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Mesa Arts Center announces Performing Live season for 2019-20

Tickets on sale Sunday, May 19, 2019 at 10 a.m.; on sale now to Mesa Arts Center members



May 8, 2019 (Mesa, AZ) – Mesa Arts Center today announced its 2019-20 Performing Live season. Season highlights include the *National Geographic Live!* speaker series which delivers stories of life-changing explorations from behind the camera, the Classical Music Inside Out series curated by GRAMMY award-winning cellist Zuill Bailey, a Valentine's Day engagement with renowned opera singer Renée Fleming, solo performance by Mandy Patinkin, family engagements like Double Dare Live and much more.

Tickets are on sale to Mesa Arts Center members now and go on sale to the public Sunday, May 19 at 10 a.m. Tickets will be available at the Mesa Arts Center Box Office, at 480-644-6500, or online at mesaartscenter.com.

Over 50 shows are announced today and listed below in chronological order. Additional shows will be announced throughout the season. Mesa Arts Center Memberships start at \$60 and those who become members now will have an opportunity to purchase tickets to Performing Live events before they go on sale to the public.

Sponsors include Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona, supporting *National Geographic Live!*; Bill Passey & Maria Silva and the Gloria Miner Charitable Music Foundation supporting *Classical Music Inside Out*; The Boeing Company, Wells Fargo supporting a *National Geographic Live* event; SRP and AARP supporting the season; and the Arizona Commission on the Arts and National Endowment for the Arts supporting Mesa Arts Center programming.

Mesa Arts Center is located at One East Main Street, Mesa, AZ, 85201.

Billy Cobham And Crosswinds with Randy Brecker

July 20, 2019 | 7:30 PM | Piper Theater | \$ 40 GA

Jazz fusion virtuoso Billy Cobham has contributed seminally as a master drummer, percussionist, composer, producer, educator, clinician and tireless musical explorer. Cobham forges ahead with an ever-passionate commitment to innovation and service to the world through his music. Don't miss Billy Cobham with original Crosswinds Band trumpeter, Randy Brecker, with Billy's Crosswinds Project Band: Fared Haque (guitar), Tim Landers (bass), Scott Tibbs (keys) and Paul Hanson (bassoon, sax).

Hot Spanish Nights: Guitars Celino & Lito Romero And Special Guest Eric Symons

Classical Music Inside Out Series

August 24, 2019 | 7:30 PM | Piper Theater | \$38

The evening features the third generation of the Royal Family of Guitars —Celino and Lito Romero, who take center stage with guitarist Eric Symons for an evening of Spanish sounds and tastes.

Kansas: Point of Know Return

September 19, 2019 | 7:30 PM | Ikeda Theater

\$43-\$ 128 | PRE-SHOW DINNER AVAILABLE

Iconic progressive rock band Kansas will perform their *Point of Know Return* album in its entirety for the first time in a special two-hour concert celebrating the album's 40th Anniversary. Hear all the hits including "Carry on Wayward Son," and "Dust in the Wind" as well as deep cuts from their other albums that have sold over 30 million copies worldwide

Roy Orbison & Buddy Holly: The Rock 'N' Roll Dream Tour

October 4, 2019 | 8:00 PM | Ikeda Theater | \$43-\$68

The Rock 'N' Roll Dreams Tour will feature remastered audio from Roy Orbison and Buddy Holly alongside a live band and back-up singers in one mesmerizing show. This cutting-edge production features hologram performances by the two rock icons. Don't miss an unforgettable evening of Roy Orbison and Buddy Holly's greatest hits onstage.

Presented in partnership with Richter Entertainment Group. Produced by BASE Entertainment.

Samin Nosrat

October 5, 2019 | 8:00 PM | Ikeda Theater

\$ 40 | \$ 100 PRE-SHOW MEET AND GREET AVAIL ABLE

Samin Nosrat learned to cook at Chez Panisse, in Italy alongside Benedetta Vitali and Dario Cecchini, and at Eccolo in Berkeley. Her first book is the *New York Times* bestselling, *Salt, Fat, Acid, Heat: Mastering the Elements of Good Cooking*. A documentary series based on the book is on Netflix. She is also a food columnist for the *New York Times Magazine*.

