



Park Avenue Armory Announces 2024 Season

Featuring Genre-Defying World and North American Premieres from Iconic Artists and Contemporary Trailblazers

- The highly anticipated New York City arrival of *Illinoise*, which reimagines Grammy-nominated multi-instrumentalist **Sufjan Stevens'** conceptual album *Illinois* as a touching coming-of-age dance-theater work staged by renowned Tony Award-winning director-choreographer **Justin Peck**, with a story by Peck and Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright **Jackie Sibblies Drury**
- A musical call to climate action, *Shall We Gather at the River* features performances of Bach cantatas intermingled with Black American spirituals that consider the power and sanctity of water, staged by the celebrated director **Peter Sellars** and performed by the **Oxford Bach Soloists** under the direction of **Tom Hammond-Davies**, counter-tenor **Reginald Mobley**, tenor **Nick Pritchard**, sheng player **Wu Tong**, and **The Choir of Trinity Wall Street**
- The North American premiere of *Inside Light*, which realizes electronic music from **Karlheinz Stockhausen's** monumental *Licht* opera cycle as a multidisciplinary performance within an all-encompassing, octophonic audio environment, as it was originally intended to be presented
- The North American premiere of *R.O.S.E.*, a celebratory homage to club culture by award-winning choreographer **Sharon Eyal**, innovative club scene creator **Gai Behar**, and **Caius Pawson** of multi-arts organization **Young**
- **Meredith Monk** returns to the Armory with the North American premiere of *Indra's Net*, in which the iconic artist expands the boundaries of music, performance, and installation through an immersive work affirming life's interconnectedness
- The world premiere of *Dear Lord, Make Me Beautiful*, a new commission from choreographer **Kyle Abraham**, featuring collaborations between a large ensemble of dancers from across the country, digital design by new media artist **Cao Yuxi (JAMES)**, and an Armory-commissioned score composed and performed live music by **yMusic**
- A wide-ranging curation of intimate performances in the Armory's historic period rooms as part of the ongoing **Recital Series** and **Jason Moran**-curated **Artists Studio** programs, featuring soprano **Jeanine De Bique**, playwright **Radha Blank**, soprano **Barbara Hannigan**, soprano **Leah Hawkins**, multidisciplinary artist **EJ Hill**, artist and musician **Jasper Marsalis**, jazz musician **Moor Mother**, tenor **Matthew Polenzani**, and tenor **Karim Sulayman**
- **Making Space at the Armory**, a series of talks, salons, performances, and symposia that will bring together artists, scholars, and cultural leaders to add new dimensions to the Armory's programming and explore greater social and artistic ideas and issues

New York, NY—November 16, 2023—Park Avenue Armory today announced its 2024 season, which will include exuberant performances created by groundbreaking choreographers, enveloping musical experiences, and highly anticipated world, North American, and New York premieres of boundary-pushing commissions. The 2024 season continues the Armory’s commitment to collaborate with leading artistic voices to craft innovative works that engage with the iconic architecture and soaring space of the Wade Thompson Drill Hall while pushing beyond traditional proscenium staging. The Armory’s historic period rooms will serve as intimate performance spaces for visionary artists across genres to showcase their range in the Recital Series and Artists Studio programs. These programs will be complemented by the Armory’s public programming series Making Space at the Armory, curated by Armory Curator of Public Programming, Tavia Nyong’o.

“This season’s Drill Hall programs will span genres and artistic practices while transporting audiences to imaginative worlds and dreamscapes,” said **Pierre Audi, the Marina Kellen French Artistic Director at Park Avenue Armory**. “From Justin Peck staging Sufjan Stevens’ music at a campsite in the American heartland, to a pulsating underground nightclub envisioned by dance innovators Sharon Eyal and Gai Behar, to a choral staging by the legendary Meredith Monk nestled between the celestial and earthly realms, these works of spatial music and movement powerfully reflect on the complexity of human connection.”

“True to the Armory’s mission, the 2024 season will introduce New York audiences to bold and unexpected experiences from legendary artistic voices and the new vanguard,” said **Rebecca Robertson, Adam R. Flatto Founding President and Executive Producer of Park Avenue Armory**. “Liberated from convention and the limitations of traditional performance and exhibition venues, the Armory’s Drill Hall offers this season’s artists an opportunity to pursue their boundary-breaking visions within a historic space.”

