

77TH SEASON OF

# CONCERTS

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART | MAY 12, 2019



# PROGRAM

## **The Canales Project**

**Carla Dirlikov Canales, vocalist**

**Elizabeth Stanley, vocalist**

**Celisse Henderson, vocalist**

**Anja Wood, cello**

**Paula Green, percussion**

**Kurt Crowley, pianist and conductor**

*Hear Her Voice, Part II: A Mother's Day Celebration*

**May 12, 2019 | 3:30**

**West Building, West Garden Court**

The program is subject to change.

Song List with Honorees (not in program order):

“Happiest Girl in the World”—for Malala

Music and lyrics by Sheila Atim

“The Gardener”—for Sakena Yakoobi

Music and lyrics by Sara Colman

“Just a Little”—for Janet Salazar

Music by Bella Barlow, lyrics by A. C. Smith

“Colette, You Need to Motor”—for Dame Colette Bowe

Music and lyrics by Susannah Pearse

“Grateful”—for Shivika Sinha

Music by Rosabella Gregory, lyrics by Dina Soraya Gregory and Rosabella Gregory

“Legend of the Phoenix”—for Ruth Davis

Music and lyrics by Sheila Atim

“Santa Rosa Sunset”—for Elissa Fisher Harris

Music and lyrics by Zara Nunn

“Kakenya’s Dream”—for Kakenya Ntaiya

Music by Sarah Llewellyn, lyrics by Gaynor Winstanley

“The Choice That I Made”—for Queen Mother Blakely

Music and lyrics by Kate Marlais

“Yours Is Ours”—for Gloria Steinem

Music and lyrics by Gwyneth Herbert

“Freedom”—for Moriku

Music and lyrics by AL Riordan

“Aget”—for Aget

Music and lyrics by Sophia Lanuza

“Perfect Recipe”—for Mary

Music and lyrics by Jenni Rudolph

“For Our Daughters”—for Shanas

Music and lyrics by Maria Landi

“Hear My Song”—for Rebecca

Music and lyrics by Dom Jones

# THE MUSICIANS

## **The Canales Project**

The Canales Project (TCP) is a not-for-profit organization created to activate the arts as a tool for social change and impact. Founded by the internationally acclaimed mezzo-soprano Carla Dirlikov Canales, TCP seeks new solutions to the challenges facing society by recruiting an “army of compassion,” a collection of artists, each having his or her own story about living “between two worlds” and of dealing with the tensions of different cultural environments. Many of TCP’s programming initiatives are enacted through collaborations with partner organizations, including Carnegie Hall’s Weill Music Institute, TEDxMidAtlantic, and YoungArts. In addition, the organization has spearheaded several arts educational initiatives, including “Finding Your Voice” with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Tucson and V-Pals, an educational initiative of TCP.

## **Carla Dirlikov Canales**

Carla Dirlikov Canales is an internationally known opera singer who is emerging as a leader in the area of using the arts to advance important social issues. She is a member of the President’s Committee on the Arts and Humanities Turnaround Arts Program, was selected by *Foreign Policy Magazine* as one of its 100 Leading Global Thinkers of 2015, and won the Medal of Excellence from the Sphinx Organization, an honor bestowed upon her by Justice Sotomayor at the United States Supreme Court. In each case, she was the first opera singer to receive these honors. This year she was named one of Musical America’s 30 Top Movers and Shapers. As a singer, she has received worldwide acclaim and is best known for her portrayals of Bizet’s *Carmen*, which she has performed more than eighty times in a dozen countries. She has performed as a soloist at Lincoln Center, the Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall, and top international venues in Europe, Asia, and Latin America. She is the founder and CEO of The Canales Project, aimed at giving voice to issues of identity and culture through music and conversation.

## **Elizabeth Stanley**

Elizabeth Stanley is happy to be back in New York City after a year leading the national tour as Francesca in *The Bridges of Madison County*. On Broadway, she was last seen as the man-crazed anthropologist, Claire De Loone, in the revival of *On the Town* (Drama Desk Award nomination). She made her Broadway debut as April, the flight attendant, in the 2007 Tony Award-winning revival of Stephen Sondheim’s *Company*. Her other roles that originated on Broadway include: Allison in John Water’s *Cry-Baby* and Dyanne in *Million Dollar Quartet*. In addition to a national and Japanese tour in *Xanadu* as Kira, Stanley has performed Off-Broadway as Gussie Carnegie in *Merrily We Roll Along* (Encores!) and the Nurse in *Hello, Again* (Transport Theatre Group); on

television in *The Get Down*, *The Affair*, *Black Box*, *Made in Jersey*, *Fringe*, *The Chappelle Show*, *All My Children*, *The Today Show*, *Jimmy Fallon*, the *TONY Awards*, and *PBS Great Performances*; and in numerous leading roles with Sundance Theatre Lab, Sacramento Music Circus, Philadelphia Theatre Company, Pittsburgh CLO, Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, La Jolla Playhouse, and more. She has been a concert soloist with symphonies throughout the United States and loves performing her cabaret compositions. A Midwestern native, she is a graduate of the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music.