Chick Corea Trilogy With Christian McBride And Brian Blade

October 6, 2019 | 7:30 PM | Ikeda Theater | \$35-\$63

Chick Corea brings together bass powerhouse Christian McBride and drum master Brian Blade in a trio that earned two Grammy® Awards for their 2014 landmark 3-CD set Trilogy. "Both are master musicians and together we have an easy rapport," Chick says of McBride and Blade. "There is a lot of give and take in our music. It's always a lot of fun."

The Spouse Whisperer

October 10-12, 2019 | 7:30 PM • OCT 13 | 3:00 PM Nesbitt-Elliot Playhouse Theater | \$ 40
Comedian Mark Cordes delivers his critically acclaimed one man show, *The Spouse Whisperer*, a comedic journey that starts with “love at first sight” and ends with “til death do us part” and all of the funny stuff in between. *The Spouse Whisperer* is cool, it’s hilarious, and there is never a dull moment.

Dennis DeYoung: The Grand Illusion

40th Anniversary Album Tour

October 11, 2019 | 8:00 PM | Ikeda Theater | \$43-\$60

PRE-SHOW DINNER AVAIL ABLE

Dennis DeYoung is a founding member of STYX, and a legendary singer, songwriter, keyboardist, composer and record producer with a career spanning over 40 years. His voice is one of the most recognizable in the music world today and continues to inspire. Dennis DeYoung will perform *The Grand Illusion* in its entirety plus the other hits.

Presented in partnership with Live Nation.

Tower of Power

October 12, 2019 | 7:00 PM | Ikeda Theater | \$29.50-\$59.50

Music legends Tower of Power — the most dynamic and distinctive band of survivors in Soul Music — is roaring into its unprecedented 50th anniversary as energized and inspired as ever. Since its formation, Tower of Power has forged a reputation as a band of high achieving musicians fluent in all realms of Soul, Rock and Pop music with a sophistication and punch like that of a Jazz big band.

Presented in partnership with Emporium Presents.

Experience Hendrix

October 13, 2019 | 7:00 PM (3-HOUR SHOW) Ikeda Theater | \$ 46 -\$ 91

PRE-SHOW DINNER AVAIL ABLE

Hailed by critics and fans alike as the 'All-Star Concert Event of The Year,' the multi-artist celebration Experience Hendrix is set to return to Mesa Arts Center. Marking its tenth anniversary this special concert presents legendary artists who join to pay homage to the music and legacy of Jimi Hendrix in conjunction with the new re-release 50th Anniversary of *Electric Ladyland*. Check MesaArtsCenter.com for show lineup updates.

Béla Fleck, Zakir Hussain & Edgar Meyer

October 15, 2019 | 7:30 PM | Ikeda Theater | \$40

The leading virtuosos on their respective instruments move with ease among the worlds of classical, bluegrass, and North Indian music, creating a fusion that is uniquely their own. Béla Fleck has transformed the image and the sound of the banjo. Zakir Hussain's consistently brilliant performances on the Indian tabla have established him as a national treasure in his own country. Edgar Meyer's mastery of the double bass is rivaled only by his activity as a composer.

**Double Dare Live
with Marc Summers**

October 19, 2019 | 2:30 & 7:30 PM | Ikeda Theater | \$43-\$80

On your mark, get set, GO! Double Dare Live will bring the action and excitement of Nickelodeon's popular TV show to the stage. All the slime soaking, pie plastering, and booger busting will be hosted by the Double Dare legend Marc Summers! You might even get chosen to compete by answering brain-bending trivia questions, completing messy physical stunts and even running the legendary obstacle course!

**Calavera
Lila Downs**

with appearances by Grandeza Mexicana Folk Ballet Company and Mariachi Feminil Flores Mexicanas

October 22, 2019 | 7:30 PM | Ikeda Theater | \$30-\$55

Known as one of Mexico's greatest singers, the Grammy® award winning Mexican-American singer Lila Downs presents CALAVERA, a community-oriented event where audience members are encouraged to come dressed in imaginative Día de los Muertos costumes and make-up, to bring remembrances of their loved ones to share in the celebration, and to become fully immersed in an evening filled with emotions of love, loss, reconnection and joy.

