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**THE WALLIS ANNENBERG CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
ANNOUNCES PROGRAMMING FOR 2022/2023 SEASON**

**Distinctive Range of Performances, Programs, and Events
Feature Groundbreaking Produced and Presented Works in
Theater, Dance, Music, Film, Cabaret, Conversation, and Family Entertainment**

**Celebrated Artists Whose Work is Represented Include
Pat Benatar & Neil Giraldo, Bradley Bredeweg,
Sheldon Epps, Xiang "Sean" Gao, Emma Rice,
Kwame Alexander, Lisa Fischer, Thelma Houston, Osvaldo Golijov, Lillias White,
Stephanie J. Block,
Anthony McGill, Isaac Mizrahi, Ulysses Owens, Jr., J'nNai Bridges, Jeffrey Kahane,
John Irving, Reza Aslan, and many others**

**Extraordinary Dance and Music Companies Featured Range from
Mambo Kings, Ballet Hispánico, Luminario Ballet of Los Angeles, and BODYTRAFFIC
to Pacifica Quartet, Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, and more**

**Sing for Hope, The Wallis' 2022-2023 Season Company-in-Residence,
its Founders, Sopranos Camille Zamora and Monica Yunus, Artists-in-Residence,
and The Wallis Present**

**U.S. Premiere of *THE LAST SORCERER (LE DERNIER SORCIER)*,
an 1867 Masterwork Salon Opera 150 Years Ahead of its Time**

**Programming also Features
Continued Partnerships with Writers Bloc, ASCAP, and Film Independent;
Return of the Signature Sorting Room Series; and
Sunday Fundays with Free Family Entertainment**

**The Wallis' Ninth Season Begins in late September 2022
and Continues into the Summer of 2023**

(Beverly Hills, CA, September 2, 2022) – The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts has announced a robust and distinctive range of performances, programs, and events for the

2022/2023 season, including two world premieres, one U.S. premiere, one West Coast Premiere, and one Los Angeles Premiere, featuring groundbreaking produced and presented works in theater, dance, music, film, cabaret, conversation, and family entertainment. Among the celebrated artists whose work is represented are Pat Benatar & Neil Giraldo, Bradley Bredeweg, Sheldon Epps, Xiang "Sean" Gao, Emma Rice, Kwame Alexander, Lisa Fischer, Thelma Houston, Osvaldo Golijov, Lillias White, Stephanie J. Block, Anthony McGill, Isaac Mizrahi, Ulysses Owens, Jr., J'Nai Bridges, Jeffrey Kahane, John Irving, Reza Aslan, and many others. Extraordinary dance and music companies featured from around Southern California, the United States, and the world range from Mambo Kings, Ballet Hispánico, Luminario Ballet of Los Angeles, and BODYTRAFFIC to Pacifica Quartet, Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, and more. Sing for Hope, The Wallis' 2022-2023 Season Company-in-Residence, and its founders, sopranos Camille Zamora and Monica Yunus, Artists-in-Residence, present, with The Wallis, the Sing for Hope Production of *The Last Sorcerer (Le Dernier Sorcier)*, an 1867 masterwork salon opera 150 years ahead of its time. Programming also features continued partnerships with Writers Bloc, ASCAP, and Film Independent; the return of the signature Sorting Room series; and Sunday Fundays with free family entertainment. Under the leadership of Executive Director/CEO Rachel Fine, The Wallis' ninth season begins in late September 2022 and runs into the summer of 2023.

"The Wallis launches its 2022/2023 stronger than ever," says The Wallis' Executive Director and CEO Rachel Fine. "With this full slate of bold, diverse, and ambitious programming, we're prepared to wow, engage, and move our audiences during a time when we all need to be elevated and nurtured by the performing arts. We are pleased to be operating at full throttle, once again, thanks to the invaluable support of The Wallis' Board of Directors, the City of Beverly Hills, the Annenberg Foundation, and our loyal community of supporters, artists, staff, and friends."

"The Wallis' 2022/23 season provides a place for our communities, our audiences, and our artists to be revived with inventive programming that inspires, entertains, challenges, reflects and uplifts," says Associate Artistic Director Coy Middlebrook. "The breadth and depth of the work being presented during this season showcases the work of some of LA's and America's leading, and emerging, artistic thought-makers in dance, theater, music, film, and literature. Their contemporary perspectives paired with their tremendous creativity generates work that is as fresh and gripping for these times we find ourselves in as it is timeless poetic and enthralling."

Theater offerings further broaden The Wallis' commitment to new work, with two World Premieres, one West Coast Premiere, and one Los Angeles Premiere. From November 22 to December 17, 2022, The Wallis presents ***INVINCIBLE - THE MUSICAL (World Premiere) FEATURING THE MUSIC OF PAT BENATAR & NEIL GIRALDO***, which reimagines the timeless story of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* for the 21st century through an intricate weaving of the four-time GRAMMY® Award-winners and 2022 Rock & Roll Hall of Fame inductees' legendary catalogue and inspired new songs. With a book by Bradley Bredeweg, music direction and arrangements by Jesse Vargas, and orchestrations and arrangements by Neil Giraldo, *Invincible – The Musical* is presented by Special Arrangement with Jamie Cesa, Cody Lassen & Bel Chiasso Entertainment.

The pioneering ***SHANGHAI SONATAS: A NEW MUSICAL IN CONCERT (World Premiere)*** is presented from March 16 to 18, 2023 by The Wallis in collaboration with the University of Delaware Master Players Concert Series. Concept, music and produced by Xiang "Sean" Gao, one of *Musical America's* Top 30 Professionals of the Year, *Shanghai Sonatas* brilliantly shows the power of music to build bridges across cultures. With book by Alan Goodson and lyrics by Joyce Hill Stoner, *Shanghai Sonatas* is directed by Chongren Fan.

