

Wednesday
NOV 30
7:30 pm

Paige Hernandez's *Liner Notes*

A live musical journey through the music of the civil rights era



This performance is funded, in part, by:



There will be no intermission during this performance.

Liner Notes

AKUA ALLRICH – writer, vocalist

KRISTOPHER FUNN – bass, musical director

BAYE HARRELL – writer, lyricist

ANGELO HERNANDEZ – guitar

PAIGE HERNANDEZ – writer, lyricist, director

MISSY HERNANDEZ – artist liaison

JOHN RUSSELL LAMKIN, III – drums

BLAINE MENELIK – projection design

SAM PRATHER – piano

HERBERT SCOTT – saxophone

LISA VIVO – technical director, lighting

ABOUT THE SHOW

Created by Paige Hernandez, *Liner Notes* is educational, multi-generational and, most importantly, interactive! This electrifying show combines live music, poetry and a multimedia design exploring music inspired by the civil rights movement. Sing along, dance and learn more about the back stories of the music of the movement as liner notes are read from the original albums, including the artistic statements of John Coltrane, Sam Cooke and more. *Liner Notes* revisits an adverse time in history with authenticity, thoughtfulness and integrity, performing the music of this era with captivating joy.

Featuring Paige Hernandez, Akua Allrich, Baye Harrell and Kristopher Funn's Corner Store Jazz Quintet.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Akua Allrich (writer, vocalist) has proven herself to be a musician of extraordinary talent and crowd-moving passion. With finesse and charisma, this vocalist, composer and teacher has successfully etched out a place for her unique musical expression, electrifying audiences with sold-out performances. The launching of her freshman album, *A Peace of Mine*, and second album, *Uniquely Standard, Akua Allrich Live!*, has earned the young artist international acclaim, including distribution in Japan. Allrich has inspired music lovers from all walks, who enjoy her exceptional work and expect nothing short of brilliant artistry from each of her offerings. akuaallrich.com

Kristopher Funn (bass, musical director) was born and raised in Baltimore, MD and currently resides outside of Washington, D.C. with his beautiful wife and their awesome dog. After graduating from Howard University with an honors degree in computer science, Funn decided to pursue a career as a professional jazz musician. He has performed and toured internationally to every major jazz festival in the world with artists such as Kenny Garrett, Christian Scott, Nicholas Payton, Jeff Majors and Pharaoh Sanders. He has also appeared and written songs on several recordings including Christian Scott's latest album, *Christian Atunde Adjuah*. He continues to perform in the Washington, D.C. area, while touring with the Christian Scott Quintet. www.fundamentals.com and www.cornerstoremusic.com

Baye Harrell (writer, lyricist) has embraced the title of hip-hop theatre artist to best encompass his multiple jobs. He has performed for audiences throughout the nation from Anchorage, AK to Off-Broadway as well as at his hometown's Studio Theater and the 9:30 Club. He originated the role of Zomo for Imagination Stage's *Zomo the Rabbit*, Kwame in Jennifer Nelson's *25-7-365* and script consulted for *In Pursuit of Me: Story of Christylez Bacon*. As an emcee, his group Hueman Prophets has released two studio albums and opened for such notable artists as Questlove of The Roots, Common and Trey Songz. He is a producer for the radio drama entitled *The Answer*, the web docuseries *The Angle*, and last September, he received rave reviews for his play *Hueman Prophets' Read: White and Blue* presented through CulturalDC's Mead Theater Lab. www.twitter.com/bayeharrell

Angelo Hernandez (guitar) "StrumminSoulSince66" is a native Baltimorean, who is inspired by James Brown and the "British Invasion." He is a self-taught guitar player and has played for nearly five decades. In that time, he has done several TV appearances, recordings, opened for national artists and performed in over 100 live performances. After a twenty-year hiatus, Hernandez was brought back to his instrument through his family and

hip hop. He embraces hip hop as cultural preservation and believes that, “hip hop is the new liner notes.” He is a guitarist with Wolf-Pack, Ethnick Media and B-FLY ENTERTAINMENT. His music is featured on such projects as *All the Way Live!*, *Havana Hop* and Imagination Stage’s *Zomo the Rabbit* and *John Henry*. Hernandez is honored to perform with his daughter, son-in-law and the Corner Store Jazz Quintet in the *Liner Notes* series!