The Armory’s 2024 Wade Thompson Drill Hall programming will begin in March with *Illinois*, an adaptation of the Grammy- and Oscar-nominated **Sufjan Stevens** concept album *Illinois*, brought to life by Tony Award-winning director-choreographer **Justin Peck** in a genre-bursting theatrical experience rooted in dance, folk storytelling, and live music. *Illinois* is widely beloved for its delicate narratives, lush orchestrations, and wildly inventive portrayals of the state and its people. In its New York City premiere, Peck reimagines the album as an enchanting and jubilant music-theater production with a cast of dancers, singers, and musicians, featuring expansive new arrangements by composer and pianist **Timo Andres** ranging in style from folk and indie rock to ambient electronics to joyous marching bands. Peck, alongside Pulitzer Prize-winner **Jackie Sibblies Drury**, crafts a touching coming-of-age story that will lead Drill Hall audiences on a journey from the American countryside to the urban streets of New York City, the edges of the cosmos, and beyond.

Celebrated director **Peter Sellars** returns to the Armory with *Shall We Gather at the River*, a one-night-only musical engagement and call to action for the climate crisis. The performance will speak to the power of water and its spiritual dimensions, reflected both in the over-400-year tradition of Black American spirituals, with songs of resistance and renewal such as “Wade in the Water” and “Deep River,” and Bach’s cantatas, whose sacred texts evoke images of water in drought and full flood. **The Oxford Bach Soloists** and **The Choir of Trinity Wall Street**, under the music direction of **Tom Hammond-Davies**, are joined by countertenor **Reginald Mobley** and tenor **Nick Pritchard** to perform a program merging these two musical sources, staged by Sellars in an act of mobilization and restorative beauty in the face of climate change. *Shall We Gather at the River* is co-presented with the Asia Society as part of their forthcoming series COAL + ICE: Inspiring Climate Action Through Art and Ideas, which calls on the U.S. and China to collaborate more actively on the climate change challenge.

Electronic music from **Karlheinz Stockhausen’s** magnum opus, the opera cycle *Licht*, is performed in an octophonic setting as it was originally intended by one of his original collaborators, sound projectionist and

Director of the Stockhausen Foundation for Music, **Kathinka Pasveer**, in the North American premiere of *Inside Light*. Rarely performed due to its length and complex configurations, Stockhausen's original seven-opera, 29-hour epic pioneered the use of electronics in art music and went on to inspire Björk, Aphex Twin, Miles Davis, and Animal Collective. Pasveer will perform five electronic compositions from the cycle across two separate nights, with two rare marathon stagings of all five parts over nearly seven hours. Conceived specifically for the Armory by Marina Kellen French Artistic Director Pierre Audi, the all-encompassing environment designed by Urs Schönebaum will feature transformative lighting and lasers as well as high-definition video projection by Robi Voigt. *Inside Light* will fully realize these works in a relaxed, imaginative setting which includes seating set up around the Drill Hall floor, where audiences are encouraged to move around freely, true to Stockhausen's original vision for these octophonic works.

Award-winning choreographer **Sharon Eyal** partners with imaginative innovator in the club scene **Gai Behar** and **Caius Pawson** of multi-arts organization **Young** in the North American premiere of a subversive new Armory co-commission, *R.O.S.E.* Dissolving the boundaries between dancer, musician, and audience member, *R.O.S.E.* celebrates the freedom and energy of club culture that Eyal continues to draw inspiration from in her work. Originally premiering at Manchester International Festival, *R.O.S.E.* reconfigures conventional notions of dance performance and will transform the Drill Hall into a fully operating club, in which performers and audiences will intermingle and together create an exhilarating and surprising synthesis of contemporary dance performance, electronic music, and the club culture experience.

In the North American premiere of *Indra's Net*, renowned composer and performer **Meredith Monk** weaves together new modes of perception to expand the boundaries of music, performance, and installation. Returning to the Armory after more than a decade, Monk creates an immersive work inspired by an ancient Buddhist and Hindu legend in which an enlightened king, Indra, stretches a large net across the universe, with an infinitely faceted jewel placed at each intersection. Each jewel is unique yet reflects all the others, illuminating the interdependence of all living things. Interweaving sound, movement, architecture, and video, Monk and her renowned **Vocal Ensemble** are joined by a 16-piece chamber orchestra and an eight-member chorus in a work that embodies celestial, earthly, and human realms, affirming life and a sense of connection to each other and all living things in our contemporary world.

The 2024 season will conclude with the world premiere of *Dear Lord, Make Me Beautiful*, a Park Avenue Armory commission from MacArthur Fellow and star choreographer **Kyle Abraham** who will create a layered new work that explores the growing sensitivities of life and transition, and the delicate interplay of nature and humanity amidst contemporary chaos. The company will include a large ensemble of dancers from across the country, many of whom are previous collaborators of Abraham's, alongside Abraham himself. In partnership with digital projection artist **Cao Yuxi (JAMES)** and an Armory-commissioned score composed and performed live by the critically acclaimed new music ensemble **yMusic**, *Dear Lord, Make Me Beautiful* will explore the possibilities of empathy from the perspective of one of our generation's most influential voices in dance.