Sheldon Epps (*Blues in the Night*) returns to direct The Wallis Production of **MY LORD, WHAT A NIGHT (West Coast Premiere)** from May 20 to June 11, 2023, a new drama written by Deborah Brevoort based on the real-life friendship between legendary Black contralto Marian Anderson and physicist Albert Einstein, two icons of the 20th century, who dealt with the injustices of a highly divided era in American history.

From January 11 to 22, 2023, The Wallis Presents Wise Children's **WUTHERING HEIGHTS (Los Angeles Premiere)** based on the novel by Emily Brontë and adapted and directed by Emma Rice (*Brief Encounter, Tristan & Yseult*). Rice returns to The Wallis to transform Brontë's masterpiece into an intoxicating story of revenge, shot through with music, dance, passion, and hope.

DAHLAK BRATHWAITE: TRY/STEP/TRIP from February 2 to 5, 2023, written and composed by Dahlak Brathwaite, is a spoken word, multi-character musical performed through the language of step dance. Directed by Roberta Uno, it is choreographed by Toran X. Moore, with assistant choreography by Freddy Ramsey, Jr., and orchestrations and additional compositions by Teak Underdue.

The Kennedy Center Theater for Young Audiences On Tour Production of ACOUSTIC ROOSTER'S BARNYARD BOOGIE: STARRING INDIGO BLUME from April 22 to 23, 2023, is a brand-new stage show recommended for ages five and up. Adapted from the books by *New York Times* best-selling author Kwame Alexander, it is written by Kwame Alexander and Mary Rand Hess with music by Randy Preston, and directed by Lili-Anne Brown.

Among the dynamic blend of dance companies presented during the season are two making their Wallis debuts: **BALLET HISPÁNICO**, October 7/8, 2022, in celebration of the incomparable company's 50th Anniversary, and **LUMINARIO BALLET OF LOS ANGELES**, February 17/18, 2023, a thrilling repertory ballet, aerial, and modern dance company. Returning favorites are **BODYTRAFFIC**, October 21/22, 2022, which has conquered the contemporary dance world with its stunning performers, technical mastery, and a commitment to the most challenging repertoire; **BLUE13 DANCE COMPANY**, noted for its rhythmic and exuberant genre-bending artistry that blends hip-hop, ballet, modern, and traditional Indian dance, on May 12/13, 2023; and **ALONZO KING LINES BALLET**, JUN 9 to 11, 2023, performing a new work featuring Grammy Award-winning vocalist Lisa Fischer set to a score by jazz pianist, composer, and MacArthur Fellow Jason Moran.

Additionally, pop, opera, jazz, blues, classical, Broadway, and Latinx artists, many making their Wallis debuts, are among the sweeping and diverse array of music performers.

As part of Sing for Hope's residency, The Wallis presents the **U.S. PREMIERE** of the Sing for Hope Production of **THE LAST SORCERER (LE DERNIER SORCIER)** on March 3, 2023, preceded on March 2 by a Center Stage panel. One hundred fifty years ahead of its time, Pauline Viardot's 1867 masterwork salon opera was written on a libretto by her lover, the great Russian novelist Turgenev. A feminist eco-fable in operatic form, it premiered to great acclaim with Viardot at the piano in her Baden Baden villa and her students in the roles. After the original piano-voice manuscript was held in a private collection for over a century, it essentially vanished without a trace until acquired several years ago by Harvard Library, which gave Sing for Hope co-founder Camille Zamora permission to publish and produce the recording of the world premiere of the work. New English language narrations take the place of French dialogue that would have come in between each musical number, punctuating the concert story-book-style. Sing for Hope co-

founder Monica Yunus, a “star soprano...(with) a warm and powerful voice” (*OperaWire*), is the featured soloist in the production.

The world Premiere of **MOTOWN: CELEBRATING THE MUSIC, THE MAGIC, THE LOVE** – A Bristol Entertainment Production (October 1, 2022), a uniquely entertaining music experience, features Grammy Award-winning artist **Thelma Houston** and other remarkable talents.

As part of Sing for Hope’s residency, **HAVANA NIGHTS** (October 13, 2022) showcases the **MAMBO KINGS** and star soprano **CAMILLE ZAMORA**, hailed as a leading interpreter of classical Spanish song by NBC Latino, with a sultry, passionate, and exciting evening of Latin music from Spain and the island of Cuba. Canadian-Trinidadian pianist **STEWART GOODYEAR** performs in his Wallis debut (October 15, 2022) selections from his latest album, **PHOENIX**, including original works by Goodyear as well as Debussy, Jennifer Higdon, Anthony David and others that obtain new life by arising from the sound world, past traditions, and gestures of Franz Liszt. The West Coast premiere of **FALLING OUT OF TIME** (October 27, 2022) is a gripping new song cycle from Grammy-winning composer **OSVALDO GOLIJOV** performed by members of the acclaimed Silkroad Ensemble, led by acclaimed violinist Johnny Gandelsman, that finds its roots in David Grossman’s novel of the same name.

BROADWAY @ THE WALLIS & MARK CORTALE PRESENT, the internationally acclaimed concert series, returns with two star-studded evenings. **LILLIAS WHITE WITH SETH RUDETSKY, HOST & PIANIST**, on November 3, 2022, features Tony, Obie and Emmy Award-winner White (*The Life, Fela!, Dreamgirls, Barnum, Once On This Island, Chicago, Disney’s Hercules, Pieces of April, How the Grinch Stole Christmas, “The Get Down,” “Russian Doll, “Search Party”*) in conversation and performance with SiriusXM Radio star Rudetsky. **STEPHANIE J. BLOCK WITH SETH RUDETSKY, HOST & PIANIST** (May 4, 2023), is an evening with Tony Award-winner Block (*The Cher Show, Falsettos, The Mystery of Edwin Drood, 9 to 5: The Musical, Boy From Oz, Wicked*) revealing behind-the-scenes stories and music from Block’s stellar Broadway career.

