

# Shana Tucker

with

**Shirazette Tinnin, music director/drums**

**Nimrod Speaks, bass**

**Seth L. Johnson, guitar**

Thursday, April 13, 2017

Gorell Recital Hall, John Sutton Hall

The repertoire will be announced from the stage, and there will be one ten-minute intermission. The audience is invited to meet the musicians outside the Recital Hall following the performance.

*Program copy for this performance has been provided, unedited, by this tour's production company.*

## SHANA TUCKER

With a deep respect for lyrical storytelling, cellist/singer-songwriter Shana Tucker delivers a unique voice through her self-described genre of ChamberSoul. Shana's melodies weave strong hints of jazz, classical, soulful folk, acoustic pop and a touch of R&B into a distinctive rhythmic tapestry.

After having balanced performances in theatres, clubs and festivals with her role as featured cellist/vocalist in Cirque du Soleil's KÀ at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas for the past 5 years, Shana returns to her full-time touring and recording schedule in 2017, with new collaborations in the offing, and the completion of her sophomore recording project, set for release before the end of the year.

Touted by JazzTimes Magazine as "a jazz talent...whose imprint and vitality has already been quite visible in North Carolina," Shana's style and sound has been described as a mash-up of Dianne Reeves, Joni Mitchell, and Tracy Chapman, with an efficient complexity that is reminiscent of Bill Withers. ChamberSoul best describes what the listener should expect when



experiencing Shana's music. "I'm intrinsically drawn to 'real' instruments with resonance, tone and depth that can sound without amplification. Whenever and however possible, I always try to set a tone of acoustic intimacy with my colleagues on stage -- and also with the audience -- so that everyone and everything feels close and tangible, no matter the size the venue."

Having opened for internationally acclaimed artists including Norah Jones, Lisa Fischer, Sweet Honey in the Rock, Javon Jackson, the Blind Boys of Alabama, and Indigo Girls, Shana's vocals and cello are featured on several studio and live recording projects by both independent and signed label artists and producers. She also devotes a considerable amount of her time to working with students in schools/universities, community centers and summer camps throughout the year as part of her mission to promote arts education programming for students of all ages.

Shana is also a recipient of two Nevada Arts Council grants, including the prestigious Artist Fellowship grant in 2014 and a Professional Development grant in 2016 for her exemplary work as a Performing Artist.

A front-line advocate for arts education, Shana is a teaching artist at The Smith Center for Performing Arts and Southern Nevada Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning Through the Arts, and incorporates workshops, outreach and artist-in-residence opportunities whenever possible, wherever in the world her performances take her.

*www.shanatucker.com*

*Twitter, Instagram: @shanatucker*

*Facebook: shanatucker.chambersoul*

## **SHIRAZETTE TINNIN | musical director, drums**

Drummer, educator, clinician, author and health coach, Shirazette Tinnin was born and raised in North Carolina. Her earlier influences of gospel music would eventually expand into jazz, soul, rock, and music from many parts of the African diaspora.

A graduate of Appalachian State University, Shirazette studied with Todd Right, Dr. Rob Falvo, Rick Dilling, and Scott Meister. She studied/was mentored by drummers Cindy Blackman, Lewis Nash, Terri Lynne Carrington, Ernie Adams and more. Shirazette received a full scholarship for drum set and jazz pedagogy to attend Northern Illinois University, where she

studied with professor Ron Carter.

As a recipient of The Sisters in Jazz Collegiate All-Stars for IAJE (International Association of Jazz Educators)

Award in 2008, she also taught as a professor at Columbia College in Chicago.



Shirazette resides in New York City but is frequently on tour with premier bands such as Tia Fuller Quartet, The Mimi Jones Band, Nicole Mitchell's Black Earth Ensemble, Women of the World Ensemble, Gabriel Algeria Afro Peruvian Sextet, Allan Harris Group, Camille Thurman, and many others. She also leads her own group, Shirazette and Sonic Wallpaper Ensemble.

Shirazette was recently the house drummer for The Meredith Vieira Talk Show with her first season on NBC in 2015. She is an active clinician, educator, mentor, composer, a certified personal trainer and published author. Two of her articles were published in Modern Drummer Magazine and Tom Tom Magazine. Shirazette is endorsed by Canopus Drums, Vic Firth, LP Music, Kickport and Sabian.

*www.shirazettetinnin.com*

*Twitter, Instagram: @TinninL, @shirazetteshebeatstinnin*

*Facebook: shirazette.tinnin*

## **NIMROD SPEAKS | bass**

Born in Philadelphia, PA, Nimrod Speaks is a well-trained bassist, composer, and educator, both on electric and double bass. He began playing at the age of 16 on an electric Fender bass while in high school under the tutelage of Ricardo Jackson. He was later introduced to the double bass during his first semester in college. He brings his individual soulful tone to many different styles of music.

Much of Nimrod's musical studies in classical and jazz concentration include training with Ben Blazer, Rick Bowen, Douglas Mapp, Conrad Hewig, Maria Cadieux, Scott Lee, Kevin Kjos, Mike Richmond, Victor Lewis, Vic Juris, and Stanley Cowell.

Obtaining a B.A. in Music Education from Kutztown University and a Masters in Jazz Studies from Rutgers University afforded Nimrod opportunities to play with renowned artists of today, including Bootsie Barnes, Ronnie Burrage, Doc Gibbs and Hannible Lokumbe, and performances at premier jazz venues such as The Blue Note in New York City and The Kimmel Center in Philadelphia.