National Geographic Live!

Akashinga: The Brave Ones

Damien Mander

October 23, 2019 | 7:30 PM | Ikeda Theater | \$30-\$44

Former special operations sniper and Royal Australian Navy clearance diver Damien Mander traveled to Africa intent to create solutions in the fight against poachers. He formed the first all-female ranger unit in Zimbabwe—Akashinga “the brave ones”—altering stereotypes, saving elephants, and establishing a new model for conservation efforts along the way.

Farruquito

November 12, 2019 | 7:30 PM | Piper Theater | \$40

Farruquito, heir to the most renowned Gypsy flamenco dynasty, is the greatest flamenco dancer of this new century (*New York Times*). His first stage appearance on Broadway in New York City at the age of four alongside his grandfather, “EL Farruco,” Farruquito has made it his life's mission to share the purest form of flamenco on stages around the world while further broadening his influence.

The Magic of Bill Blagg

November 14, 2019 | 7:30 PM | Piper Theater | \$23

Critics and audiences alike rave about The Magic of Bill Blagg. His interactive magic & jaw-dropping illusions will have you rubbing your eyes in disbelief. Blagg's show combines his mind-blowing magical talents along with his trademark off-the cuff personality. Witness objects floating in mid-air, vanishing in the blink of an eye and so much more!

Music of Cream

50th Anniversary World Tour

November 15, 2019 | 8:00 PM | Ikeda Theater

\$35 PRE-SHOW DINNER AVAILABLE

Cream was the blueprint for every supergroup to follow and the heavy blues precursor to Hendrix, Zeppelin and more. Fifty years later, the pedigree of that hallowed trilogy come together to pay tribute. Kofi BAKER (son of Ginger) and Malcolm BRUCE (son of Jack) unite with Will JOHNS (Eric's nephew by marriage and son of Zeppelin/ Stones/ Hendrix engineer Andy) to perform songs such as "Spoonful", "Strange Brew", "Sunshine of Your Love", "White Room", "Crossroads" and "Badge."

Carlene Carter

November 16, 2019 | 7:30 PM | Piper Theater | \$40

Carlene Carter has been releasing music for almost four decades. The daughter of June Carter Cash and country star Carl Smith, and stepdaughter of Johnny Cash, she is the physical embodiment of the Carter Family in the 21st century. Her most recent album release was *Carter Girl*, a Don Was-produced collection of Carter Family songs and originals, inspired by her family. Carlene spent the better part of the last few years on the road with John Mellencamp on his *Plain Spoken* tour, both as a support act and joining him on stage nightly to perform duets.

An Evening with C. S. Lewis

November 19-22, 2019 | 7:30 PM • NOV 23 | 3:00 & 7:30 PM NOV 24 | 2:00 & 6:00 PM

Nesbitt-Elliott Playhouse Theater | \$ 55

The year is 1963 and C.S. Lewis, the famous British author, is hosting a group of American writers at his home near Oxford. They are about to experience a captivating evening with his engaging conversation and spontaneous humor. Seated in his living room he recalls the people and events that inspired his thinking and shaped his life; of his friendship with J.R.R. Tolkien; why he nearly abandoned the *The Chronicles of Narnia*; and the American woman who turned his life upside down.

Lynn Harrell, Cello

Classical Music Inside Out Series

November 19, 2019 | 7:30 PM | Piper Theater | \$ 38 -\$ 46

Lynn Harrell is a consummate soloist, chamber musician, recitalist, conductor and teacher whose work throughout the world has placed him in the highest echelon of today's performing artists. Lynn Harrell's discography of more than 30 recordings include the complete *Bach Cello Suites* and two Grammy® wins.

National Geographic Live!