Throughout the year, the Armory will present intimate performances, lectures, artist talks, and educational programs in its inspiring period rooms. The Board of Officers Room provides a home for classical and contemporary concerts through the Armory's **Recital Series** with performances by award-winning soprano **Jeanine De Bique** with pianist **Warren Jones**, tenor and Met Opera mainstay **Matthew Polenzani** with pianist **Ken Noda**, soprano **Leah Hawkins** (who returns to the Armory after dazzling audiences in the Lindemann Young Artists Series) with pianist **Kevin Miller**, Grammy Award-winning tenor **Karim Sulayman** with **Sean Shibe** on guitar, and soprano **Barbara Hannigan** (returning to the Armory after multiple lauded Recital Series appearances) with pianist **Bertrand Chamayou**.

The resplendent Veterans Room will continue to host the **Artists Studio**, curated by MacArthur Genius, Grammy-nominated jazz pianist **Jason Moran**. The 2024 Season of Artists Studio offers a multidisciplinary slate of programs that include free form jazz, acoustic music performances, and an intimate dramaturgical reading. Programs will feature multi-hyphenate performing and visual artist **EJ Hill**, poet and musician **Moor Mother**, innovative musical and visual artist **Jasper Marsalis**, and Sundance Film Festival Award-winning director and playwright **Radha Blank**.

The Armory will also present **Making Space at the Armory**, its public programming series of talks, salons, symposia, performances, and other programming that sparks conversation on contemporary issues with today's leading artists, activists, cultural leaders, scholars, and audiences. For its third season, Armory Curator of Public Programming Tavia Nyong'o will plan the series, bringing together thought leaders at the Armory for programs including a new musical work from interdisciplinary artist **Robert Kennedy** that will culminate a Radical Practice of Black Curation symposium in partnership with Princeton University; a symposium led by playwright and essayist **Claudia Rankine** on the poetics of disagreement with cultural historian **Saidiya Hartman** and postcolonial theorist **Homi K. Bhabha**; a salon considering nightlife as an art form presented in conjunction with *R.O.S.E.*; a 12-hour composition and installation by singer and performance artist **Dorian Wood** that emphasizes the urgency of folk music as a vessel for social change; and additional events curated in dialogue with the Armory's Drill Hall programs, including *Illinoise*, *Inside Light*, *Indra's Net*, and *Dear Lord, Make Me Beautiful*.

Single tickets and subscriptions for the 2024 season are on sale at armoryonpark.org / (212) 933-5812.

See pages 4-15 for additional ticketing information.

**PARK AVENUE ARMORY
2024 SEASON
WADE THOMPSON DRILL HALL PROGRAMS**

**New York City Premiere, A Park Avenue Armory Co-Commission
ILLINOISE**

March 2 – 23, 2024

Sufjan Stevens
Justin Peck
Jackie Sibblies Drury

With inclusion on several reviewer’s “best of the decade” lists including those of *Paste*, NPR, and *Rolling Stone*, Sufjan Stevens’ acclaimed 2005 concept album *Illinois* enjoys cult status for its lush orchestrations and wildly inventive portrayal of the state’s people, landscapes, and history, complete with UFOs, zombies, and predatory wasps. This musically ambitious work, which weaves together cinematic orchestral anthems, jazz riffs, and other musical influences to explore wide-ranging narratives about blossoming queerness and self-exploration is expanded upon through a mix of live music and impressionistic choreography to revisit the beloved album’s themes of self-discovery.

Tony Award-winner Justin Peck (*Carousel* on Broadway, Steven Spielberg’s *West Side Story*, New York City Ballet) embraces the album in an ecstatic pageant of storytelling, theater, dance, and live music with a cast of virtuosic dancers, singers, and musicians with a narrative crafted with Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Jackie Sibblies Drury (*Fairview*, *Marys Seacole*). Featuring new arrangements of the entire album by composer and pianist Timo Andres for a live band and three voices, ranging in style from DIY folk and indie rock to marching band and ambient electronics, this bold, new music-theater production leads audiences on a mighty journey through the American heartland, from campfire storytelling to the edges of the cosmos.

