



Media Contact

SAM WILLIAMS

Media and Marketing Relations Manager

734.647.4020 (office) / [srosew@umich.edu](mailto:srosew@umich.edu)

[Press Photos for 21/22 Season](#)

## UMS Announces Season Updates, January Events

ANN ARBOR, MI (December 3, 2021) — The **University Musical Society (UMS)** has an exciting 2022 planned, with new commissions and innovative digital events alongside other programming updates.

In order to safely continue engaging communities with provocative and inspirational art, UMS has extended its COVID-19 Health and Safety protocols, including masking and proof of full vaccination or a negative PCR test, for all in-person events during the remainder of the 2021/22 season. The response from audience members during fall events has been positive and cooperative, with many lauding UMS for its commitment to audience safety. Full details are available at [ums.org/safety](https://ums.org/safety).

### Updates to 2021/22 Season

#### **Brian Lobel's Digital Artist Residency Project, *Twenty-Four Italian Songs and Arias (& Voices)*, Launches at [24ItalianSongs.com](https://24ItalianSongs.com)**

During the shutdown last year, UMS offered support for six different artist-driven projects that have resulted in new work created for the digital space. As part of this effort, U-M alumnus Brian Lobel recently launched *24 Italian Songs & Arias (& Voices)*, a digital archive that celebrates the journeys of musicians seeking to find their own artistic voice through the classic Schirmer songbook originally published in 1894. Featuring classics like "Caro Mio Ben," "Sebben Crudel," and "Amarilli, Mia Bella," *24 Italian Songs & Arias* is familiar to singers both professional and amateur, regardless of background or nationality. For over a century, hopeful singers have competed with these songs, auditioned with these songs, heard their first applause with these songs, and experienced their first crushing defeat with these songs. The journey of these songs and their singers are inspiring, challenging, hilarious, heartbreaking, and unpredictable. [24ItalianSongs.com](https://24ItalianSongs.com) provides 24 versions of the 24 classics while also documenting the journeys of their singers. As part of the projects, singers around the world are invited to submit their own versions of the songs, along with their journeys as artists.

*This Digital Arts Adventure is made possible by the **University of Michigan Credit Union** with additional support from **Maurice and Linda Binkow, Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, and UMS Sustaining Directors.***

#### **UMS Live Sessions with the Takács Quartet & Julien Labro, Nicholas Phan & Martin Katz, and More**

This new digital initiative offers beautifully produced, intimate, and informal playing sessions with UMS artists that are designed for an in-home experience. These abbreviated events are filmed by Michigan Media with no audience present and will be offered at no charge for 30 days on demand. Additional UMS Live Sessions will be announced throughout the spring.

**UMS Live Session: Takács Quartet and Julien Labro**  
**Available on demand Tue Jan 25 – Thu Feb 24 at [ums.org](https://ums.org)**

This special half-hour digital concert was filmed in Rackham Auditorium in December 2021 and features three world premieres by Clarice Assad, Bryce Dessner, and Julien Labro, all written for string quartet plus bandoneón and co-commissioned by UMS as part of the Music Accord commissioning consortium. View on demand, along with a behind-the-scenes interview with the performers.

Program

<b>Bryce Dessner</b>	Circles
<b>Julien Labro</b>	Meditation No. 1
<b>Clarice Assad</b>	Clash

*Presenting Sponsor: **Michigan Medicine***

*This Digital Arts Adventure is made possible in part by the **University of Michigan Credit Union Arts Adventures Program***

**UMS Live Session: Nicholas Phan and Martin Katz with the Calista Quartet from the U-M School of Music, Theatre & Dance**  
**Available on demand Tue Mar 1 – Thu Mar 31 at [ums.org](https://ums.org)**

This special half-hour digital concert was filmed in Rackham Auditorium in December 2021 and features a program of works written by women composers. Phan, an Ann Arbor native and U-M alumnus who sang the tenor solo in this season's performances of Handel's *Messiah*, put together this unique program as part of UMS's new digital initiative, UMS Live Sessions.