Building the Photo Ark

Joel Sartore

November 20, 2019 | 7:30 PM | Ikeda Theater | \$30-\$44

National Geographic photographer Joel Sartore is on a mission to capture portraits of the world's species before they disappear. With ingenuity, wit, and a serious midwestern work ethic,

Sartore has created the Photo Ark project, the largest archive of its kind with nearly 8,000 images and counting. Hear about his comical mishaps, endearing encounters, and personal stories while documenting a world worth saving.

Shelée

November 21, 2019 | 7:30 PM | Piper Theater | \$43-\$50

Rising star Shelée returns to Mesa Arts Center on her first headlining tour this fall. Shelée has collaborated and toured with musical greats including Dave Koz and Stevie Wonder. With hands that effortlessly glide over the piano keys and a voice that stirs the soul, Shelée's musical mastery makes her one of the most exhilarating up and coming artists of today.

This show goes on sale June 17.

CHOIR! CHOIR! CHOIR!

November 30, 2019 | 7:30 PM | Piper Theater | \$40 GA

Choir! Choir! Choir! is a Toronto-based singing group led by creative directors Nobu Adilman and Daveed Goldman. The duo takes a non-traditional approach; there are no auditions, and the audience is the choir. Audience members will learn an original arrangement to a well-loved song. Founded in 2011, Choir! Choir! Choir! has amassed a dedicated community of singers and an international fan base on YouTube.

Dave Koz & Friends Christmas Tour 2019

December 17, 2019 | 7:30 PM | Ikeda Theater | \$63-\$ 93

VIP PACKAGES AND PRE-SHOW DINNER AVAIL ABLE

Dave Koz & Friends continue their annual holiday tradition at Mesa Arts Center! With nine Grammy® nominations, nine No. 1 albums on Billboard's Current Contemporary Jazz Albums chart, and a Star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, saxophonist Dave Koz has maintained a commitment to celebrating the magic of the holiday season like few other artists of his genre or generation.

Na Leo Holiday Concert

December 19, 2019 | 7:30 PM | Ikeda Theater | \$35

Share the aloha spirit during the holidays with Hawaii's number #1 female music group of all time...Na Leo! Na Leo means "The Voices." The group is comprised of Lehua Kalima, Angela Morales, and Nalani Jenkins, who began performing together in 1982 as a Hawaiian trio. The Hawaiian Holiday concert will include their popular contemporary pop ballads, traditional Hawaiian and holiday classics in a family friendly performance for all to enjoy.

Mannheim Steamroller Christmas

By Chip Davis

December 26, 2019 | 3:00 & 7:30 PM | Ikeda Theater | \$36-\$81

PRE-SHOW DINNER AVAILABLE FOR 7:30 PM PERFORMANCE

A Mesa Arts Center holiday favorite returns! In 1984, Mannheim Steamroller released *Mannheim Steamroller Christmas*, an album that changed the sounds of Christmas and resulted in a runaway hit. Mannheim Steamroller went on to become the biggest selling Christmas music

artist in history. The group's Christmas tour has become a holiday tradition right along with decorating the tree.

**Mandy Patinkin In Concert: Diaries
with Adam Ben-David on Piano**

January 15, 2020 | 7:30 PM | Ikeda Theater | \$45-\$85

PRE-SHOW DINNER AVAILABLE

"Mandy Patinkin is in the business of showstopping," raves *The New Yorker*, and that's exactly what he does in this powerful, passionate evening of song. DIARIES is a marriage of many of Mandy's favorite Broadway and classic American tunes, along with selections from his newest recordings. From Randy Newman to Stephen Sondheim, from Harry Chapin to Rufus Wainwright, Mandy Patinkin takes you on a dazzling musical journey you'll never forget.

Stanley Clarke Power Trio

January 17, 2020 | 7:30 PM | Piper Theater | \$50

Grammy® Award winner Stanley Clarke has attained "living legend" status during his over 40-year career as a bass virtuoso. He is the first bassist to double on acoustic and electric bass with equal ferocity and the first jazz-fusion bassist to headline tours, selling out shows worldwide. He was *Rolling Stone's* first Jazzman of the Year and bassist winner of *Playboy's* Music Award for ten straight years. Clarke was honored with *Bass Player Magazine's* Lifetime Achievement Award.