New York City Premiere

Music and Lyrics **Sufjan Stevens** (based on the album *Illinois*)
Story **Justin Peck** and **Jackie Sibblies Drury**
Direction and Choreography **Justin Peck**
Music Direction and Supervision **Nathan Koci**
Music Arrangements and Orchestrations **Timo Andres**
Scenic Design **Adam Rigg**
Lighting Design **Brandon Stirling Baker**
Sound Design **Garth MacAleavey**
Costume Design **Reid Bartelme** and **Harriet Jung**
Props Design **Andrew Diaz**
Masks **Julian Crouch**

Co-commissioned by Park Avenue Armory, Fisher Center at Bard, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Perelman Performing Arts Center (PAC NYC), Southbank Center, and TO Live, and produced in association with Arktype / Thomas O. Kriegsmann by special arrangement with the Perelman Performing Arts Center (PAC NYC)

Originally commissioned, developed, produced, and premiered at the Fisher Center at Bard

PERFORMANCES

Monday – Thursday at 7:30pm
Friday at 8:00pm
Saturday at 2:00pm and 8:00pm

TICKETS start at \$35 (previews) and \$45 (Performances)

ARTIST TALK: ILLINOISE

Thursday, March 14 at 6:00pm

Tickets: \$25

World Premiere, Co-Presented with the Asia Society

SHALL WE GATHER AT THE RIVER

May 21, 2024

Reginald Mobley

Nick Pritchard

Wu Tong

Oxford Bach Soloists

Tom Hammond-Davies

Peter Sellars

For more than 400 years, the Black American spiritual tradition has moved over, across, and through the waters—waters of life force, passage, cleansing, resistance, and renewal—depicted in such songs and verses as “Wade in the Water,” “Deep River,” “Crossing Jordan,” and “By the Waters of Babylon.” The power of water and its spiritual dimensions equally resonates in the poetic, sacred texts of Bach’s cantatas, speaking to every drop of water in drought and in full flood.

These two musical sources will merge in an act of awakening, mobilization, and restorative beauty in the face of climate change. The Oxford Bach Soloists and The Choir of Trinity Wall Street under the music direction of Tom Hammond-Davies are joined by countertenor Reginald Mobley, tenor Nick Pritchard, and sheng player Wu Tong to perform a selection of Bach’s cantatas intermingled with spirituals in a staging by the celebrated director Peter Sellars.

Shall We Gather at the River is co-presented with the Asia Society as part of COAL + ICE: Inspiring Climate Action through Art and Ideas.

Co-Presented with the Asia Society

World Premiere

Countertenor **Reginald Mobley**

Tenor **Nick Pritchard**

Oxford Bach Soloists

The Choir of Trinity Wall Street

Conductor **Tom Hammond-Davies**

Director **Peter Sellars**

Sound Design **Mark Grey**

PERFORMANCES

Tuesday at 7:30pm

TICKETS: \$65

North American Premiere

INSIDE LIGHT

Electronic Masterpieces from the Opera Opus LICHT

June 5 – 15, 2024

Karlheinz Stockhausen

One of the most experimental and progressive composers of the 20th-century, Karlheinz Stockhausen redefined notions of what types of sound could be deemed acceptable and took a pioneering approach with his use of electronics in art music. His magnum opus *Licht*—a seven opera cycle, with each opera representing a day of the week—is an epic 29-hour work for vocal, instrumental, and electronic forces that is rarely performed given its length and the different configurations of musicians and spaces needed.

Several electronic compositions from this opus, performed by one of his original collaborators Kathinka Pasveer, are performed as separate parts or in a full marathon with transformative lighting and video projections to fully immerse the audience in the all-encompassing, octophonic sound and surroundings. The vastness of the Wade Thompson Drill Hall will fully realize these works that Stockhausen so boldly envisioned in their highly anticipated North American premieres.

North American Premiere

Composer **Karlheinz Stockhausen**

Sound Projection **Kathinka Pasveer**

Spatial and Lighting Design **Urs Schönebaum**

Video Design **Robi Voigt**

Sound Engineer **Reinhard Klose**

Original Concept **Pierre Audi**

Park 1: All-Stockhausen Program

Montags-Gruss

Unsichtbare Chöre from Donnerstag

Mittwochs-Gruss

Part 2: All-Stockhausen Program

Freitags-Gruss

Freitags-Abschied

PERFORMANCES

Individual Parts

Wednesday – Thursday at 7:00pm

Full Marathon

Saturday at 4:00pm (Part 1) and 7:30pm (Part 2)

Seating will be on cushions and backjacks directly on the floor. Participants can move freely throughout the space.

TICKETS

\$50 for individual parts and \$75 for full marathon

ARTIST TALK: INSIDE LIGHT

Sunday, June 9 at 6:00pm

Tickets: \$25

**North American Premiere, A Park Avenue Armory Commission
R.O.S.E.**

September 5 – 12, 2024

Sharon Eyal
Gai Behar
Caius Pawson of Young

Dissolving boundaries between stage, dance floor, dancer, musician, and spectator to subvert conventional notions of experiencing dance, this Armory commission celebrates the freedom, energy, and intimacy that run through the best of club culture and modern dance.