The virtuosic **LOS ANGELES CHAMBER ORCHESTRA** makes its Wallis debut with two appearances, the first of which is **Baroque Concerti** (January 28, 2023), an evening of chamber performances featuring soloists Yura Lee, principal viola, and David Washburn, principal trumpet, performing works by Johan Baptist Georg Neruda, Corelli, Geminiani, Telemann, and Handel. **Masterworks for String Orchestra** (May 6, 2023) immerses audiences in the majesty of the string orchestra through a program of rich and varied compositions by Bingen, Britten, Mendelssohn, Hindemith, and Greig, curated by LACO Concertmaster and Director of Chamber Music Margaret Batjer.

The Grammy Award-winning **PACIFICA QUARTET**, which has achieved international recognition as one of the finest chamber ensembles performing today, is joined by the brilliantly multifaceted **ANTHONY MCGILL**, principal clarinet of the New York Philharmonic, on February 23, 2023. Actor, host, writer, acclaimed fashion designer, and producer **ISAAC MIZRAHI**, whose one-of-a-kind show on March 4, 2023, combines comedy, commentary, and an array of classic and soon-to-be classic songs from Stephen Sondheim to Blondie, from Comden & Green to Madonna. Cellist **SETH PARKER WOODS** (March 9, 2023), recipient of the 2022 Chamber Music America Michael Jaffee Visionary Award and hailed by *The Guardian* as “a cellist of power and grace,” performs works by Rachmaninov, Liszt, Kagel, Chinary Ung, Respighi, Lembit Beecher, and Reinaldo Moya. **ULYSSES OWENS, JR. & J’NAI BRIDGES** in **NOTES ON HOPE** (April 27, 2023), bring together mezzo-soprano opera star J’Nai Bridges and Grammy-winning jazz trailblazer percussionist Ulysses Owens, Jr., in

a program of works by Debussy, Ravel, Duparc, Satie, Poulenc, Ellington, and more. Pianist **JEFFREY KAHANE**, recognized around the world for his mastery of a diverse repertoire, performs his interpretation of **BACH: GOLDBERG VARIATIONS** (May 25, 2023), long regarded as the most serious and ambitious work for the keyboard. All of these artists are making their Wallis debuts.

On May 20, 2023, the award-winning **MIRÓ QUARTET** (Daniel Ching, violin; William Fedkenheuer, violin; John Largess, viola; Joshua Gindele, cello), one of America's most celebrated string quartets, is reunited with Pulitzer Prize-winning composer **KEVIN PUTS**, who has been hailed as one of the most important composers of his generation. Critically acclaimed for a richly colored, harmonic, and freshly melodic musical voice that has also been described as "emotional, compelling, and relevant," Puts has had works commissioned, performed, and recorded by leading orchestras, ensembles, and soloists throughout the world.

The season's music programs conclude on June 1, 2023, with an evening featuring the chamber trio of **JORDAN BAK**, viola, **GENEVA LEWIS**, violin, and **EVREN OZEL**, piano. With myriad colors and sounds spanning two centuries, this evening offers a unique blend of artistic collaboration and instrumental and interpretational distinctiveness between performers and composers, from works by Debussy, Schumann, and Mozart to Max Reger's Piano Trio No. 1 in B minor, showcasing the young 18-year-old composer's musical and technical maturity and brimming with bravura, sensitivity, and promise.

The Wallis continues its partnership with **WRITERS BLOC** for a series of **CONVERSATIONS** providing insight into the literary process featuring **AN EVENING WITH ANTHONY DOERR** (September 29, 2022), **AN EVENING WITH JOHN IRVING** (October 23, 2022), and **AN EVENING WITH REZA ASLAN** (November 1, 2022). For 26 years, Writers Bloc has fostered the significance and importance of literature as an art form, enhancing the public's knowledge and awareness of contemporary writers and thinkers who have made a significant impact on the cultural and literary landscape.

The Wallis' wildly successful **SORTING ROOM** series, which transforms the Lovelace Studio Theater into an intimate nightclub, returns during the holiday season to offer the best talent from a wide range of genres including the American songbook, spoken word, comedy, classic cabaret, storytelling, dance, contemporary music, and more.

Film presentations in partnership with **FILM INDEPENDENT**, featuring screening events and conversations with celebrated actors and filmmakers, will be announced.

The **ASCAP Musical Theater Workshop and Festival** also returns in partnership with the ASCAP Foundation. In addition there will be a special **Evening with Stephen Schwartz** concert in celebration of his 75th birthday. (Dates and tickets to be announced soon.)

Of particular note, The Wallis continues its beloved free monthly outdoor **SUNDAY FUNDAY** family series from October 2022 through June 2023 with a variety of engaging programming that includes **Debbie Allen & Friends' Dance Sundays** and quality live performances by groups ranging from **Parker Bent** to **Broadway Babies** and **Spring Groove**, plus **Holiday Hanukah with Mostly Kosher** in December and a bilingual concert in June with **Nathalia** – all designed to spark young peoples' imagination and fuel creativity. No reservations or tickets are required for Sunday Funday events.

Subscriptions to The Wallis' 2022/2023 Season are on sale now. Single tickets will be available at a later date. The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts is located at 9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd, Beverly Hills. To purchase subscriptions and for more information, please call 310-746-4000 (Monday – Friday, 10 am to 6 pm) or visit TheWallis.org.

The Wallis is closely monitoring the ever-changing local health and safety environment carefully and addressing known health factors at the moment. Should plans change and any performance be required to be postponed or cancelled or if venue capacity limitations are instituted, ticket holders will be notified immediately with options for their purchased tickets per The Wallis' ticketing policies.