Program

<b>Margaret Bonds</b>	Young Love in Spring from <i>Songs of the Seasons</i>
<b>Fanny Mendelssohn-Hensel</b>	Nachtwanderer
<b>Rebecca Clarke</b>	The Cloths of Heaven
<b>Errollyn Wallen</b>	My Feet May Take a Little While
<b>Pauline Viardot</b>	Bonjour mon coeur!
<b>Lili Boulanger</b>	Les lilas qui avaient fleuri from <i>Clairères dans le ciel</i>
<b>Nadia Boulanger</b>	Les lilas sont en folie
<b>Undine Smith Moore</b>	I want to die while you love me
<b>Caroline Shaw</b>	And So (for voice + string quartet)

Rebecca Clarke

Daybreak (for voice + string quartet)

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## UMS 101

UMS 101 was designed to give audiences opportunities to get more out of their performance experience. These 90-minute workshops, presenting in conjunction with a UMS performance, are ideal for individuals seeking to familiarize themselves with or deepen their understanding of the presented genre and artist. Facilitated by professional, community-based practicing artists and/or educators, UMS 101 workshops offer background and contextual learning, live demonstrations, and participatory activities in a fun, casual environment. Participants can register for the workshop plus a performance ticket, or for the workshop only. Register for workshops individually at [a2schools.org/reced](https://a2schools.org/reced).

*UMS 101 is developed and presented in partnership with Ann Arbor Public Schools Community Education & Recreation. Workshops will be held the Thursday before each performance at Cahoots, a new event space in downtown Ann Arbor (206 E Huron St).*

### **UMS 101: Imani Winds with the Catalyst Quartet**

**Thu Jan 27 // 7 pm**

Imani Winds and Catalyst Quartet are two groundbreaking chamber music ensembles leading the way in commissioning, performing, and recording music by BIPOC composers while re-imagining and re-defining the classical music experience. Audiences can learn more about these extraordinary musicians and a new work that UMS commissioned for the woodwind quintet and string quartet to perform together by groundbreaking composer (and former Catalyst quartet violinist) Jessie Montgomery. *Presented in conjunction with the Imani Winds and Catalyst Quartet performance on Saturday, January 29 at Rackham Auditorium.*

### **UMS 101: Ballet Folklórico de México de Amalia Hernández**

**Thu Feb 3 // 7 pm**

Ballet Folklórico de México founder Amalia Hernández was a trained ballet and modern dancer. Drawn to the traditions of more than 60 regions in Mexico, she choreographed dance performances that celebrate the country's indigenous legends and traditions dating back to the pre-Columbian era. Her anthropological approach to dance performance is a veritable living cultural history of Mexico. Explore some of the signature movements and roots of this colorful and dynamic artform. *Presented in*

*conjunction with the Ballet Folklórico de México performance on Sunday, February 6 at Hill Auditorium.*

### **UMS 101: *SWING OUT* with Caleb Teicher**

**Thu Mar 31 // 7 pm**

Choreographer and artist Caleb Teicher explores the Lindy Hop in their dynamic new show, *SWING OUT*. Learn about Lindy Hop, a Black social dance that grew out of jazz, tap, and Charleston to become the hottest dance of the Swing Era. This workshop will get audiences up on their feet and moving to the sounds of big band music. *Presented in conjunction with the Caleb Teicher Dance performances on Friday, April 1 and Saturday, April 2 at the Power Center.*

### **YOU CAN DANCE Moves to Ypsilanti's Riverside Arts Center**

Join artists from our visiting dance companies for a 75-minute exploration of each company's signature movement style. No dance training or experience is necessary, and all levels are welcome. You Can Dance workshops are recommended for ages 13 and up. Free, but advanced registration is strongly encouraged at [ums.org/YouCanDance](http://ums.org/YouCanDance). Workshops include:

- **A.I.M by Kyle Abraham**  
Sat Jan 8 // 11 am – 12:15 pm
- **Ballet Folklórico de México de Amalia Hernández**  
Sun Feb 6 // 11 am – 12:15 pm
- **Caleb Teicher & Company**  
Sun Apr 3 // 11 am – 12:15 pm

### **ADDED EVENT!**

### ***SWING OUT* Special One-Hour Family Performance**

**Sat Apr 2 // 1 pm**

UMS is excited to announce an additional performance of *SWING OUT* on **Saturday, April 2 at 1 pm** created especially for families by acclaimed choreographer Caleb Teicher, who brings the best of the swing dance world to the concert stage. Created by African-American dancers and swing big bands in 1920s Harlem, the high-flying Lindy Hop is defined by its exuberant, free-wheeling spirit that has made it an ever-evolving international phenomenon. The *Dance Enthusiast* called Teicher's show "the most entertaining dance concert I've seen in years...a zealous celebration of swing dance." The abbreviated Family Performance has been added to the full-length evening performances scheduled for Friday, April

1 and Saturday, April 2. Note that this performance coincides with many public schools' spring break week. Tickets: \$20 adults, \$10 children.