Award-winning choreographer Sharon Eyal is known around the world for her intoxicating and boundary-blurring choreography. Along with her creative partner Gai Behar, an imaginative innovator in the underground club scene, the pair create captivating performances bristling with dark hedonism, futuristic androgyny, hypnotic repetition, and awesome muscular control. They are joined by Caius Pawson of London-based multi-arts organization Young for this scintillating synthesis of contemporary dance, electronic music, and nightlife.

Commissioned by Park Avenue Armory, Factory International, and Sadler's Wells

North American Premiere

Choreography **Sharon Eyal**

Co-Director **Gai Behar**

Co-Director **Caius Pawson, Young**

Musical Curation **Mattis With, Young**

PERFORMANCES

Performance dates to be announced

North American Premiere

INDRA'S NET

September 23 – October 1, 2024

Meredith Monk

One of the most unique and influential artists of our time, Meredith Monk is a composer, singer, director, choreographer, filmmaker, and creator who has devoted her life to exploring the potential of the human voice. A pioneer of extended vocal technique and interdisciplinary art, she weaves together new modes of perception to expand the boundaries of music, performance, and installation. This living legend returns to the Armory with her latest creation, an immersive work that is part performance, part installation, inspired by Indra's Net, a parable that illustrates life's interconnectedness.

In the ancient Buddhist/Hindu legend, an enlightened king, Indra, stretches a large net across the universe with an infinitely faceted jewel placed at each intersection. Each jewel is unique yet reflects all the others, illuminating the interdependence of all living things. Following an initial concert performance of the work at Mills College in 2021, this monumental creation receives a full production in its highly anticipated North American premiere. Monk, together with members of her extraordinary Vocal Ensemble, a sixteen-piece chamber orchestra, and an additional eight-member chorus, offers an interplay of music, movement, and architecture to embody celestial, earthly, and human realms through sound, video, and performance. *Indra's Net* serves as a beacon to affirm life and a sense of connection to each other and all living things in our contemporary world.

North American Premiere

Conception, Direction, Composition **Meredith Monk**

Costume and Scenic Design **Yoshio Yabara**

Lighting Design **Joe Levasseur**

Sound Design **Daniel Neumann**

Video Scenarios/Direction **Meredith Monk**

Cinematography **Ben Stechschulte**

Projection Design **Jorge Morales Picó**

Music Direction/Score Preparation **Allison Sniffin**

Orchestration **Allison Sniffin/Meredith Monk**

PERFORMANCES

Monday – Wednesday at 7:30pm

Friday – Saturday at 8:00pm

Sunday at 3:00pm

TICKETS start at \$45

ARTIST TALK: INDRA'S NET

Sunday, September 29 at 5:30pm

Tickets: \$25

World Premiere, A Park Avenue Armory Commission

DEAR LORD, MAKE ME BEAUTIFUL

December 3 – 14, 2024

Kyle Abraham

In addition to performing and developing new works for his company A.I.M by Kyle Abraham, the bold creator has been commissioned by a variety of dance companies including New York City Ballet, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Paul Taylor American Modern Dance, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, The Royal Ballet, and The National Ballet of Cuba. He unleashes his signature style—a unique blend of modern dance techniques ranging from ballet to hip hop—in the world premiere of a new evening-length work.

Featuring a large ensemble of dancers from across the country, many of whom are previous collaborators of Abraham's, plus Abraham himself, this Armory commission includes an innovative visual design created by Cao Yuxi (JAMES) to explore the growing sensitivities of life and transition, and nature and humanity, in our chaotic world. The resulting choreography employs layers of counterpoint to find intimacy and evoke ideas of empathy and constant change, fueling an evocative new dance work that migrates through the fragility of time and an ever-changing ecology.

A Park Avenue Armory Commission

World Premiere

Director and Choreographer **Kyle Abraham**

Composer **yMusic**

Visual Designer **Cao Yuxi (James)**

Lighting Designer **Dan Scully**

Costume Designer **Karen Young**

Sound Designer **Sam Crawford**

PERFORMANCES

Monday – Thursday at 7:30pm

Friday – Saturday at 8:00pm (2:00pm and 8:00pm on December 14)

TICKETS start at \$45

ARTIST TALK: DEAR LORD, MAKE ME BEAUTIFUL

Monday, December 9 at 6:00pm

Tickets: \$25

RECITAL SERIES

Presented in the glorious architecture of the Board of Officers Room, the acclaimed Recital Series showcases musicians performing a range of classical and contemporary works.

Jeanine De Bique, soprano

Warren Jones, piano

Trinidadian soprano Jeanine De Bique has gained international recognition for her dramatic presence, artistic versatility, and endless wealth of color and nuance. One of today's most sought-after sopranos on the opera, festival, and concert stage, she has dazzled European audiences at the Opéra National de Paris, Dutch National Opera, Salzburg Festival, and Festival d'Aix-en-Provence. She makes a rare New York appearance with a global program of French melodies, American art songs, and folk songs from the Caribbean.