The health and safety of patrons, our staff, and artists inside and outside the venue are a top priority for The Wallis, which is requiring all patrons to provide, upon entry, proof of full vaccination or a negative PCR test result within 48 hours or a verifiable Antigen test within 24 hours from your performance date, along with a government issued photo ID. Facial masks, covering both the mouth and nose, are still required at all times while within the venue. The Wallis' health and safety protocols are also subject to change at the venue's sole discretion or in accordance with LA County and City of Beverly Hills regulations. Current Health & Safety Protocols and updates may also be accessed at TheWallis.org/Safety. Policies are subject to change.

About Sing for Hope

Founded by Camille Zamora and Monica Yunus, Sing for Hope harnesses the power of the arts to create a better world. Creative programs bring hope, healing, and connection to millions of people in hospitals, care facilities, schools, refugee camps, transit hubs, and community spaces worldwide. Sing for Hope partners with hundreds of community-based organizations, mobilizes thousands of artists in creative service, and produces artist-created Sing for Hope Pianos across the US and around the world. Sing for Hope traces its roots to 9/11, when Juilliard sopranos Zamora and Yunus organized fellow musicians to perform for the firehouse at Lincoln Center, which had lost twelve of firefighters that day. In the months that followed, realizing the power of the arts in times of crisis, they continued to reach out across the city to share soothing music and art with communities in need, growing their ranks from dozens of artists to thousands. In 2010, as a symbol and celebration of art for all, they launched New York City's Sing for Hope Pianos, now one of the country's largest public arts projects. Sing for Hope Pianos is a global arts initiative that produces artist-designed pianos placed in public spaces for anyone and everyone to enjoy then transports and activates them year-round in permanent homes in schools, hospitals, transit hubs, refugee camps, and community-based organizations. Other key programs include Sing for Hope Healing Arts, research-based creative performances, workshops, and curated cultural experiences that promote wellness, connection, and respite in hospitals, vaccination centers, long-term care facilities, hospices, and treatment centers; Sing for Hope Education, dynamic arts workshops and standards-based curricula that inspire civic action and uplift youth, educators, and local communities; and Sing for Hope Global, creative advocacy, leadership, and program design that drive the integration of the arts in policy and at global convenings on social change. Sing for Hope is the official Cultural Partner of the World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates. As a champion of art for all, Sing for Hope believes the arts have an unmatched capacity to uplift, unite, and heal.

About Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts:

Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts is a dynamic cultural hub and community resource where local, national and international artists share their artistry with ever-expanding audiences. The campus, located in the heart of Beverly Hills, CA, is committed to robust and distinctive presentations and education programs curated with both creativity and social impact in mind. Distinguished by its eclectic programming that mirrors the diverse landscape of Los Angeles and its location in the entertainment capital of the world, The Wallis has produced and presented more than 350 theater, dance, music, film, cabaret, conversation, and family entertainment programs since its doors opened in October 2013. Hailed as "au courant" (*LaLa Magazine*), The Wallis was lauded by *Culture Vulture*, which proclaims, "If you love expecting the

unexpected in the performing arts, you have to love The Wallis.” Its programming has been nominated for 79 Ovation Awards and nine L.A. Drama Critic's Circle Awards. The campus itself, a breathtaking 70,000-square-foot facility, celebrating the classic and the modern, has garnered six architectural awards. Designed by acclaimed architect Zoltan E. Pali (SPF:architects), the restored building features the original 1933 Beverly Hills Post Office (on the National Register of Historic Places), which serves as the theater's dramatic yet welcoming lobby, and includes the contemporary 500-seat, state-of-the-art Bram Goldsmith Theater; the 150-seat Lovelace Studio Theater; an inviting open-air plaza for family, community and other performances; and GRoW @ The Wallis: A Space for Arts Education, where learning opportunities for all ages and backgrounds abound. Together, these elements embrace the city's history and its future, creating a performing arts destination for L.A.-area visitors and residents alike. Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts is led by Chairman of the Board Michael Nemeroff and Executive Director & Chief Executive Officer Rachel Fine.

For more information about The Wallis, please visit: TheWallis.org.

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EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

2022/2023 SEASON PROGRAMMING DESCRIPTIONS

THEATER

WORLD PREMIERE

The Wallis Production of

INVINCIBLE – THE MUSICAL

FEATURING THE MUSIC OF PAT BENATAR & NEIL GIRALDO

Book by Bradley Bredeweg

Music Direction & Arrangements by Jesse Vargas

Orchestrations & Arrangements by Neil Giraldo

Presented by Special Arrangement with Jamie Cesa, Cody Lassen

& Bel Chiasco Entertainment

NOV 22 – DEC 17, 2022

Invincible – The Musical, featuring the music of Pat Benatar & Neil Giraldo, reimagines the timeless story of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* for the 21st century through an intricate weaving of the four-time GRAMMY® Award-winners and 2022 Rock & Roll Hall of Fame inductees' legendary catalogue and inspired new songs. This wildly inventive new musical explores how love and equality battle for survival in times of great transformation. Join our star-crossed lovers in the modern, war-torn metropolis of Verona as the newly elected Chancellor Paris vows to destroy the progressive resistance and return the city to its traditional roots. *Invincible – The Musical* imagines peace in a divided world.

LA PREMIERE

The Wallis Presents

A National Theatre, Wise Children, Bristol Old Vic and York Theatre Royal co-production

In association with Berkeley Repertory Theater

Wise Children's

WUTHERING HEIGHTS

Based on the novel by Emily Brontë

Adapted and directed by Emma Rice

JAN 11 – 22, 2023

"I am Heathcliff! Whatever our souls are made of, his and mine are the same."

In a production shot through with music, dance, passion, and hope, Emma Rice (*Brief Encounter, Tristan & Yseult*) transforms Emily Brontë's masterpiece into an intoxicating story of revenge for our time. Rescued from the Liverpool docks as a child, Heathcliff is taken to live at Wuthering Heights, where he finds a kindred spirit in Catherine, and a fierce love ignites. When they are forced apart, a brutal chain of events is unleashed.