Karen Hernandez (artist liaison) is a native Baltimorean who is a critically acclaimed visual artist and market research specialist. Affectionately known as Missy, she has the true gift of networking, marketing and garnering support for all things B-FLY ENTERTAINMENT. Karen acts as liaison between the artists, venue and audience with a keen sense for meaningful dialogue and thoughtful interaction with the audience.

Paige Hernandez (creator, director) is a multifaceted artist known for her innovative fusion of poetry, hip hop, dance and education. As an AEA equity actress, she has performed on many stages throughout the country and recently received an Individual Artist Award from the Maryland State Arts Council. She has also been awarded for her innovative work in classrooms, including the honor of being named a “classroom hero” by *The Huffington Post*, a Citizen Artist Fellow at the Kennedy Center and a Rising Leader of Color by TCG. With her company B-FLY ENTERTAINMENT, Hernandez continues to develop original and fresh work, including *STOMPING GROUNDS*, a hip hopera, which just had its world premiere at the Glimmerglass Festival in Cooperstown, NY. www.paigehernandez.com

John Russell Lamkin, III (drums) is a native of Baltimore, MD. He began playing drums at the age of four. He attended The Manhattan School of Music in New York City and, later, Berklee College of Music in Boston, MA. Lamkin has been recognized by, toured, played and recorded with a number of exceptionally talented recording artists, including Donald Harrison, Najee, Michael Henderson, Kenny Garrett, Christian Scott, Chick Corea, the late great Lionel Hampton, the late great Abbey Lincoln and many others. He maintains a deep respect and appreciation of those who’ve set standards in the music world.

Blaine Menelik (projection) focuses her talents in video projection/design, digital media, motion graphics and web design. She completed her bachelor’s degree in computer technology with courses in visual communication and digital media arts. She previously assisted Tewodross Melchishua with video projections for Nacirema, a multimedia performance part of Source Theater Festival as well as *Liner Notes* at the Atlas Performing Arts Center.

Sam Prather (piano, vocalist) is an exciting and multifaceted musician from Washington, D.C. Prather has developed a reputation in the local music scene performing and producing with all types of acts. On the funk/soul side, he has worked on keyboards with YaMama'Nym, 76 Degrees West and Brandon Combs, while on the jazz side, he has graced the stage with Heidi Martin, Warren Wolf, Antonio Parker and Joey Omicil. Prather graduated from University of the District of Columbia, where he studied piano with Allyn Johnson, and he is currently in the graduate program at Howard University, where he plays in the jazz ensemble and studies piano with Charles Covington. www.samuelprather.com

Herbert Scott (saxophone) is from the Washington, D.C. area. While studying at the Duke Ellington School of the Arts, he performed with renowned trumpeter Wynton Marsalis and jazz pianist Herbie Hancock. He studied jazz studies at Michigan State University. Career highlights include performances at the White House, Dizzy's Club in New York and Lincoln Center, to name a few. In 2017, he formed a non-profit organization, The Capitol Hill Jazz Foundation, which provides critical resources, including advocacy, to D.C.-based jazz musicians, venues and music education programs. In 2022, he was named a Joseph R. Biden Lifetime Achievement Award & Presidential Volunteer Service Award Honoree.

Lisa Vivo (technical director, lighting) has a long history in stage management and theatre education, including work at Arena Stage, Theater J, Source Theatre, Metro Stage and Olney Theatre, as well as stage management and choreography projects collaborating with the University of Maryland and Catholic University. She currently resides in New York City where she loves being a contemporary cake artist and running her own custom cake company. #LisaVivoCustomCakes

ABOUT B-FLY ENTERTAINMENT

B-FLY ENTERTAINMENT specializes in productions of all art mediums that speak to a multifaceted hip-hop generation. Founded by Paige Hernandez, B-FLY is inspired by unique artistic collaborations and was created in the spirit of B-girls. B-FLY seeks to elevate hip hop within the art community. Be true. Be you. B-Fly. www.bflyentertainment.com