Program to include works by Hahn, Burleigh, Britten, and Caribbean folk songs

Monday, February 12 at 7:30pm

Wednesday, February 14 at 7:30pm

Tickets: \$75

Matthew Polenzani, tenor

Ken Noda, piano

American Matthew Polenzani is one of the most gifted and distinguished lyric tenors of his generation. His elegant musicianship, innate sense of style, and dramatic commitment find him at the largest and most prestigious operatic, concert, and recital venues in the world. He comes to the Armory with a program of lieder and art songs that offer audiences the chance to get to know the beauty of his sound, the musicality of his legato, the suppleness of his phrasing, and the clarity of his diction in one of the only spaces that could provide such a personal encounter—the Board of Officers Room.

Program to include works by Schubert, Finzi, Schumann, and Ives

Monday, May 20 at 7:30pm

Wednesday, May 22 at 7:30pm

Tickets: \$85

Leah Hawkins, soprano

Kevin Miller, piano

Having first dazzled Armory audiences with her participation in the Lindemann Young Artist recital in 2019, soprano Leah Hawkins has gone on to perform career defining roles on some of the world's leading opera

stages including the Metropolitan Opera, Santa Fe Opera, Dutch National Opera, and Opéra National de Paris. She returns to the Armory recital stage to showcase her global journey with a collection of folk songs and proverbs from various cultural and religious traditions, from American and Yiddish to Jamaican, Swahili, and others. The program features works by composers and arrangers including Jasmine Barnes, Peter Ashbourne, Robert De Cormier, and a thrilling world premiere.

Program to include works by Jasmine Barnes, Peter Ashbourne, De Cormier

Friday, September 13 at 8:00pm
Sunday, September 15 at 3:00pm
Tickets: \$65

Karim Sulayman, tenor

Sean Shibe, guitar

Garnering international attention as a sophisticated and versatile artist, Lebanese-American tenor Karim Sulayman is consistently praised for his sensitive and intelligent musicianship, riveting stage presence, and beautiful voice while regularly performing on the world's greatest stages. The Grammy Award winner has also earned acclaim for his inventive programming, which is on full display in a varied program of works examining the relationship of East and West performed with guitarist Sean Shibe. Featuring wide ranging works from Monteverdi, Britten, and Purcell to Takemitsu, Layale Chaker, and traditional Sephardic songs, this intimate recital inspects the artists own ethnic identities through song that at once was seen to exotify but through playful juxtaposition subverts that narrative into one of celebration.

Program to include works by Monteverdi, Britten, Purcell, Dowland, Takemitsu, Layale Chaker, Rodrigo

Tuesday, October 8 at 7:30pm
Thursday, October 10 at 7:30pm
Tickets: \$75

Barbara Hannigan, soprano

Bertrand Chamayou, piano

Soprano and conductor Barbara Hannigan is no stranger to captivating Armory audiences and critics alike, making her U.S. recital debut in 2017 with a residency looking at the legacy of the Second Viennese School and the works of trailblazer Erik Satie, and returning in 2019 with artfully curated programs including the New York premiere of John Zorn's *Jumalattaret* and Schoenberg's String Quartet No.2 performed with the Emerson String Quartet. The Canadian musician makes her highly anticipated return to the Board of Officers Room with another dazzling program that beautifully spotlights her standing at the forefront of creation, embodying music with an unparalleled dramatic sensibility and adding a kind of virtuosity and artistry that contemporary music has rarely seen before.

Program to include works by Scriabin and Messiaen

Thursday, December 12 at 7:30pm
Tickets: \$95

ARTISTS STUDIO

Designed by Louis C. Tiffany & Co., Associated Artists, the Veterans Room is a monument to the American Aesthetic Movement and represents the innovation of exceptional young artisans approaching the decorative arts with a bold new vision. This season, the Artists Studio series takes inspiration from the inventive spirit and collaboration present at the room's inception with interventions by some of today's most creative voices who have a distinct relationship to sound with a visual aesthetic. Curated by jazz pianist, composer, and MacArthur fellow Jason Moran, these performances invite these imaginative innovators to explore exciting new directions in their practice.

Jasper Marsalis

Jasper Marsalis is an artist and musician who explores the intersections of popular music and avant-garde performance by working across painting, sculpture, sound, and text. The son of jazz impresario Wynton Marsalis, the multifaceted artist has made a name for himself in his own right with releases under his own name and the moniker Slauson Malone 1 that are deeply ambitious, eccentrically engaging, and play with myriad genres and styles. He comes to the Armory to perform a set inspired by the Veterans Room, layering dissonant sounds on top of one another to create a dense and dizzying suite of sonic collages that invite close listening.