## **Celisse Henderson**

Celisse Henderson is a singer, songwriter, multi-instrumentalist performer, and spoken-word artist. Her deep and varied career has seen her onstage, from the recent revival of *Godspell* at Circle in the Square Theater, to Bridget Everett’s *Rock Bottom* at Joe’s Pub at The Public; on television, in PBS’s *The Electric Company*, *30 Rock*, *Rescue Me*, and more; and in concert, at venues ranging from the Beacon Theater, supporting Mariah Carey, to MGM Grand Garden Arena, with PHISH, to singing with Melissa Etheridge at the Apollo Theater. But it is her prodigious talents as a singer-songwriter and musician that have defined Henderson as an artist. Her original music, powered by her soulful voice, is hard-rocking and blues-tinged with infectious hooks that stay with you.

## **Anja Wood**

Cellist Anja Wood is a versatile musician, performing and recording with icons David Bowie, Michael Jackson, Dave Matthews, Barbara Streisand, Chris Cornell, and Harry Connick, Jr. She has played with countless other artists, including Pearl Jam, Rufus Wainwright, and Sharon Jones and the Dap Kings, and performed in *Hamilton*, both on Broadway and on the recording. Wood resides in New York City with her two daughters and is also the founder and president of the Lelt Foundation, a nonprofit organization that provides assistance to acutely malnourished children in Ethiopia.

## **Paula Green**

Chicago native, Paula Green, is a lively percussionist who performs with an assortment of band collectives in New York City. Her training encompasses classical concert percussion, jazz drum set, and Brazilian, Afro-Cuban, West African, and Middle Eastern percussion. She attended Berklee College of Music and earned her bachelor’s degree in music performance. She has had the honor to record and tour with international artists, including Pauline Jean, Chaka Khan, Dawn Drake, Tamar-Kali, Amel Larrieux, The Underground Horns, Black Rock Coalition, and many others in her career.

## **Kurt Crowley**

Currently the music director and conductor of *Hamilton* on Broadway, Kurt Crowley's previous work in theater includes *Hamilton* (Public Theater), *Bring It On* (Broadway), *Natasha, Pierre, and the Great Comet of 1812* (Off-Broadway), *In the Heights* (National Tour), *Carmen La Cubana* (Théâtre du Châtelet), *FLY* (Dallas Theater Center), and *Somewhere* (Hartford Stage). He has written arrangements and played for numerous cabaret venues in New York City and also composed a song for the "Cookie Thief" episode of *Sesame Street*. After studying music and comparative religion at Harvard University, he received a fellowship to study classical and devotional music in North India. Crowley was also part of the creative team of *Carmen: El Amor Cubano*, one of the first professional productions of musical theater in Cuba in decades. Originally from Montana, Crowley has also interned and served as the education policy adviser in the office of the Governor of Montana.

# PROGRAM NOTES

*Hear Her Song*, a musical celebration of extraordinary women, is the debut initiative of The Canales Project. It honors distinguished women leaders and their words through new songs written by leading female songwriters and composers.

Since its inception in 2017, *Hear Her Song* has commissioned forty songs, honored thirty-eight leaders, employed sixty-five artists, and collaborated with ten partner organizations, all with eleven countries involved.

Created to celebrate stories of remarkable women leaders, *Hear Her Song* brings together an exceptional array of musical artists, offering powerful insights into women's leadership worldwide. The honorees' insights and stories form the foundation for the creation of the new songs.

## Upcoming Events of the Seventy-Seventh Season of The William Nelson Cromwell and F. Lammot Belin Concerts

Unless otherwise noted, concerts are held in the West Building, West Garden Court.

Joshua Cerdenia, composer and pianist  
Enrico Lagasca, bass-baritone

In honor of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month  
May 14, 12:00  
East Building Auditorium

Hanna Bachmann, piano  
Isabel Pfefferkorn, mezzo-soprano

In collaboration with the Embassy of Austria and the Austrian Cultural Forum Washington, and celebrating the European Month of Culture  
May 15, 12:10

Rob Curto's Forró for All

Jazz in the Garden  
Brazilian Folk Jazz  
May 17, 5:00  
Sculpture Garden

Yumi Kurosawa, koto

With special guests Anubrata Chatterjee, tabla, and Virgil Gadson, dancer  
Celebrating *The Life of Animals in Japanese Art*  
May 19, 3:30

## General Information

Admission to the National Gallery of Art and all of its programs is free of charge, except as noted.

The use of cameras or recording equipment during the performance is not allowed.

Please be sure that all portable electronic devices are turned off.

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Concerts are made possible in part through the generosity of donors to the National Gallery of Art through The Circle. Reserved seating is available in recognition of their support. Please contact the development office at (202) 842-6450 or [circle@nga.gov](mailto:circle@nga.gov) for more information.

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cover Mary Cassatt, *The Banjo Lesson* (detail), c. 1893, National Gallery of Art, Washington, Gift of Mrs. Jane C. Carey as an addition to the Addie Burr Clark Memorial Collection