in the history of world music.

Ladysmith Black Mambazo has performed for millions of people, singing a message of peace, love, and harmony.

Supported in part by **Sonoma-Cutrer Vineyards and Exchange Bank**.

---

**DIANNE REEVES**
Friday, February 18, 2022 at 7:30 P.M.
Weill Hall
Tickets: $25-$75

The pre-eminent jazz vocalist in the world today, Dianne Reeves' arsenal of talents is richly on display in every song of her limitless repertoire. As a result of her virtuosity, improvisational prowess and unique jazz and R&B stylings, Dianne has received five Grammy® Awards for Best Jazz Vocal Album, an honorary doctorate from Juilliard and was named a 2018 National Endowment of the Arts Jazz Master. Supported in
part by Willow Creek Wealth Management.

KRONOS QUARTET
Saturday, February 19, 2022 at 7:30 P.M.
Weill Hall
Tickets: $25-$55

For more than 40 years, San Francisco’s Kronos Quartet has embodied a spirit of fearless exploration with a commitment to continually reimagine the string quartet experience. Their program will feature some Kronos favorites, including selections from their landmark project 50 for the Future, a commissioning, performance, education, and legacy project of unprecedented scope. The Green Music Center is a proud Commissioning Partner for the project. Supported in part by The Press Democrat and Cartograph Wines.

CONNIE HAN TRIO
Sunday, February 27, 2022 at 3 P.M.
Schroeder Hall
Tickets: $30-$40

Jazz pianist Connie Han has been described by Downbeat magazine as possessing “skills as a bop player of fearsome ability, a supple balladeer, and a groove merchant par excellence.” Jazziz magazine predicts her latest album Iron Starlet will “confirm her as one of the brightest young stars in jazz.” With this acclaim, Connie Han and her trio continue their stratospheric ascent as a major force in the jazz world.

NICHOLAS KRISTOF
THE H. ANDRÉA NEVES AND BARTON EVANS SOCIAL JUSTICE LECTURE SERIES
Monday, February 28, 2022 at 7:30 P.M.
Weill Hall
Tickets: $25 General Admission

Two-time Pulitzer Prize-Winning New York Times Columnist, Nicholas Kristof captivates audiences with his moving storytelling and incomparable insights into the events that shape our world.

The Social Justice Lecture Series is sponsored by philanthropist and former SSU professor Andréa Neves and her late husband, Silicon Valley engineer and executive Barton Evans. It is co-hosted annually by the School of Education and School of Social Sciences.

JORDI SAVALL & LE CONCERT DES NATIONS
Tous Les Matins du Monde
Thursday, March 3, 2022 at 7:30 P.M.
Weill Hall
Tickets: $25-$95

With a distinguished career as a concert performer, teacher, researcher, and creator of new projects, both musical and cultural, Jordi Savall is one of the most gifted musicians of his generation. He leads his ensemble Le Concert des Nations in music inspired by the award-winning film *Tous Les Matins du Monde*, which starred Gérard Depardieu and Savall’s performances. You’ll hear sublime music from the French Baroque composed by Lully, Marais, Couperin, Rameau, and more.

ANTHONY DE MARE
*LIAISONS2021: RE-IMAGINING SONDHEIM FROM THE PIANO*
Sunday, March 6, 2022 at 3 P.M.
Schroeder Hall
Tickets: $30-$40

A landmark commissioning project conceived by acclaimed concert pianist Anthony de Mare, *Liaisons: Re-Imagining Sondheim From the Piano* celebrates new music inspired by the work of Stephen Sondheim, who is recognized worldwide as a brilliant musical theater composer and lyricist, creating seminal works including *West Side Story*, *Sweeney Todd*, and many more.

EILEEN IVERS & UNIVERSAL ROOTS
Sunday, March 13, 2022 at 7 P.M.
Weill Hall
Tickets: $25-$75

Grammy®-awarded and Emmy-nominated, Eileen Ivers, continues to push the boundaries of fiddling tradition from a folk music staple to a fiercely fresh, powerfully beautiful experience. She is joined by her energetic band, connecting music, cultures, and emotions that tie us together, celebrating the fact that we are more alike than dissimilar.

Supported in part by *Balletto Wines*.

DINNERSTEIN/HAIMOVITZ: BEETHOVEN/GLASS
Friday, March 25, 2022 at 7:30 P.M.
Weill Hall
Tickets: $25-$75

Two extraordinary artists pair Beethoven’s legendary work for cello and piano with one of contemporary music’s most influential composers – Philip Glass. Pianist Simone Dinnerstein and cellist Matt Haimovitz collaborate on a dynamic program that includes a Beethoven Cello Sonata alongside a Glass Partita, and solo pieces by both composers.

Supported in part by Russian River Brewing.
MARIA SCHNEIDER ORCHESTRA  
Sunday, March 27, 2022 at 7:00PM  
Weill Hall  
Tickets: $25-$75

Maria Schneider’s music has been hailed by critics as “evocative, majestic, magical, heart-stoppingly gorgeous, imaginative, revelatory, riveting, daring, and beyond categorization.” Growing out of the big band tradition and blurring lines between genres, her music is truly distinctive and enchanting.

Supported in part by *Freeman Winery*.

