Stanley Clarke & Hiromi

Saturday Sep 23 7:30 p.m. Main Stage

This program features an opening act and will run approximately 120 minutes. Program announced from the stage. There will be a short break after the opening act.

Stanley Clarke: Artist-in-Residence

Jazz & Blues Sponsor: Richard and Lisa Kendall



Stanley Clarke & Hiromi

About the Artists

Stanley Clarke

Four-time Grammy Award Winner Stanley Clarke

has attained "living legend" status during his over 50-year career as a bass virtuoso. He is the first bassist in history who doubles on acoustic and electric bass with equal ferocity and the first jazz-fusion bassist ever to headline tours, selling out shows worldwide. A veteran of over 40 albums, he won the 2011 Best Contemporary Jazz Album Grammy Award for *The Stanley Clarke Band*. Clarke co-founded the seminal fusion group Return to Forever with Chick Corea and Lenny White. In 2012 Return to Forever won a Grammy Award and Latin Grammy for Best Jazz Instrumental Album, *Forever*.

Clarke's creativity has been recognized and rewarded in every way imaginable: gold and platinum records, Grammy Awards, Emmy nominations, virtually every readers and critics poll in existence, and more. In 2022 Clarke was selected by the National Endowment for the Arts as one of its four new Jazz Master honorees. This is the highest honor that the United States bestows on jazz artists. He also was Rolling Stone's very first Jazzman of the Year and bassist winner of Playboy's Music Award for ten straight years. Clarke was honored with Bass Player Magazine's Lifetime Achievement Award and is a member of Guitar Player Magazine's "Gallery of Greats." In 2004 he was featured in Los Angeles Magazine as one of the Top 50 Most Influential People. He was honored with the key to the city of Philadelphia and put his hands in cement as a 1999 inductee into Hollywood's "Rock Walk" on Sunset Boulevard. In 2011 he was honored with the highly prestigious Miles Davis Award at the Montreal Jazz Festival for his entire body of work. Clarke has won Downbeat Magazine's Reader's and Critics Poll for Best Electric Bass Player for many years. In September 2016 he became a part of the permanent collection displayed at the Smithsonian's new National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC) in Washington DC.

Unable to tour most of 2020, Clarke's Pandemic work has involved developing his web series, *Stanley Clarke's Bass Nation*. The series premiered November 2020. The project is about the dynamics of the music industry, recording and performing, and includes Stanley's conversations with noted musicians, gear reviews, play-throughs and performances. His most recent album release is music he composed for the 2019 documentary, *Halston*. Stanley's *Halston* soundtrack was release on Node Records

In 2018 Clarke's band CD, *The Message*, was released on Mack Avenue Records.. Including compositions from his young band members, Beka Gochiashvili, Mike Mitchel and Cameron Graves, the album swells with an abundance of strength, soul and astounding musicianship.

An accomplished film and TV composer of well over 70 projects, his credits include *Boyz N The Hood*, the Tina Turner biopic *What's Love Got To Do With It*, *Romeo Must Die, The Transporter, Best Man Holiday* and most recently the 2019 documentary film score *Halston*. In 2020 he scores the music for the Hulu show *Woke*. He has garnered three Emmy nominations and a BMI Award for his scoring. In 2014 Clarke was invited to become a member of the exclusive Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences.

Born in Philadelphia, Clarke has been a constant force of nature in American music since the early 1970s with the success of the jazz-fusion group Return To Forever. That accomplishment gave way to a number of extremely successful solo albums for Clarke. Along the way, he has collaborated with Quincy Jones, Stan Getz, Art Blakey, Paul McCartney, Jeff Beck, Keith Richards, Aretha Franklin, Stevie Wonder, Chaka Khan, The Police, Herbie Hancock and many more, and has shared the stage with Bob Marley and Miles Davis.

Clarke believes in giving back to help young musicians hone their skills. He and his wife Sofia established The Stanley Clarke Foundation seventeen years ago as a charitable organization, which offers scholarships to talented young musicians.

About the Artists

Hiromi

Ever since the 2003 release of her debut, *Another Mind*, **Hiromi** has electrified audiences with a creative energy that encompasses and eclipses the boundaries of jazz, classical and pop, taking improvisation and composition to new heights of complexity and sophistication. On her new album, *Silver Lining Suite*, Hiromi further exemplifies her virtuosic hybridity and emotional range, finding strength and hope amidst the turmoil of the pandemic.

Born in Hamamatsu, Japan in 1979, Hiromi's first piano teacher, Noriko Hikida, exposed Hiromi to jazz and introduced her to the great pianists Erroll Garner and Oscar Peterson. She enrolled in the Yamaha School of Music and started writing music.

Hiromi moved to the United States in 1999 and studied at the Berklee College of Music in Boston. Among her mentors was jazz bassist/arranger Richard Evans, who took Hiromi's demo to his friend, the legendary pianist Ahmad Jamal. Evans co-produced *Another Mind* with Jamal.

Another Mind was a critical success in North America and Japan, where the album shipped gold and received the Recording Industry Association of Japan's Jazz Album of the Year Award. Hiromi's astonishing debut was but a forecast of the shape of jazz to come.

In 2009, she recorded with pianist Chick Corea on *Duet*, a live recording of their concert in Tokyo. She also appeared on bassist Stanley Clarke's Grammy-winning release, *Jazz in the Garden*.

In the summer of 2021, Hiromi performed at the opening ceremonies of the Tokyo Olympics.

Hiromi's latest record, "Sonicwonderland" will be released on October 6.