*This performance is sponsored by Elaine and Peter Schweitzer (in memory of Frank Legacki), New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project, and National Endowment for the Arts*

*Media Partners: WEMU 89.1 FM, WRCJ 90.9 FM and Ann Arbor's 107one*

## Sheku Kanneh-Mason and Isata Kanneh-Mason Recital Moves to Hill Auditorium Tue Apr 26 // 7:30 pm // Hill Auditorium (New Location)

Few instrumentalists have built such a formidable reputation more quickly than the Kanneh-Mason siblings, each with a classical chart-topper under their belt and still in their early 20s. The Kanneh-Masons, who performed in Rackham Auditorium to a sold-out crowd in December 2019, also performed, along with their five siblings, in twice-weekly livestreams from their home in Nottingham to hundreds of thousands of people around the globe during the COVID lockdown. This recital, originally scheduled for Rackham Auditorium, has been moved to Hill Auditorium.

### PROGRAM

<b>Karen Khachaturian</b>	Cello Sonata
<b>Dmitri Shostakovich</b>	Sonata in d minor for Cello and Piano, Op. 40
<b>Frank Bridge</b>	Sonata for Cello and Piano in d minor, H. 125
<b>Benjamin Britten</b>	Cello Sonata, Op. 65

## January Events

**Requiem: Fire in the Air of the Earth // A.I.M by Kyle Abraham**

**A new work by Kyle Abraham and Jlin**

**Fri Jan 7 // 8 pm // Power Center**

**Sat Jan 8 // 8 pm // Power Center**

**Tickets: \$30-\$52, student discounts available**

In the wake of 2020 — marked by the COVID-19 pandemic and the worldwide Black Lives Matter protests — two artists explore the central theme of one of the most canonical works of white Western classical music from an explicitly Black perspective.

Choreographer and MacArthur Fellow **Kyle Abraham** and pioneering producer, composer, and electronic music pioneer **Jlin** come together on **Friday, January 7** and **Saturday, January 8** to create a new work through a reimagining of Mozart's Requiem in d minor. In his fluid choreographic language, Abraham draws from the repertoire of classical ballet, hip-hop, modern dance, and street dance while Jlin takes Mozart's classic requiem and turns it into an electronic dance piece, building her sound on a

style of house dance and street dance that originated in Chicago in the 1990s. In collaboration with fashion designer **Giles Deacon**, an innovator of the Paris couture scene and 10 dancers, Abraham and Jlin transform Mozart's music into an electronic opus that memorializes ritual, mourning, and rebirth.

*Presenting Sponsor: Michigan Medicine and the Charles A. Sink Endowment Fund*

*Supporting Sponsors: Anne and Paul Glendon*

*Media Partners: WEMU 89.1 FM, WDET 101.9 FM, and Ann Arbor's 107one*

### **Sermon: Davóne Tines and the Philadelphia Orchestra**

**Available on demand Fri Jan 14 – Mon Jan 24 at [ums.org/sermon](https://ums.org/sermon) (free)**

In this special digital performance, bass-baritone and activist **Davóne Tines** intersperses a group of readings with musical selections for a powerful, expressive sermon on themes of social justice.

Packaged as a sort of mini-song cycle, the 2022 *Musical America* Vocalist of the Year performs "You Want the Truth, but You Don't Want to Know" from Anthony Davis's opera *X: The Life and Times of Malcolm X* (a role he will perform at Michigan Opera Theatre in May 2022), as well as "Vigil," which is both a work of art and a call to action co-written with Igee Dieudonné and dedicated to the memory of Breonna Taylor. John Adams's "Shake the Heavens" from his Nativity oratorio *El Niño* pulses with urgent and frightening tremolos reminiscent of Handel's *Messiah* that live up to the title and speak to our times.

*This free digital performance is presented in conjunction with the two live concerts by The Philadelphia Orchestra in March 2022.*

*Presenting Sponsor: Michigan Medicine*

*This Digital Arts Adventure is made possible by the University of Michigan Credit Union Arts Adventures Program*

### **UMS Live Session: Takács Quartet and Julien Labro**

**Available on demand Tue Jan 25 – Thu Feb 24 at [ums.org/digital](https://ums.org/digital) (free)**

This special half-hour digital concert was filmed in Rackham Auditorium in December 2021 and features three world premieres by Clarice Assad, Bryce Dessner, and Julien Labro, all written for string quartet plus bandoneón and co-commissioned by UMS. View on demand, along with a behind-the-scenes interview with the performers.