Ballet Folclórico Nacional De México De Silvia Lozano

January 19, 2020 | 3:00 PM | Ikeda Theater | \$25-\$45

Ballet Folclórico Nacional de México de SILVIA LOZANO is tasked with the dissemination, preservation and promotion of the Culture of Mexico. With an artistic career spanning over 56 years, the BFNM reflects the work of Mexico's leading practitioners of folklore, dance, music, and costumes. The BFNM has performed in over forty countries, receiving numerous awards, as well as being designated an Ambassador of Mexican Culture.

National Geographic Live!

Pursuit of The Black Panther

Shannon Wild

January 22, 2020 | 7:30 PM | Ikeda Theater | \$30-\$44

In 15 years as a wildlife photographer and cinematographer, Shannon Wild has learned to expect the unexpected. She's been bitten in the face by a dog, charged by an elephant, and mauled by a cheetah. Get a behind-the-scenes look at the challenges and dangers of her most difficult assignment to date: documenting a rare and elusive black panther in the dense forest in southern India.

Catalyst Quartet

Classical Music Inside Out Series

January 23, 2020 | 7:30 PM | Piper Theater | \$38-\$46

Hailed by the *New York Times* as “invariably energetic and finely burnished... playing with earthy vigor,” Catalyst Quartet is comprised of top Laureates and alumni of the Sphinx Competition. Known for “rhythmic energy, polyphonic clarity and tight ensemble-playing,” the Catalyst Quartet combines a serious commitment to diversity and education with a passion for contemporary works.

Lisa Lampanelli' S Losin' It!

January 24, 2020 | 7:30 PM • JAN 25 | 3:00 & 7:30 PM Piper Theater | \$ 50

Lisa Lampanelli has lost and gained more than 372 pounds over the course of her life. A veteran of several Moth and Risk! shows, Lisa loved the realness of the highly regarded storytelling organizations, and has curated her own show, LISA LAMPANELLI'S LOSIN' IT! The show is full of professional actors, storytellers, and special guests who have all dealt with the problem of weight and body-image issues.

Mystery Science Theater 3000 – Live

January 29, 2020 | 7:30 PM | Ikeda Theater | \$37.50-\$78

VIP PACKAGES AVAIL ABLE

Mystery Science Theater 3000 announces the MST3K Live 30th Anniversary Tour featuring the original host and MST3K creator Joel Hodgson back in the red jumpsuit as Joel Robinson. Alongside new MST3K host Jonah Heston (Jonah Ray), Joel, and the Bots will bring new movies and all new riffs and sketches to Mesa Arts Center!

Presented in partnership with Tobin Entertainment.

The Moth Mainstage

February 5, 2020 | 7:30 PM | Ikeda Theater | \$33-\$48

The Moth returns for its annual presentation at Mesa Arts Center. Dedicated to the art of storytelling, The Moth has presented more than 3,000 stories, told live and without notes, by people from all walks of life to standing room only crowds worldwide. Each Moth Mainstage features five wildly divergent raconteurs who develop their stories with The Moth's directors.

The Bachelor Live on Stage

February 13, 2020 | 7:30 PM | Ikeda Theater | \$40-\$80 | VIP \$ 150

The most successful reality romance series in the history of television is coming to Mesa Arts Center. The Bachelor Live on Stage Official Tour guarantees all the drama, the gossip and the romance of your favorite TV show in one delightful evening for the ultimate fan party. Previous Bachelor and Bachelorette favorites will serve as your hosts, as one eligible hometown Bachelor is introduced to local ladies from the audience for a chance at love. Come enjoy the show, or come to fall in love!

Renée Fleming

February 14, 2020 | 8:00 PM | Ikeda Theater | \$55-\$110

The Valley may best remember Renée Fleming for her touching performance of “Danny Boy” during the Celebration of Life for Senator John McCain. Renée Fleming is one of the most acclaimed singers of our time. In 2013, President Obama awarded her America's highest honor

for an artist, the National Medal of Arts. She brought her voice to a vast new audience in 2014, as the only classical artist ever to sing the US National Anthem at the Super Bowl.