The Wallis Presents

DAHLAK BRATHWAITE: TRY/STEP/TRIP

Written & Composed by Dahlak Brathwaite

Choreographed by Toran X. Moore

Assistant Choreography by Freddy Ramsey, Jr.

Orchestrations & Additional Compositions by Teak Underdue

Directed by Roberta Uno

FEB 2 – 5, 2023

Try/Step/Trip is a spoken word, multi-character musical performed through the language of step dance. The story follows the journey of an anonymous narrator as he re-imagines his experience in a court-ordered drug rehabilitation program. Inspired by Brathwaite's own history, *Try/Step/Trip* layers characters, poetic verse, and dialogue over music to create a theatrical piece that blurs the lines between hip-hop and dramatic performance. *Try/Step/Trip* emerges from the belief that the subjugation of Black people is an American ritual; that the criminal justice system now functions as a normalized rite of passage for too many young Black males.

"[Brathwaite's] presence is breathtaking, and chilling...ripping through your mind with just a microphone."

—*Sacramento News & Review*

WORLD PREMIERE

The Wallis Presents

In Collaboration with the University of Delaware Master Players Concert Series

SHANGHAI SONATAS: A NEW MUSICAL IN CONCERT

Concept, Music & Produced by Xiang "Sean" Gao

Book by Alan Goodson

Lyrics by Joyce Hill Stoner

Directed by Chongren Fan

MAR 16 – 18, 2023

Ming-Kai Tao, a Chinese violinist in his 90s, visits the Shanghai Jewish Refugees Museum to see the violin he donated. When he picks up the instrument that accompanied him throughout his life and plays, we are magically transported back to Shanghai of the 1930s and '40s, where Ming-Kai confronts his rebellious teenage self in this city where East and West clash in surprising ways. We meet the local Chinese during war time and many Jewish refugee musicians fleeing the Nazis who would train many of the first generation of Chinese classical musicians in the Shanghai Jewish Ghetto. The unifying power of music brings these two cultures together as they help each other survive the war, setting ripples in motion that carry through to this day, 90 years later. Running time 2 hours including a 15-minute intermission. Recommended for ages 8+

The Wallis Presents

The Kennedy Center Theater for Young Audiences On Tour Production of

ACOUSTIC ROOSTER'S BARNYARD BOOGIE STARRING INDIGO BLUME

Adapted from the books by Kwame Alexander

By Kwame Alexander and Mary Rand Hess

Music by Randy Preston

Directed by Lili-Anne Brown

APR 22 – 23, 2023

New York Times best-selling author Kwame Alexander brings two of his beloved children's books, *Acoustic Rooster* and *Indigo Blume*, to the stage in a world premiere Kennedy Center commission. Alexander teams up with his writing partner Mary Rand Hess and long-time musical collaborator Randy Preston to tell a story about being scared, being brave, and believing in yourself. With special guests like Duck Ellington and Ms. Dairy Parton – plus Preston appearing as Acoustic Rooster - this musical adaptation will have children (and families) dancing in their seats. Running time 70 minutes with no intermission. Recommended for ages 5+ Warning: This performance contains haze effects and has some loud sounds.

WEST COAST PREMIERE

The Wallis Production of

MY LORD, WHAT A NIGHT

Written by Deborah Brevoort

Directed by Sheldon Epps

MAY 20 – JUN 11, 2023

A new drama based on the real-life friendship between two icons of the 20th century who dealt with the injustices of a highly divided era in American history. In 1937, after performing in Princeton, New Jersey, legendary Black contralto Marian Anderson is denied lodging at the Nassau Inn because of her race. When physicist Albert Einstein invites her to stay at his home, the two form a profound friendship that would last a lifetime, rooted in their love for music and their commitment to human rights. Based on true events, *My Lord, What a Night* takes us into Einstein's home and imagines the conversations and circumstances that led to Anderson's historic concert on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial and the beginning of the civil rights movement. Sheldon Epps (*Blues in the Night*) returns to The Wallis to direct the production. Running Time 100 minutes with no intermission. Recommended for ages 12+

"Truly thrilling!" - *DC Metro Theater Arts*

"Those with the chance to view *My Lord, What a Night* should do so, and will hopefully leave the theater better for it." - *The Hill*

"Captures lightning in a bottle." - *The Observer*

"A riveting story with a timely message." - *Brandenton Times*

DANCE

BALLET HISPÁNICO

50th Anniversary Celebration – Noche de Oro

OCT 7 – 8, 2022

In its Wallis debut and in celebration of its 50th Anniversary, Ballet Hispánico brings an evening of dances that explores the diversity of Latinx cultures and brings innovative ways of experiencing and sharing a cultural dialogue. "Both earthy and classically elegant" (*The New York Times*), the Company is a group of highly trained professionals renowned for technical prowess and captivating onstage presence. Don't miss the nation's largest Latinx dance organization and one of America's cultural treasures.

BODYTRAFFIC

OCT 21 – 22, 2022

Led by Artistic Director Tina Finkelman Berkett, BODYTRAFFIC has conquered the contemporary dance world with its stunning performers, technical mastery, and commitment to the most challenging repertoire. The acclaimed company returns to The Wallis with an eclectic program that includes a world premiere by

Micaela Taylor, BODYTRAFFIC's first-ever Artist-in-Residence; the West Coast premiere of Baye & Asa's rhythmic and bold *The One to Stay With*; and an encore performance of Matthew Neenan's whimsical and joyous *A Million Voices*, inspired by the great music of Peggy Lee. Bursting with cutting-edge "vivid theatricality," BODYTRAFFIC takes the stage with compelling works that embody the company's energy, sophistication, and sheer joy in dancing.

