



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UMS CANCELS REMAINING PERFORMANCES IN 2019/20 SEASON

Includes Performances by American Ballet Theatre (April 16-19) and Chineke! Orchestra (April 23)

ANN ARBOR, MI (March 17, 2020) — In light of the recent recommendations from the Center for Disease Control and the State of Michigan, the **University Musical Society (UMS)** announces that the upcoming performances by **American Ballet Theatre (ABT)** and the **Chineke! Orchestra with Sheku Kanneh-Mason** have been canceled to support efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19. UMS was originally scheduled to present ABT at the Detroit Opera House April 16-19 in partnership with Michigan Opera Theatre, and the Chineke! Orchestra was to perform at Hill Auditorium on April 23. With these two cancellations, UMS's 2019/20 season has concluded.

"We truly value our partnerships with American Ballet Theatre, the Chineke! Orchestra, Michigan Opera Theatre, and their respective companies of artists and administrators," said UMS president Matthew VanBesien. "We are actively working together to find a new period in the future to bring these artists back to Michigan, but sadly, the circumstances we are all experiencing make presenting these performances next month impossible at this time. All of us here in Michigan wish our touring artists the very best during this challenging moment."

Current ticketholders can visit ums.org/coronavirus for the most up-to-date information and options for ticket donations and refunds.

In order to reduce face-to-face contact, the Michigan League Ticket Office is currently closed. Ticket office staff will be available by phone Monday-Friday from 12-5 pm at 734.764.2538 and will also be responding to messages left via voice mail and email.

ABOUT UMS

A recipient of the 2014 National Medal of Arts, UMS (also known as the University Musical Society) contributes to a vibrant cultural community by connecting audiences with performing artists from around the world in uncommon and engaging experiences. One of the oldest performing arts presenters in the country, UMS is an independent non-profit organization affiliated with the University of Michigan, presenting over 70 music, theater, and dance performances by professional touring artists each season, along with over 100 free educational activities. UMS is committed to bold artistic leadership, engaged learning through the arts, and access and inclusiveness. Since 1990, the organization has co-commissioned and supported the production of nearly 80 new or reimagined works. Matthew VanBesien became the organization's seventh president in July 2017.

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