National Geographic Live!

Designed by Nature

Kakani Katija

February 19, 2020 | 7:30 PM | Ikeda Theater | \$30-\$44

Bioengineer and research diver Kakani Katija takes you deep into the midwaters of the ocean—one of the least explored ecosystems on our planet—and shares how its inhabitants could lead to breakthroughs in bio-inspired design. Katija's work led to energy efficient jellyfish-inspired robotics. Now, she studies little-known sea creatures that have the potential to make a big impact on some of our world's most critical problems.

Supported by Wells Fargo.

Simply Three

February 21, 2020 | 8:00 PM | Ikeda Theater | \$30-\$38

The electrifying trio of Glen McDaniel, Nick Villalobos, and Zack Clark, known as Simply Three, has been captivating audiences with high-octane performances since 2010. Simply Three continues to receive praise for their ability to impress listeners with a range of genres that span Adele, Gershwin, Ed Sheeran and more. The trio seeks the essence of classical crossover with original works as well as innovative arrangements that showcase their technical virtuosity and heartfelt musicality.

An Evening with Itzhak Perlman

75th Birthday Celebration

Rohan De Silva, Piano

February 29, 2020 | 8:00 PM | Ikeda Theater | \$55-\$ 110

Mesa Arts Center has been the Valley's home to see Itzhak Perlman since 2005. Join us for a special 75th Birthday Celebration of Perlman, whose career has become legendary since making his world-premiere on the Ed Sullivan show over 60 years ago. The evening will be a multi-media experience with Perlman sharing stories of his life, family and career.

The Finest Hour:

Davina and The Vagabonds, and Hot Club of Cowtown

March 5, 2020 | 7:30 PM | Ikeda Theater | \$37

World War II was the most devastating war in history. The war's end was celebrated with people dancing in the streets. The Finest Hour is a celebration of the fleeting, platinum age in American popular music during this time, when European jazz, western swing, blues and pop shared the airwaves. The show features Davina and The Vagabonds and Hot Club of Cowtown performing a range of music from Billie Holiday to Gene Autry, Lester Young to Doris Day and Bing Crosby.

Live from Laurel Canyon

March 15, 2020 | 7:30 PM | Piper Theater | \$42

"Live from Laurel Canyon - Songs and Stories of American Folk Rock" is a retrospective of music and stories of some of the most influential artists who lived in Laurel Canyon between 1965 and 1975. Like other legendary rock and roll neighborhoods of the same era, like Haight Ashbury, Laurel Canyon was a community of artists like The Mamas and The Papas, the Byrds, Doors, Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young, James Taylor, Mitchell, the Eagles and more.

National Geographic Live!

From Summit to Sea

Andy Mann

March 18, 2020 | 7:30 PM | Ikeda Theater | \$30-\$44

Award-winning filmmaker and photographer Andy Mann uses his work to bridge the gap between science and policy. From his early days as a rock climber to his current passion documenting the critically endangered oceanic whitetip shark, his stunning images tell the story of our rapidly changing planet, from top to bottom.

Blackbird, Fly

Marc Bamuthi Joseph & Daniel Bernard Roumain

March 20, 2020 | 7:30 PM | Piper Theater | \$32

BLACKBIRD, FLY weaves together a tapestry of movement, narrative, music and Haitian folklore to engage audiences in dialogue about critical questions of our time. Steeped in hip-hop aesthetic, this intimate duet between two preeminent sons of Haitian immigrants — composer/violinist Roumain, and arts activist & spoken word artist BAMUTHI —unveils their life stories in search of their identity and role models and explores universal themes of tolerance and inclusion.

Robert Dubac's The Book of Moron

March 17-20, 2020 | 7:30 PM

March 21 | 3:00 & 7:30 PM

March 22 | 2:00 & 6:00 PM

Nesbitt-Elliott Playhouse Theater | \$ 55

Robert Dubac's Off-Broadway hit has been described as one of the most "Hilarious" "Intelligent" and "Scorching" satirical attacks on idiocracy since Mark Twain. The *New York Times* raves, "Riding shotgun with intelligence and absurdity, THE BOOK OF MORON crashes head first into the barriers of sex, race, religion, politics and the media. It may be offensive to some but there's laughter for all!"