LUMINARIO BALLET OF LOS ANGELES

FEB 17 – 18, 2023

Making its Wallis debut, Luminario Ballet of Los Angeles is a repertory ballet, aerial, and modern dance company founded in 2009 by Judith FLEX Helle and the Charles Evans Foundation NY. Luminario has toured globally and performed locally commissioned work with the LA Phil at Walt Disney Concert Hall and across numerous mediums such as music videos, television, film, virtual reality, and, soon, NFTs. The company's two programs include *Heroes, Sheroes, and Eros*, in which a collective of Luminario Ballet choreographers and special guests explore the tangled paths of history/herstory/ourstory; and *The Last Supper* – a rollicking tale of Jesus, Judas, and Mary Magdalene's visit to the Coachella Music Festival in 2017. This wild tale of the ages looks at the cult of personality, Black Lives Matter, relationships, sexuality, drug addiction, betrayal, and resolution through explosive emotional dance theater choreography from ballet to acrobatics, to aerial dance.

BLUE13 DANCE COMPANY

MAY 12 – 13, 2023

Blue13 is an American dance ensemble living at the intersection of diaspora and disruption. Led by Achinta S. McDaniel, the company employs a powerful specter of joy and resistance through rhythm, "Bollywood," and emotional expression. Blue13's work rejects monolithic representations of both Indianness and contemporaneity and reveals complexities intrinsic to South Asian and intersectional identities through provocative and boundary-expanding contemporary works. The company will premiere a new work as well as *Restless Autumn, Restless Spring* and excerpts from *1947, Shaadi* and *Terpsichore in Ghungroos*.

ALONZO KING LINES BALLET

JUN 9 – 11, 2023

Alonzo King LINES Ballet performs a new work featuring Grammy Award-winning vocalist Lisa Fischer set to a score by jazz pianist, composer, and MacArthur Fellow Jason Moran. This is King's second collaboration with Fischer and his ninth collaboration with Moran, created in celebration of LINES Ballet's 40th anniversary season.

MUSIC

WORLD PREMIERE

The Wallis Presents

A Bristol Entertainment Production

MOTOWN: CELEBRATING THE MUSIC, THE MAGIC, THE LOVE

OCT 1, 2022

Motown: Celebrating the Music, the Magic, the Love, a uniquely entertaining music experience, highlights the early era of Motown Records with candid conversations and performances by artists and executives of classic Motown. Grammy Award-winning artist **Thelma Houston** is one of several remarkable talents who takes the stage.

MAMBO KINGS & CAMILLE ZAMORA

HAVANA NIGHTS

OCT 13, 2022

As part of Sing for Hope's residency, star soprano Camille Zamora, hailed as a leading interpreter of classical Spanish song by NBC Latino and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, and the Mambo Kings present a sultry,

passionate, and exciting evening of Latin music from Spain and the island of Cuba. This hot evening of music includes orchestral and vocal selections from the classical Spanish Zarzuela period combined with the exciting Afro Cuban rhythms of the Mambo Kings. Zamora has collaborated with artists ranging from Plácido Domingo to Sting and has garnered acclaim for her “dramatic and nuanced” interpretations of repertoire ranging from Mozart to tango.

"[Zamora is] a singer blessed with intense communicative ability who blazes with passion." - *Opera Magazine*

STEWART GOODYEAR

PHOENIX

OCT 15, 2022

As a phoenix obtains new life by rising from the ashes of its predecessor, the works in Stewart Goodyear's Wallis debut piano concert obtain new life by arising from the sound world, past traditions, and gestures of Franz Liszt. Whether virtuosic splashes of color created by Debussy, the urban landscape constructed by Jennifer Higdon, the intense improvisation and haunting dissonant starkness by Anthony Davis, or the pianism in a new work by Goodyear that pays tribute to his Trinidadian roots.

Program:

HIGDON: *Secret and Glass Gardens*

ANTHONY DAVIS: *Middle Passage*

STEWART GOODYEAR: *Phoenix*

DEBUSSY: *La Cathedrale Engloutie; L'Isle Joyeuse*

BEETHOVEN: Sonata No. 29 in B-flat major, Op. 106 *Hammerklavier*

WEST COAST PREMIERE

The Wallis Presents

OSVALDO GOLIJOV

FALLING OUT OF TIME

Text Adapted by Osvaldo Golijov from the novel by David Grossman

OCT 27, 2022

What happens when the natural order of things is upended? *Falling Out of Time* is a new work from the Grammy-winning composer Osvaldo Golijov performed by members of the acclaimed Silkroad Ensemble led by violinist Johnny Gandelsman. Rooted in David Grossman's novel of the same name, this infinitely nuanced story in voices narrates a profound journey of grief and solace, a journey “out of time” as parents grieve the death of a child, a quest to comprehend a loss with no name. It so happens that we all are, as a world, living in a moment in which the “natural” order of things has been upended. More than ever, we are in need of stories that help us make sense of the broken pieces. *Falling Out of Time* is one such story.

BROADWAY @ THE WALLIS & MARK CORTALE PRESENT

LILLIAS WHITE WITH SETH RUDETSKY, HOST & PIANIST

NOV 3, 2022

The Wallis & Mark Cortale Present the return of the internationally acclaimed Broadway @ concert series, hosted and music-directed by SiriusXM Radio star **Seth Rudetsky** with internationally acclaimed Tony, Obie, and Emmy Award-winner **Lillias White** (*The Life, Fela!, Dreamgirls, Barnum, Once On This Island, Chicago Disney's Hercules, Pieces of April, How the Grinch Stole Christmas, “The Get Down,” “Russian Doll, “Search Party”*). The evening promises a seamless mix of intimate behind-the-scenes stories prompted by Rudetsky's funny, insightful, and revealing questions, and the music from White's stellar Broadway and television career.

