



THE INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART/
BOSTON PRESENTS

Jason Moran and Alicia Hall Moran

Family Ball

World Premiere Presentation

Friday, November 18

[Access live captioning for Friday's performance -->](#)

Saturday, November 19

[Access live captioning for Saturday's performance -->](#)

CAST

Piano

Jason Moran

Voice

Alicia Hall Moran

CREATIVE

Written and Directed by

Alicia Hall Moran

Performed by

Jason Moran and Alicia Hall Moran

Composed by

Jason Moran and Alicia Hall Moran

Set Design

Maggie Ruder

Video Design

Katherine Freer

Lighting Design

Brian Tovar

Stage Manager

Cecilia Engelhart

Costume Design

Matthew Simonelli

Makeup Design

Michael Patterson

Assistant Lighting Designer

Ethan Saiewitz

Assistant Video Designer

Liu Ningmo

Costume Draper

Claudia Diaz

Special thanks to Steinway & Sons Spirio

“Blessing the Boats” by Lucille Clifton used by permission of Curtis Brown, Ltd. Copyright ©2000. All Rights reserved.

Special thanks to our creative partner Maggie Ruder. Thanks also to Charif Shanahan for his help.

Thank you to the generous staff and crew at the ICA/Boston and to John Andress and Maggie Moore for working so diligently throughout the pandemic and their dedication to bringing live performance back to the ICA!

ICA PRODUCTION CREW

Master Carpenter

Sam Betts

Audio Engineer

Kevin Corzett

Wardrobe Supervisor

Nancy Flessas

Video Engineer

Bill O'Donnell

Assistant Master Electrician

Jordan Barnett

Lighting

Michelle Walker, Emily Bearce

Carpenters

Greg Hanawalt, Cidalia Santos, Robert Sears,

Vincent Laino

Support for *Family Ball* is generously provided by Kathleen McDonough and Edward Berman.

Like the show? Let us know!

#ICABoston



EVENING PLAYLIST

FAMILY BALL is a theatrical explosion of abstract musical creative thought. As elements of the Hall-Moran household come to life one technicolor night, all the music the couple has made over the years comes dripping out the walls, forcing the couple to ride the waves of their own musical and personal choices. **Here is the playlist of that evening**

Heavy Blue Muse

Written and performed by Alicia Hall Moran

(voice)

Feat. Brandon Ross (guitar), Tony Scherr (bass),

Jason Moran (Fender Rhodes)

From Alicia's album *Heavy Blue*/YES Records

Believe Me

Written and performed by Alicia Hall Moran

(vocals and piano)

From Alicia's album *Heavy Blue*/YES Records

Kinesics

Written and performed by Jason Moran (piano)

From the album *Soundtrack to Human Motion*/

Blue Note Records

Family Ball Theme

Written and performed by Jason Moran

Feeling Good

Written by Anthony Newley and Leslie Bricusse

Performed and arranged by Alicia Hall Moran

(voice) and Jason Moran (piano)

Feat. Chala Yancy (violin), Lorenzo Rundo (viola),

and Francesco Parente (cello)

From album *Here Today*/YES Records

Open Door

Written and performed by Alicia Hall Moran

(voice and piano)

Feat. Marika Hughes (cello)

From Alicia's album *Heavy Blue*/YES Records

How much more terrible was the night

Composed and performed by Jason Moran

From the album *The Sound Will Tell You*/YES

Records

Arizona Landscape

Composed and performed by Jason Moran

(piano)

Artist in Residence/YES Records

I Am the Fire

Music and Lyrics written & performed by Alicia

Hall Moran (voice and piano)

Feat. Chala Yancy (violin)

From Alicia's album *Here Today*/YES Records

Reanimation

Composed and performed by Jason Moran

(piano)

From Jason's album *The Armory Concert*/YES

Records

Balloon Fight

Written and performed by Jason Moran

(electronics)

We All Just Live in the World

Music and lyrics written and performed by

Alicia Hall Moran (voice and piano)

Feat. Thomas Flippin (guitar) and JT Lewis

(drums)

From Alicia's album *Here Today*/YES Records

Hum the Sing then Speak

Composed and performed by Jason Moran

(piano)

From Jason's album *The Sound Will Tell You*/

YES Records

Boogie Beat

Written and performed by Jason Moran

(electronics)

Two Train to Wall Street

Music and Lyrics written and performed by

Alicia Hall Moran (voice and piano)

Feat. Thomas Flippin (guitar) and JT Lewis

(drums)

On Alicia's album *Here Today*/YES Records

blissing the boats

Poem by Lucille Clifton, performed with

permission of the Lucille Clifton Estate

Performed by Alicia Hall Moran (mezzo-

soprano) and Jason Moran (piano)

Music composed by Alicia Hall Moran

Instrumental version recorded by Jason Moran

and The Bandwagon: Jason Moran (piano),

Tarus Mateen (bass), and Nasheet Waits

(drums) on Jason's album *Thanksgiving At The Vanguard*/Blue Note Records

SLANG

Written by Jason Moran (piano)

Feat. Alicia Hall Moran (voice), Mary Halvorson

(guitar), Tarus Mateen (bass), and Nasheet

Waits (drums)

Live performance recorded at Other Minds

Festival

Magnet

Composed and performed by Jason Moran

(piano)

