

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Global Roots Sonoma Returns to the Green Music Center September 21

Performances include

Lila Downs

DakhaBrakha

Caña Dulce y Caña Brava

Canzoniere Grecanico Salentino

Sam Reider & Jorge Glem

AR Flamenco Trio

Keenan Webster

(Sonoma County, CA) — The Green Music Center at Sonoma State University presents Global Roots Sonoma on September 21. A world music festival with four stages, Global Roots Sonoma features music and cultural traditions from around the globe, right here in Sonoma County. The festival will culminate with a performance by acclaimed Grammy Award-winning vocalist Lila Downs on Weill Lawn.

This year's lineup includes Ukrainian band **DakhaBrakha** a powerful group with an uncompromising vocal range creating a trans-national sound rooted in Ukrainian culture accompanied by Indian, Arabic, African, and Ukrainian traditional instrumentation; Italy's leading traditional music ensemble **Canzoniere Grecanico Salentino** making their Green Music Center debut with a unique sound that re-invents Southern Italy's musical and dance traditions for today's global audience; **Caña Dulce y Caña Brava** spreading the traditional music of Veracruz through multiple rhythms, traditional string instruments, percussion, zapateado, and poetic improvisation; and the **AR Flamenco Trio** featuring movement artist Angelina Ramirez whose work explores what it means to be a queer, latinx flamenca, practicing in a traditional Roma/gitano form of dance.

Global Roots Sonoma will include performances in Weill Hall, Schroeder Hall, and at an Outdoor Terrace stage. There will also be a workshop stage with discussion, demonstrations, and more from featured artists. Food and beverage will be available for purchase on site from Sushi Shoubu, Hole Chile Mole, The Bird, and other concessions.

Tickets are on sale now!

\$54 General Admission | \$25 Kids 12 and under

To purchase tickets to Global Roots Sonoma visit <https://gmc.sonoma.edu/global-roots-sonoma> or call 707.664.4246.

Global Roots Sonoma Artists

Weill Hall | Schroeder Hall | Terrace Stage

Lila Downs

Terrace Stage | 6 p.m.

Winner of 6 Latin Grammys and one Grammy, celebrated singer Lila Downs is one of the most powerful and unique voices that exist today. With a symbolic stage presence and emotional storytelling through song, her singing transcends all language barriers.

Born and raised in both Oaxaca and Minnesota, Lila Downs is the daughter of a Mixtec Indigenous woman and Anglo-American father. She has written narratives of Indigenous resistance protecting the original vision of the sacred plants and food of her Oaxacan culture while keeping the traditions of the American continent. A passionate human rights activist, Lila Downs's lyrics often focus on stories ranging from social injustice to the suppressed Latin American stories of women of indigenous and working-class origins.

Lila Downs's music embraces influences from the folkloric and ranchera music of Mexico to the music of the southern United States, crossing barriers and generating sounds that go from Folk, Jazz, Folkloric Blues, Indigena, and ranchera to Hip Hop.

DakhaBrakha

Weill Hall | 4:30 p.m.

DakhaBrakha — is world-music quartet from Kyiv, Ukraine. Reflecting fundamental elements of sound and soul, DakhaBrakha, create a world of unexpected new music. The name DakhaBrakha means “give/take” in the old Ukrainian language. DakhaBrakha was created in 2004 at the Kyiv Center of Contemporary Art by the avant-garde theatre director — Vladyslav Troitskyi. Having experimented with Ukrainian folk music, is now accompanied by traditional instrumentation from different countries, the quartet's astonishingly powerful and uncompromising vocal range creates a trans-national sound rooted in Ukrainian culture.

Canzoniere Grecanico Salentino

Terrace Stage | 3:15 p.m.

Formed by writer Rina Durante in 1975, Canzoniere Grecanico Salentino (CGS) is regarded as Italy's leading and longest-standing traditional music ensemble, hailing from the Salento, the heel of the Italian boot, in Puglia. Italy's fascinating dichotomy of tradition and modernity come together in the music of CGS. The seven-piece band and dancer are the leading exponents in a new wave of young performers re-inventing Southern Italy's Pizzica musical and dance traditions for today's global audience.

CGS shows are a life explosion: full of energy, passion, rhythm and mystery, they bring the audience from the past into modernity, and back.

Line up: Mauro Durante (voice, frame drums, violin), Alessia Tondo (voice, percussions), Giulio Bianco (Italian bagpipes, harmonica, recorders), Massimiliano Morabito (diatonic accordion), Emanuele Licci (voice, guitar, bouzouki), Giancarlo Paglialunga (voice, tamburrieddhu), Silvia Perrone (dance) .