*www.nimrodspeaks.com*  
*Instagram: @215nemo*  
*Facebook: nimrod.speaks*

## **SETH L. JOHNSON | guitar**

Seth L. Johnson is an established guitarist, a passionate composer and dedicated educator (all ages and skill levels). Having earned his Bachelor of Music in Jazz Performance from San Francisco State University, and his Master's degree from Mason Gross School of the Arts (under the tutelage of Vic Juris), Johnson grasps and interprets a well-rounded, expansive scope of musical genres. He plays Jazz, Western Classical, Afro-Cuban, Afro-Peruvian, Brazilian, African, Country, Funk, Bosa Nova, Hip Hop, and any popular North American styles. From free improvised music, to Rock, to Jazz standards, he will have fun with all of it, taking the music as far as his body allows.

Johnson was born in Buffalo, NY and raised in Cleveland, Ohio. There, he began playing and experimenting with guitars, at age 10. Largely self-taught, he developed individualistic approaches



to music and his instrument, prior to receiving formal training. Inspired by his first teacher, Cleveland blues guitarist John Christopherson, Johnson delved deeply into the blues and finger-style guitar. Thus, while thoroughly exploring the outskirts of the guitar's sound and timbre, and embracing his musical versatility, the blues has ultimately remained at the core of his style.

After a somewhat transient lifestyle -- Cleveland to San Francisco, Chicago, and Paris, France -- you presently find Seth L. Johnson living and teaching in New York, NY, and touring around the world. Life in Cleveland, New York, and travels have been (and continue to be) major influences throughout his career. Friends, family, venues, and those who fall in between have provided Johnson a personable and humble spirit with an edge, allowing him to approach life and all of his musical ventures with an open mind and outside-of-the-box tactics. When touring is over, he can be seen perform-



ing in such notable New York venues as The Blue Note Jazz Club, The Lambs Club, The Bitter End, The Rum House, Fat Cat, Smoke, Brooklyn Bowl, The Jazz Standard, Mercury Lounge, Zinc Bar, Whynot Jazz Room, S.O.B.'s, Joe's Pub, Rockwood Music Hall, among others. Clubs and venues aside, you may catch Johnson playing in colleges, theaters and performing arts centers, across the United States and abroad.

Johnson's musical inspirations and enjoyments include, but are certainly not limited to: Jimmy Hendrix, Lenny Breau, Robert Johnson, John Coltrane, Billi Holiday, Antonio Carlos Jobim, Nina Simone, Erik Satie, James Blake, D'Angelo, Bjork, and Fiona Apple.

*www.sethjohnson.com*  
*Twitter: @sethlojo*  
*Facebook: sethlojo*

## Upcoming Events

Now through April 27: MFA Thesis Exhibitions; University Museum, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Sutton Hall, and Kipp Galleries, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Sprowls Hall\*

Now through May 1; University Museum Goes Downtown; Artists Hand Gallery, 732 Philadelphia Street, Indiana

April 4, 8:00 p.m.; Litton Quartet, Spring; Gorell Recital Hall, Second Floor Sutton Hall

April 7, 6:00 p.m.; Reception: The University Museum Goes Downtown; The Artists Hand, Indiana\*

April 11, 8:00 p.m.; String Ensemble Concert; Gorell Recital Hall, Second Floor Sutton Hall\*

April 13, 7:30 p.m.; IUP Brass Area Showcase; DiCicco Hall, Cogswell Hall, Room 121\*

April 17, 7:35 p.m.; Open Mic with NYGASP, David Wannan; Cogswell Hall\*

April 20-22 and 26-29, 8:00 p.m.; Theater-by-the-Grove: Boeing, Boeing; Waller Hall Mainstage, IUP Performing Arts Center

April 23, 2:00 p.m.; Theater-by-the-Grove: Boeing, Boeing; Waller Hall Mainstage, IUP Performing Arts Center

April 23, 8:00 p.m.; Faculty Recital: Rosemary Englestad, clarinet; Evan Englestad, piano; Gorell Recital Hall, Second Floor Sutton Hall\*

April 25, 6:00 p.m.; Trumpet Ensemble Recital; Gorell Recital Hall, Second Floor Sutton Hall

April 27, 8:00 p.m.; Sound Choices: A Broadway Extravaganza; Fisher Auditorium, IUP Performing Arts Center

April 29, 7:00 p.m.; IUP Symphony Wind Ensemble, Spring; Fisher Auditorium, IUP Performing Arts Center

**More at [www.iup.edu/LivelyArts](http://www.iup.edu/LivelyArts)**

*Subject to change*

*\*Free admission*

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- Two complimentary vouchers to any other Lively Arts series event for the season, such as Sound Choices, Theater-by-the-Grove, Music Theater, or Dance Theater.

#### Director, \$1,250+

Designer level benefits, plus...

- Two complimentary subscriptions to the 2017-18 Ovation!s season.
- Name displayed prominently throughout the season on a sign in the grand lobby of the IUP Performing Arts Center.

#### Producer, \$2,500+

Designer level benefits, lobby signage, plus...

- Two complimentary Totally Everything season subscriptions, including the Ovation!s series, Sound Choices, Theater-by-the-Grove, Music Theater, and Dance Theater.
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