LOS ANGELES CHAMBER ORCHESTRA PRESENTS

Baroque Concerti

JAN 28, 2023

An evening of virtuosic chamber performances, featuring soloists Yura Lee in one of the earliest known viola concertos, Telemann's Concerto in G Major, and David Washburn performing a hidden gem: the charming pre-classical Concerto for Trumpet in E flat by little-known Czech composer Johan Baptist Georg Neruda. The program also features Corelli's rich and festive Concerto Grosso Opus 6 #4; Geminiani's charming Concerto Grosso in D Major; and Handel's grand Major Concerto, one of the most celebrated works for strings from the Baroque era.

This program is dedicated to the memory of Warner W. Henry, LACO Board Director emeritus and a champion of chamber and Baroque music.

ANTHONY MCGILL & THE PACIFICA QUARTET

FEB 23, 2023

Recognized for its virtuosity, exuberance, and daring repertory choices, the Grammy Award-winning Pacifica Quartet — Simin Ganatra (violin), Austin Hartman (violin), Mark Holloway (violinist), Brandon Vamos (cello) — has achieved international recognition as one of the finest chamber ensembles performing today. Formed in 1994, the ensemble quickly won chamber music's top competitions, including the 1998 Naumburg Chamber Music Award. For its Wallis debut, the quartet is joined by the brilliantly multifaceted Anthony McGill, principal clarinet of the New York Philharmonic, an exceptional soloist in his own right. These spectacular musicians will bring the beauty and depth of chamber music to their Wallis debut.

"The playing is so suave, so gleamingly elegant and so full of textural riches that you can almost imagine yourself hearing these pieces for the first time." — *San Francisco Chronicle*

US PREMIERE

The Wallis Presents

The Sing for Hope Production of

THE LAST SORCERER (LE DERNIER SORCIER)

MAR 3, 2023

As part of Sing for Hope's residency, The Wallis presents the **UNITED STATES PREMIERE** of the Sing for Hope Production of ***THE LAST SORCERER (LE DERNIER SORCIER)*** on March 3, 2023, preceded on March 2 by a Center Stage panel. One hundred fifty years ahead of its time, Pauline Viardot's 1867 masterwork salon opera was written on a libretto by her lover, the great Russian novelist Turgenev. A feminist eco-fable in operatic form, it premiered to great acclaim with Viardot at the piano in her Baden Baden villa and her students in the roles. After the original piano-voice manuscript was held in a private collection for over a century, it essentially vanished without a trace until acquired several years ago by Harvard Library, which gave Sing for Hope co-founder Camille Zamora permission to publish and produce the recording of the world premiere of the work. New English language narrations take the place of French dialogue that would have come in between each musical number, punctuating the concert story-book-style. Sing for Hope co-founder Monica Yunus, a "star soprano...(with) a warm and powerful voice" (*OperaWire*), is the featured soloist in the production.

AN EVENING WITH ISAAC MIZRAHI

MAR 4, 2023

Actor, host, writer, designer, and producer Isaac Mizrahi's acclaimed concert performances have been described by *The New York Times* as "determined to challenge the cultural status quo and help blaze a path into a more liberated future where few subjects are off-limits." His one-of-a-kind show brings together comedy, commentary, and an array of classic and soon-to-be classic songs from Stephen Sondheim to Blondie, from Comden & Green to Madonna. Accompanied by his six-piece jazz band, "Mizrahi is the real deal when it comes to cabaret: He's charming, he sounds great, and he is seriously funny" (*TheaterMania*).

SETH PARKER WOODS

MAR 9, 2023

A recipient of the 2022 Chamber Music America Michael Jaffee Visionary Award and hailed by *The Guardian* as "a cellist of power and grace" who possesses "mature artistry and willingness to go to the brink," cellist

Seth Parker Woods, making his Wallis debut, has established a reputation as a versatile artist straddling several genres. In addition to solo performances, he has appeared with ensembles and symphonies around the globe. A fierce advocate for contemporary arts, Woods has collaborated and worked with a wide array of artists from the genres of classical, rock and visual arts. Woods has also recently joined the faculty at the Thornton School of Music at USC.

Program:

RACHMANINOV: Sonata

LISZT: La Nuage Gris

KAGEL: Unguis Incarnatus est

CHINARIY UNG: Khse Buon

RESPIGHI: Nocturne from Six pieces for Solo Piano

LEMBIT BEECHER: Suite

REINALDO MOYA: Diaspora

ULYSSES OWENS, JR. & J'NAI BRIDGES

NOTES ON HOPE

APR 27, 2023

Opera star J'Nai Bridges and Grammy Award-winning drummer and jazz trailblazer Ulysses Owens Jr. collaborate on *Notes on Hope* which includes French art songs, jazz and spirituals from Debussy, Ravel, Ellington, Mary Lou Williams, and more. "Bridges' voice is a rich blanket of plush sound" (*Opera News*). "Clear, purposeful communication has anchored Ulysses Owens Jr.'s artistry since he was a kid playing drums in church" (*Downbeat*).

Program:

The Lord's Prayer

DEBUSSY: *Chansons de Bilitis*

RAVEL: *Chansons Madécasses*

DUPARC: *L'invitation au voyage*

SATIE: *Je te veux*

POULENC: *Les chemins de l'amour*

DUKE ELLINGTON: Works for Soprano Voice

Heaven

In a Sentimental Mood

Praise God and Dance

Wade in the Water

Call & Response

BROADWAY @ THE WALLIS & MARK CORTALE PRESENT

STEPHANIE J. BLOCK WITH SETH RUDETSKY, HOST & PIANIST

MAY 4, 2023

The Wallis & Mark Cortale Present the return of the internationally acclaimed Broadway @ The Wallis concert series, hosted and music-directed by SiriusXM Radio star **Seth Rudetsky** with legendary Tony, Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle Award-winner **Stephanie J. Block** (*The Cher Show*, *Falsettos*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, *9 to 5: The Musical*, *Boy from Oz*, *Wicked*). The evening promises a seamless mix of intimate behind-the-scenes stories prompted by Rudetsky's funny, insightful, and revealing questions—and the music from Block's stellar Broadway career.