---

Liz Lerman  
*Wicked Bodies (Sonoma)*  
Thursday, April 14, 2022 at 8 P.M.  
Weill Hall  
Tickets: $40 general admission

Witches, trials, & exhibitions fly around in Liz Lerman’s new evening-length, dance-theater piece, *Wicked Bodies (Sonoma)*. The work wonders about the persistence across time and culture of old crones, evil stepmothers, and the use of the body as a source of fear by governments and institutions. Why is some knowledge celebrated, some criminalized, and some erased altogether? And who gets to document, describe, and save the remnants?

The multidisciplinary piece is designed specifically for Weill Hall at the Green Music Center.

*Made possible, in part, through a Hewlett 50 Arts Commission, a program of the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, and by the New England Foundation for the Arts’ National Dance Project, with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.*

---

SEAN JONES  
*DIZZY SPELLZ*  
Saturday, April 16, 2022 at 7:30 P.M.  
Weill Hall  
Tickets: $25-$75

*Dizzy Spellz* looks at the music of Dizzy Gillespie through an Afro-futuristic lens, exploring the intersection of cultural and spiritual dilemmas within the African Diaspora. Trumpeter Sean Jones teams up with tap dancer and vocalist Brinae Ali to create a tribute to Dizzy that fuses elements of jazz, tap, hip hop, and bebop.

Supported in part by Oxford Suites.

---

NASSIM  
A Bush Theatre and Nassim Soleimanpour production  
Written by Nassim Soleimanpour  
Friday & Saturday, April 22-23, 2022 at 7:30 P.M.  
Weill Hall Loft
Iranian playwright Nassim Soleimanpour’s latest theatrical work is an audacious experiment exploring the power of language to unite us. No rehearsals. No preparation by the actor—a different actor at every performance. Only a sealed envelope with the actor reading the script for the first time in front of us. Oh, and some surprises.

LAS CAFETERAS
Wednesday, April 27, 2022 at 7:30 P.M.
Weill Hall
Tickets: $25-$55

One of our favorite guest artists, Las Cafeteras are Native and migrant children who are remixing roots music and telling modern day stories with what the LA Times has called a "uniquely Angeleno mishmash of punk, hip-hop, beat music, cumbia, and rock."

Las Cafeteras own a genre-bending sound that grows from son jarocho with four versatile vocalists infusing rich lyrics with the hidden stories of migrant life in Los Angeles. You will witness a celebration of sounds ranging from Afro-Mexican to Americana, from the Caribbean to California, from traditional to electric, from English to Spanish with all the emotions in between.

A joint presentation with the Luther Burbank Center for the Arts

ST. LAWRENCE STRING QUARTET
HAYDEN DISCOVERY
Sunday, May 15, 2022 at 3 P.M.
Weill Hall
Tickets: $25-$85

Renowned for the intensity of their performances, breadth of repertoire, and the commitment to concert experiences that are at once intellectually exciting and emotionally alive, the St. Lawrence String Quartet offers a unique in-concert presentation that explores one of the seminal quartets of Franz Joseph Haydn, the “father” of the string quartet.

PROGRAM
Haydn Discovery
Haydn: String Quartet in C major, Op. 76, No. 3 “Emperor”
Dvorak: String Quartet in G-Major, Op. 106

Supported in part by Cartograph Wines

DIRECTIONS
Located in the heart of Sonoma County's Wine Country, the Green Music Center (GMC) is the performing arts presenting and producing organization based at Sonoma State University in Rohnert
Park. The GMC entrance is at the intersection of Rohnert Park Expressway and Petaluma Hill Road. From Highway 101, take the Rohnert Park Expressway exit. Drive east 2.2 miles to the Sonoma State University entrance on your right.

**PARKING**
As you enter campus from Rohnert Park Expressway, there are multiple parking lots immediately to your right. Parking is free with your ticket to all concerts at the GMC. Lots L, M, N, and O are directly across from the GMC entrance. Arrive early for the best parking. Overflow parking is available on the SSU campus.

**ABOUT THE GREEN MUSIC CENTER**
Nestled in the foothills of Northern California’s esteemed Wine Country, the Green Music Center (GMC) at Sonoma State University is a focal point for arts in the region. It is comprised of the spectacular 1,400-seat Weill Hall, an acoustically exceptional venue with a modular rear wall that opens to terraced lawn seating, providing picturesque views of the surrounding countryside, and the 240-seat Schroeder Hall, a cathedral-like recital hall designed specifically to accentuate instruments, organ, and voice in a small, intimate setting. The Green Music Center presents year-round programming of top classical, contemporary, jazz, and world music artists and is home to the Santa Rosa Symphony.

**ABOUT SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY**
Located in California’s premier wine country one hour north of San Francisco, Sonoma State is a small campus with big ideas. With a tradition of promoting intellectual and personal growth, leadership opportunities and technological proficiency, SSU offers its students a friendly, safe and informal atmosphere on a beautiful campus setting. One of the most requested campuses in the CSU system, SSU is regularly named a “Best Regional University” by U.S. News & World Report.

The Press Democrat is the Preferred Media Partner of the Green Music Center

###
To view and download this press release in PDF format, visit gmc.sonoma.edu/press.