Caña Dulce y Caña Brava

Terrace Stage | 1 p.m.

Caña Dulce y Caña Brava offers a performance which exhibits the music, poetry, dance and traditional attire of Veracruz, Mexico, interpreted by artists who are beneficiaries of the jarocho culture and noteworthy performers with years of experience on both national and international stages.

The group stands out as an artistic project that highlights feminine poetry and voices. Creating an experience that connects the spectator with distinct emotions, one is taken on voyage through multiple rhythms, accompanied by traditional string instruments such as the harp and the jarana, percussion and zapateado, poetic improvisation in rhyme and the projection of visual effects. Offering an assortment of colors, textures and images to diverse and multi-generational audiences, the ensemble is defined by an original aesthetic concept that unites the traditional with the vanguard in a contemporary stage proposal.

Sam Reider & Jorge Glem

Weill Hall | 2 p.m.

“It’s a very special thing when two musical cultures come together to create something that didn’t exist before.” – NPR

Latin Grammy nominees Jorge Glem and Sam Reider, have blazed an exhilarating musical trail linking the United States and Venezuela. Grammy-nominated cuatrista and founding member of the acclaimed Venezuelan musical ensemble C4 Trio, Jorge Glem, met multi-talented American accordionist, pianist, composer Sam Reider at a house party in New York City in 2016. From their very first gigs in public parks and subway stations to recent sold-out concerts Lincoln Center, SFJAZZ, and NPR Tiny Desk, Jorge and Sam delight in the power of music, friendship, and improvisation to transcend cultural barriers.

Their debut record, Brooklyn-Cumaná, was released in November 2022 and was subsequently nominated for Best Instrumental Record in the 2023 Latin Grammy Awards. The album’s diverse repertoire includes Venezuelan merengue, joropo, and other traditional rhythms alongside original compositions drawing on American jazz and roots music. Brooklyn-Cumaná is joyful expression of limitless potential of music to capture the imagination and entice the body to get up and dance.

AR Flamenco Trio

Schroeder Hall | 2 p.m.

Angelina Ramirez is a flamenco movement artist and teaching artist living in Tucson, Arizona. Ramirez’s artistic work explores what it means to be a queer, latinx flamenca, practicing in a traditional Roma/gitano form of dance. In 2021 Ramirez received the Master-Apprentice Artist Award through Southwest Folklife Alliance for her dedication and commitment to Flamenco arts. She is a National Association of Latino Arts and Cultures fellow. In

2018 she received the Arizona Commission on the Arts' Artist Research and Development Grant to support the development of her evening-length work /SER/. Ramirez is an original member of Yjastros, the American Flamenco Repertory Company and has toured with world-renowned, New York-based company Noche Flamenca. Along with teaching and performing Ramirez produces events and festivals and is currently the curator for the Traditional and Ethnic Dance Festival with the Southwest Folklife Alliance.

Keenan Webster

Schroeder Hall | 4:30 p.m.

Keenan D. Webster was born in Nashville, Tennessee. His love for the music deepened in his youth hearing the blues, spirituals, gospels and folk music of the South. Some of his elders are keepers of the spirituals and slave hymns that had been passed down from generations. Upon arriving in Los Angeles, California as a teenager, he was fascinated with African, Afro-Cuban, reggae and other music from the African diaspora. He was further inspired to learn about his roots, music, culture and spirituality with the Gullah, Mandika, Mende and Yorube people of West Africa. He started with drums of West Africa and Afro-Cuban roots. Then came Jazz and Blues playing the saxophone and flute and later switched to Native American flute. He has a deep appreciation for world music and has familiarized himself with classical music from India, the Middle East and Southeast Asia. Webster has been on a mission to use music for world peace, healing, to fight against racism and to bring all people together.

About the Green Music Center

The Green Music Center is the performing arts center at Sonoma State University, a regionally serving public university committed to educational access and excellence. As a cornerstone of Sonoma State University's commitment to the arts, the Green Music Center is a place to witness artistic inspiration through year-round programming, serving as home to the Sonoma State University Department of Music, the Santa Rosa Symphony, and Sonoma Bach.

The mission of the Green Music Center is to present the most compelling artists of our time, to investigate ideas, and to provide access to diverse artistic experiences that educate, connect, and inspire Sonoma State University and neighboring North Bay communities.

Built to bring together artists, students, families, music-lovers, and more, the Green Music Center at Sonoma State University is a gathering place for our diverse communities in Sonoma County to explore and enjoy the things that move and inspire us. The center includes the 1,400-seat Weill Hall, with a rear wall that opens to lawn seating for a unique summertime experience, and the intimate 240-seat Schroeder Hall.

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.

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