LOS ANGELES CHAMBER ORCHESTRA PRESENTS

Masterworks for String Orchestra

MAY 6, 2023

Immerse yourself in the majesty of the string orchestra in this program of rich and varied compositions curated by LACO Concertmaster and Director of Chamber Music Margaret Batjer. Spanning more than 800 years, the works include 12th century German Saint Hildegard Von Bingen's "O Virtus Sapientiae"; Britten's

lovely Simple Symphony, rife with sophisticated orchestration; the compact but lively 10th Symphony in B minor written by a teenaged Mendelssohn; Hindemith's compelling Five Pieces for Strings; and Greig's popular Holberg Suite, which sits at the intersection of baroque-style dance and Nordic melodic harmonies and treatments.

JEFFREY KAHANE, piano

BACH: GOLDBERG VARIATIONS

MAY 25, 2023

Equally at home at the piano or on the podium, Jeffrey Kahane is recognized around the world for his mastery of a diverse repertoire ranging from Bach and Mozart to the music of our time. After 20 years as Music Director of the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, Kahane makes his Wallis debut with his interpretation of Bach's Goldberg Variations, long regarded as the most serious and ambitious work for the keyboard. Kahane has appeared as a soloist with major orchestras such as the New York Philharmonic, Cleveland Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Philadelphia Orchestra and the Chicago and San Francisco symphonies among many others and is also a popular artist at all of the major US summer festivals. In August 2016, he was appointed Music Director of the Sarasota Music Festival, and he is currently also the Artistic Adviser of the Sarasota Orchestra.

MIRÓ QUARTET & SPECIAL GUEST KEVIN PUTS

MAY 20, 2023

The award-winning Miró Quartet (Daniel Ching, violin; William Fedkenheuer, violin; John Largess, viola; Joshua Gindele, cello) is one of America's most celebrated string quartets, having performed throughout the world for 25 years on the most prestigious concert stages. In its Wallis debut, the quartet reunites with Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Kevin Puts, who has been hailed as one of the most important composers of his generation. Critically acclaimed for a richly colored, harmonic, and freshly melodic musical voice that has also been described as "emotional, compelling, and relevant," his works have been commissioned, performed, and recorded by leading orchestras, ensembles, and soloists throughout the world, including the Miró Quartet.

JORDAN BAK, GENEVA LEWIS & EVREN OZEL

June 1, 2023

With myriad colors and sounds spanning two centuries, this program offers a unique blend of artistic collaboration and instrumental and interpretational distinction between performers and composers. From the deeply dramatic and textural landscape of Claude Debussy, the human vulnerability of Robert Schumann, to the precocious, awe-inspiring genius of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, much is to be heard in each of these dynamic works of art. Max Reger rounds out the program with his incredibly passionate Piano Trio No. 1 in B minor, showcasing the young 18-year-old composer's musical and technical maturity and brimming with bravura, sensitivity, and promise.

CONVERSATIONS

The Wallis & Writers Bloc Present

AN EVENING WITH ANTHONY DOERR

SEP 29, 2022

The Wallis & Writers Bloc Present

AN EVENING WITH JOHN IRVING

OCT 23, 2022

The Wallis & Writers Bloc Present

AN EVENING WITH REZA ASLAN

NOV 1, 2022

For 26 years, Writers Bloc has fostered the significance and importance of literature as an art form as well as enhanced the public knowledge and awareness of contemporary writers and thinkers who have made a significant impact on the cultural and literary landscape. The Wallis is proud to partner once again with Writers Bloc for a Fall series of conversations that provide deeper insight into the literary process.

FILM

Film presentations in partnership with **FILM INDEPENDENT**, featuring screening events and conversations with celebrated actors and filmmakers, will be announced.

ASCAP/ASCAP FOUNDATION

The ASCAP Musical Theater Workshop and Festival returns along with a special Evening with Stephen Schwartz in celebration of his 75th birthday. (Dates to be announced soon.)

SORTING ROOM

The Wallis' wildly successful **SORTING ROOM** series, which transforms the Lovelace Studio Theater into an intimate nightclub, returns during the holiday season to offer the best talent from a wide range of genres including the American songbook, spoken word, comedy, classic cabaret, storytelling, dance, contemporary music, and more.

SUNDAY FUNDAY

Sunday Funday

OCT 9, 2022

10AM – Broadway Babies

11AM – Parker Bent

12PM – Dance Sunday

Sunday Funday

NOV 13, 2022

10AM – Spring Groove

11AM – Story Pirates

12PM – Dance Sunday

Sunday Funday

DEC 11, 2022

11AM – Mostly Kosher

12PM – Dance Sunday

(No Events in January)

Sunday Funday

FEB 12, 2023

11AM Broadway Babies

12PM – Dance Sunday

Sunday Funday
MAR 5, 2023
11AM – Spring Groove
12PM – Dance Sunday

Sunday Funday
APR 9, 2023
10AM – Broadway Babies
11AM – Parker Bent
12PM – Dance Sunday

Sunday Funday
MAY 14, 2023
11AM – Mostly Kosher
12PM – Dance Sunday

Sunday Funday
JUN 11, 2023
11AM - Nathalia
12PM – Dance Sunday

TICKET PRICES AND INFORMATION:

Subscriptions to The Wallis' 2022/2023 Season are on sale now. Single tickets will be available at a later date. The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts is located at 9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd, Beverly Hills. To purchase subscriptions and tickets and for more information, please call 310-746-4000 (Monday – Friday, 10 am to 6 pm) or visit TheWallis.org.

PLEASE NOTE:

Due to current health and safety variables, performances are subject to change, postponement or cancellation.