Wednesday, March 27 at 7:30pm

Thursday, March 28 at 7:30pm

Tickets: \$45

Moor Mother and Irreversible Entanglements (IE)

Camae Ayewa, better known by her stage name Moor Mother, is an American poet, musician, and activist who focuses on the recovery and preservation of communal memories and histories that are often missing from mainstream narratives, as a way to honor the present and its historic connections to a multitude of past realities and future outcomes. Having spent years organizing and performing in Philadelphia's underground music community, she has gone on to tour nationally and internationally to develop a career spent in close proximity to jazz, rap, and experimental music.

She comes to the Veterans Room with two distinct programs that spotlight her work as a solo artist and her collaborations with other musicians who share her drive to dig up the untold. Following a solo set of fringe and avant-garde sonic landscapes rooted in industrial, electronic, noise, punk and hip-hop, she is joined by **Irreversible Entanglements (IE)**, a free-jazz quintet with an experimental punk mentality that plays deeply improvised, rhythm music full of love and social commitment.

Saturday, May 18 at 7:00pm (Moor Mother set)

Saturday, May 18 at 9:00pm (Irreversible Entanglements set)

Tickets: \$45

EJ Hill: Anthems for the Resolute When the Sky is Empty

Through a practice that includes writing, music, painting, and sculpture, **EJ Hill** tells untold stories and provides visibility for those who have been historically ignored, focusing on everyday experiences that intermingle public struggle, endurance, trauma, joy, and resilience. His work interrogates how society's deeply held prejudices and inequalities continue to position Black, brown, and queer bodies as targets of violence. The performance artist comes to the Veterans Room with a team of his primary collaborators to create an evening of song, storytelling, and sonic exploration. Collectively, they weave together their individual influences and practices to offer musical constellations which sprawl between disaster and desire.

with Frey Austin, Carson Childs, Quincie Mychelle Lewis, and Alexander Margarite
Friday, September 20 at 8:00pm
Saturday, September 21 at 8:00pm
Tickets: \$45

Radha Blank

Playwright, director, producer, and actress **Radha Blank** is a born and raised New Yorker, harnessing the city's living history and culture—the immigrant communities, ethnic groups, working-class folks, and struggling artists—to inspire her work as a storyteller and an artist. With writing credits that include her play *SEED* and popular TV series *She's Gotta Have It*, *Empire*, and *The Get Down*, Blank also won the directing award at the Sundance Film Festival for her semi-autobiographical feature film *The 40-Year-Old Version*, which was named one of 2020's top films by *The New Yorker* and both *New York Times* critics. She continues the artistic throughline of that project and its lead character, which vacillated between the worlds of hip-hop and theater to find her true voice, with a new mixtape performed live in the Veterans Room.

Monday, November 18 at 7:30pm
Tuesday, November 19 at 7:30pm
Tickets: \$45

MAKING SPACE AT THE ARMORY

Held in the Armory's historic period rooms and spaces, this insightful series of cutting-edge conversations, performances, and installations provide a unique forum for bridging art and culture. These happenings—curated by professor and scholar **Tavia Nyong'o**—make space for new points of view and unique perspectives from a diverse array of artists, scholars, cultural leaders, and social trailblazers.

Richard Kennedy: Guttural (Conducted Contact)

The Radical Practice of Black Curation symposium, a two-day gathering held at Princeton University and Park Avenue Armory, assembles a wide-ranging group of curators and art professionals of color—including Thelma Golden (The Studio Museum in Harlem), Adrienne Edwards (Whitney Museum of American Art), and Bonaventure Soh Bejeng Ndikung (Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin)—to engage the past, present, and future of Black curation in the contemporary art world.

The past two decades have witnessed the success of a wide range of Black artists, whose work has been celebrated through their recognition by prestigious awards, at influential festivals, and through exhibitions and acquisitions at leading art institutions across the globe. But these successes have been enabled by a parallel development within art institutions themselves: the ascent of a visionary group of Black curators and curators of color who have supplanted the role of traditional curatorial gatekeepers and expanded the capacity of arts institutions to recognize the work of an increasingly diverse group of artists.

As a capstone of this event, multidisciplinary artist Richard Kennedy presents a musical encapsulation of the African diaspora in the Armory's historic rooms. Titled *Guttural (Conducted Contact)*, this new work opens a portal of participatory gathering as truth emerges through song, dance, and a series of wordless conversations.

Friday, April 12 at 8:00pm
Tickets: \$45

Antagonisms: A Gathering

How do we process conflicts and friction amongst close allies? And in discussion and debate, are antagonism and disagreement crucial to creating revolutionary transformation? These questions serve as the starting point for this gathering of artists, performers, scholars, and theorists in an evocative examination of the poetics of disagreement.