#### Program

<b>Bryce Dessner</b>	Circles
<b>Julien Labro</b>	Meditation No. 1
<b>Clarice Assad</b>	Clash

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## **Imani Winds with the Catalyst Quartet**

**Sat Jan 29 // 8 pm // Rackham Auditorium**

**Tickets: \$26-\$48, student discounts available**

The **Imani Winds** and the **Catalyst Quartet** present a joint program called *(im)migration: music of change* on **Saturday, January 29 at 8 pm** at **Rackham Auditorium**. The four works on the program explore different pathways of migration, with each ensemble performing a solo work, followed by a second half in which the wind quintet and string quartet join forces.

A UMS Co-Commission for both ensembles, composed by The Catalyst Quartet's former violinist and Chicago Symphony Orchestra composer-in-residence **Jessie Montgomery**, is featured on the program. Her composition, *Sergeant McCauley*, is inspired by the Great Migration of African Americans during the early to middle 20th century, from the perspective of her great-grandfather, William McCauley. It brings together spirituals and work songs that reflect McCauley's route from Mississippi through the West, north to the Dakotas, and eventually back south to Georgia.

PROGRAM: *(im)migration*

<b>Ramón Mongo Santamaria (Arr. V. Coleman)</b>	Afro Blue (Imani)
<b>Florence Price</b>	Negro Folksongs in Counterpoint (Catalyst)
<b>Jessie Montgomery</b>	Sergeant McCauley (Imani and Catalyst, UMS Co-Commission)
<b>Roberto Sierra</b>	Concierto de Cámara (Imani and Catalyst)

*This concert is presented in conjunction with SphinxConnect, a national convening focused on diversity and inclusion in the arts.*

*Permanently Endowed Support: **Helmut F. and Candis J. Stern Endowment Fund***

*Patron Sponsors: **Joel Howell and Linda Samuelson***

*Media Partner: **WRCJ 90.9 FM***

## **Sphinx Symphony Orchestra with Exigence**

**Sun Jan 30 // 4 pm // Hill Auditorium**

**Tickets: \$14-\$60, student discounts available**

As Detroit's Sphinx Organization celebrates its 25th anniversary, UMS presents the full orchestra on its first-ever national tour, immediately after its performances as part of the Sphinx Competition. The Sphinx Symphony Orchestra is the unique all-Black and Latinx orchestra composed of top professionals from around the US, with members serving as mentors to Competition finalists and promoting works by Black and Latinx composers. Sphinx's vocal ensemble, EXIGENCE, joins the ensemble for several pieces,

including Joel Thompson's *Seven Last Words of the Unarmed*, a powerful multi-movement choral work that was premiered by the U-M Glee Club in 2016 and memorializes the last words spoken by seven African-American men killed by police or other authority figures.

PROGRAM

<b>Carlos Simon</b>	Motherboxx Connection (Sphinx Commission)
<b>Samuel Coleridge-Taylor</b>	Ballade for Orchestra
<b>Valerie Coleman</b>	Seven O'Clock Shout
<b>Michael Abels</b>	Delights and Dances
<b>Traditional (arr. Augustus Hill)</b>	Fix Me, Jesus
<b>Carlos Cordero</b>	Holding Our Breath
<b>Joel Thompson</b>	Seven Last Words of the Unarmed
<b>John Legend / Common (arr. Eugene Rogers)</b>	"Glory" from <i>Selma</i>

*Presenting Sponsors: Elaine and Peter Schweitzer and the Ken Fischer Legacy Endowment Fund*

*Funded in part by: National Endowment for the Arts*

*Media Partners: WRCJ 90.9 FM, WGTE 91.3 FM, Michigan Radio 91.7 FM, and Ann Arbor's 107one*

## **Ticketing Information**

Tickets to individual events are available online, in person, and by phone at **734.764.2538** or **ums.org**. UMS also has an e-mail list that provides up-to-date information about all UMS events; sign-up information is available on the website.

Student tickets (\$12 and \$20) and Kids Club tickets (up to two \$10 kids' tickets with the purchase of at least one adult ticket at \$20) are also available for all performances. Additional information about UMS's Kids Club and student ticket programs can be found at **ums.org/kids** and **ums.org/students** respectively.

## **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.

## [Press Photos for January 2022 Events](#)