Mark & Maggie O' Connor

American Classics

Classical Music Inside Out

March 26, 2020 | 7:30 PM | Piper Theater | \$38-\$46

American Classics identifies the cornerstones of repertoire, style and wonderful diversity of New American School of String Playing. The program offers a broad and interconnecting collection of American music through violin/fiddle solos and duos, with additional music by Mr. O'Connor on guitar.

Fly Higher: Charlie Parker @ 100

Featuring Rudresh Mahanthappa, Terri Lyne Carrington, Charenée Wade, Adam O' Farrill, Kris Davis, Larry Grenadier And Kassa Overall

March 31, 2020 | 7:30 PM | Piper Theater | \$45

Charlie Parker's centennial year will be honored by showcasing "Bird's" musical joy, humor, and beauty mining his deep repertoire and showcasing new, modern compositions. Co-musical directors Rudresh Mahanthappa (alto saxophone) and Terri Lyne Carrington (drums) celebrate one of the most influential artists in modern musical history, joined by Charenée Wade (vocals), Adam O'Farrill (trumpet), Kris Davis (piano), Larry Grenadier (bass) and Kassa Overall (DJ).

Dorrance Dance

April 1, 2020 | 7:30 PM | Ikeda Theater | \$30-\$60

Dorrance Dance is an award-winning tap dance company based out of New York City. The company's work aims to honor tap dance's uniquely beautiful history in a new, dynamic, and compelling context; by pushing it - rhythmically, technically, and conceptually. The company's inaugural performance garnered a Bessie Award for "blasting open our notions of tap" and the company continues its passionate commitment to expanding the audience for tap dance.

Drum Tao 2020

April 4, 2020 | 8:00 PM | Ikeda Theater | \$ 19-\$39

More than 800 million spectators across the world have been touched by DRUM TAO. DRUM TAO's impact is created through phenomenal performances and expressions consisting of incomparable "Wadaiko- drums" and the beautiful melody of Japanese flutes and harps. It is the "Japanese Entertainment" for a new generation that completely surpasses expectations.

Wordplay Café Story Slam

April 4, 2020 | 7:30 PM | Piper Theater | \$ 15

The WordPlay Café open mic series culminates in an exciting stage show featuring storytellers, spoken word artists and musicians. Judged by professional storytellers and members of the audience, the Story Slam is a platform for celebrating one of humanity's oldest art forms, while also using competition as a way to challenge storytellers to take new risks.

Natasha Paremski, Piano

Classical Music Inside Out Series

April 9, 2020 | 7:30 PM | Piper Theater | \$38-\$46

With her consistently striking and dynamic performances, pianist Natasha Paremski reveals astounding virtuosity and voracious interpretive abilities. She continues to generate excitement from all corners of the world as she wins over audiences with her musical sensibility and powerful, flawless technique.

Jazzmeia Horn

April 21, 2020 | 7:30 PM | Piper Theater | \$36

Vocalist Jazzmeia Horn has a name that speaks for itself. Her debut album, *A Social Call*, earned Jazzmeia her first Grammy® Award nomination for Best Jazz Vocal Album. Her performance features great story-telling, an inspired message, fluid vocals, scat-singing, and spirited group performances, the album serves as a clarion call, proudly announcing the arrival of a young, confident musical talent with a bright future ahead of her.

END

About Mesa Arts Center

The Mesa Arts Center, owned and operated by the City of Mesa, is a unique, architecturally stunning facility located in the heart of downtown Mesa. Arizona's largest arts center is home to four theaters, five art galleries, and 14 art studios. Guests, patrons, and students come to Mesa Arts Center to enjoy the finest live entertainment and performances, world-class visual art exhibitions, and outstanding arts education classes. The Mesa Arts Center mission is to inspire people through engaging arts experiences that are diverse, accessible, and relevant. For more information, visit [mesaartscenter.com](https://www.mesaartscenter.com).

Editor's Note: High res images available immediately upon request.