Led by playwright and essayist Claudia Rankine, this symposium is punctuated with performances, panels, investigations of group dynamics, as well as imagined conversations between revolutionary thinkers. Participants include renowned postcolonial theorist Homi Bhabha, acclaimed cultural historian Saidiya Hartman, and Guggenheim fellow and choreographer Shamel Pitts.

Saturday, June 1 from 1:00pm-7:00pm

Tickets: \$35

Day for Night: A Salon on Art and Nightlife

While many see clubbing as a murky night out in a sweaty nightclub, an abandoned warehouse, or at an open-air rave with no connection to more wholesome things that happen during the day, club culture has long been an important incubator of cultural movements and continues to provide spaces for connection, creativity, and personal expression.

This afternoon salon brings together scholars, writers, artists, and nightlife makers to enlighten nightlife as an art form, and discover the ways social and performative dance have intertwined in recent years.

Presented in conjunction with R.O.S.E., the Armory's new commission by Sharon Eyal, Gai Behar, and Caius Pawson of Young that sits at the intersection of arts and nightlife.

Sunday, September 8 from 3:00pm-6:00pm

Tickets: \$35

Canto de Todes / Song for All

Singer and performance artist Dorian Wood exhibits a 12-hour composition and installation inspired by a lyric written by the late Chilean singer and songwriter Violeta Parra. Combining both live performances with a chamber quartet and pre-recorded movements, the durational work mixes a genre-defying canon of folk, pop, and experimental music of Central and Latin America. Developed in harmony with the Armory's historic period rooms and specifically the craftspeople that constructed the building at its inception, this Armory commission spotlights timely issues of migration and emphasizes the urgency of folk music as a vessel for social change.

The day will be punctuated by concurrent readings, screenings, conversations, and collaborations curated by film scholar Michael Gillespie and the Tierra Narrative poetry collective.

Presented in collaboration with the Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present

Saturday, October 19 from 11:00am-11:00pm

Tickets: \$35

SPONSORSHIP

Citi and Bloomberg Philanthropies are the Armory's 2024 Season Sponsor.

Support for Park Avenue Armory's artistic season has been generously provided by the Thompson Family Foundation, Charina Endowment Fund, the Donald A. Pels Charitable Trust, The Shubert Foundation, the Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust, the Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, the Howard Gilman Foundation, Wescustogo Foundation, the Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, the Marc Haas Foundation, the Harkness Foundation for Dance, the Leon Levy Foundation, the May and Samuel Rudin Family Foundation, the Reed Foundation, Gregory Annenberg Weingarten, GRoW @ Annenberg, The Emma and Georgina Bloomberg Foundation, the Richenthal Foundation, and the Isak and Rose Weinman Foundation. Additional support has been provided by the Armory's Artistic Council. Public support is provided by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature as well as the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council.

ABOUT PARK AVENUE ARMORY

Part palace, part industrial shed, Park Avenue Armory supports unconventional works in the performing and visual arts that cannot be fully realized in a traditional proscenium theater, concert hall, or white wall gallery. With its soaring 55,000-square-foot Wade Thompson Drill Hall—reminiscent of 19th-century European train stations—and an array of exuberant period rooms, the Armory provides a platform for artists to push the boundaries of their practice, collaborate across disciplines, and create new work in dialogue with the historic building. Across its grand and intimate spaces, the Armory enables a diverse range of artists to create, students to explore, and audiences to experience epic, adventurous, relevant work that cannot be done elsewhere in New York.

The Armory both commissions and presents performances and installations in the grand Drill Hall and offers more intimate programming through its acclaimed *Recital Series*, which showcases musical talent from across the globe within the salon setting of the Board of Officers Room; its *Artists Studio* series curated by Jason Moran in the restored Veterans Room; *Making Space at the Armory*, a public programming series that brings together a discipline-spanning group of artists and cultural thought-leaders around the important issues of our time; and the *Malkin Lecture Series* that features presentations by scholars and writers on topics related to Park Avenue Armory and its history. In addition, the Armory also has a year-round Artists-in-Residence program, providing space and support for artists to create new work and expand their practices.

The Armory's creativity-based arts education programs provide access to the arts to thousands of students from underserved New York City public schools, engaging them with the institution's artistic programming and outside-the-box creative processes. Through its education initiatives, the Armory provides access to all Drill Hall performances, workshops taught by Master Teaching Artists, and in-depth residencies that support the schools' curriculum. Youth Corps, the Armory's year-round paid internship program, begins in high school and continues into the critical post-high school years, providing interns with mentored employment, job training, and skill development, as well as a network of peers and mentors to support their individual college and career goals.

The Armory is undergoing a multi-phase renovation and restoration of its historic building led by architects Herzog & de Meuron, with Platt Byard Dovell White as Executive Architects.

www.armoryonpark.org

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