From the album *The Armory Concert*/YES

Records

BIOGRAPHIES

Jason Moran

Performer and Co-creator

Jason Moran (co-producer and piano) is Artistic Director for Jazz at the Kennedy Center, programming events for the center including his concept *Finding A Line: Skateboarding & Improvisation Festival*; and a co-production with Apollo Theater, *Between the World And Me*, among dozens of highlights and collaborations throughout his ongoing tenure. Moran has recorded 17 solo albums, the most recent being *The Sound Will Tell You*. In Moran's practice the fine arts, visual art-making, dance composition, film scoring, and autobiographical and historical music-making share equal provenance. Within jazz, his large-scale multimedia tributes to Thelonious Monk, Fats Waller, and James Reese Europe announced a major shift in the jazz performance paradigm. Moran's film scores include Ava Duvernay's films *Selma* and *13th*, and the HBO film adaptation of Ta-Nehisi Coates' *Between the World and Me*. As a producer at Park Avenue Armory, Moran has programmed legends Pauline Oliveros, Ryuichi Sakamoto, and Milford Graves. As a visual artist, Moran's paintings have been exhibited nationwide and live in the permanent collections of SFMOMA, MoMA, Whitney Museum of American Art, MFA Houston, Philadelphia Museum of Art, and Walker Art Center. Moran currently teaches at the New England Conservatory, and he co-owns Yes Records with his wife, singer and composer Alicia Hall Moran. He was named a MacArthur Fellow in 2010.

Alicia Hall Moran

Performer and Co-creator

An award-winning conceptual vocal artist, mezzo-soprano Alicia Hall Moran swims along the boundaries between music, art, film, history, anthropology, women studies, music theory, and literature. A frequent collaborator with leading, cutting-edge artists across creative fields, Moran brings the force of her immersion in opera, theater, jazz, letters, popular music—and figure skating!—to tell powerful stories in Black culture from a dynamic stance. The recipient of a Jerome Hill Artist Grant, a Van Lier Fellowship, and the Ford Foundation Art of Change Fellowship, Moran earned an NAACP Theatre Award nomination (Best Female Lead in a Musical) for her contemporary portrayal of Bess on tour in the Tony Award-winning production of *The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess* and shares a Bessie Award for Best Musical Collaboration for her contributions to the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane's Company's *Chapel/Chapter*. Moran is also the proud recipient of Barnard College Distinguished Alumna Award (Music/Anthropology).

As a songwriter and bandleader Moran has recorded two critically acclaimed albums, *Heavy Blue* and *Here Today*, and she co-produces, conceives, and directs independent art performances of all kinds as well as adventurous productions of JAMO Music (her partnership with Jason Moran) including the innovative touring project *Two Wings: The Music of Black America in Migration*, the three-month Venice Biennale concert *Work Songs*, the couple's game-changing Whitney Biennial residency *Bleed*, and in 2021, *Chantal*, for Washington National Opera. Mrs. Moran first wrote and directed for Mr. Moran in *Milestone*, commissioned by Walker Art Center in 2005.

Ms. Moran's collaboration spans works by contemporary composer-performers including Gabriel Kahane and Oregon Symphony (*emergency shelter intake form*), Lara Downes (*Holes in the Sky*), Tomeka Reid, Tania León, Bryce Dessner, James Moore, Carl Maultsby, Carl Hancock Rux, Yosvany Terry's *Atlantic Connections*, Kaoru Watanabe, and Ice Theatre of New York. Her voice lives in films by Dorothy Darr (*Charles Lloyd: Arrows Into Infinity*), director Rebecca Miller (*She Came To Me* (2023)), Ragnar Kjartansson (*Scenes From Western Culture*), Joan Jonas (*Reading Dante*), Simone Leigh and Liz Magic Laser (*Breakdown*), Carrie Mae Weems (*Slow Fade To Black*), as well as the contemporary dance films of the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company (*Chapel/Chapter*) and Lee Mingwei with Bill T. Jones (*My Labyrinth*), among many others. Ms. Moran lives, writes, and parents twin boys in New York City.

Cecilia Engelhart

Stage Manager

Cecilia has more than 30 years' experience as a production/stage manager for many arts presenters, including SFJAZZ, Oakland Symphony, Stanford Live, the International Body Music Festival, Festival Productions, and Lincoln Center Out of Doors. She has toured internationally with artists including Chucho Valdes, Youssou N'Dour, and El Conjunto Foclorico Nacional de Cuba. Cecilia is a professional vocalist and composer, performing regularly. She also teaches voice at the University of California at Berkeley.

Katherine Freer

Katherine Freer is a multimedia artist, filmmaker, organizer, and educator whose artistic practice lives at the intersection of story, technology, and civic engagement. Frequent collaborators include Ping Chong, Ty Defoe, Kamilah Forbes, Steve H. Broadnax III, Lux Haac, Porsche McGovern, Liza Jessie Peterson, Talvin Wilks, and Tamilla Woodard. She is a proud member of Wingspace Theatrical Design and United Scenic Artists, Local USA 829, a core collaborator in All My Relations Collective, and Interim Head of the Integrated Media Program at the University of Texas at Austin.

Maggie Ruder

Creative Partner and Set Design

Maggie Ruder is a multidisciplinary production designer working in film and television, immersive events, and live performance. Maggie's work is often graphically inspired, and she loves to work on projects that require creative thinking, historical context, and a sense of humor. Maggie has previously designed projects for Disney, HBO, and Netflix, among others. Maggie is grateful for the opportunity to work as a creative partner with Jason and Alicia during the development of *Family Ball*, and it has inspired her to pursue opportunities to develop her skills working with artists and musicians to create original work.

Matthew Simonelli

Costume Designer

Matthew brings stylized whimsy, youthful exuberance, urbane innovation, and curated elevation to each and every project he designs. Best known for his work on the beloved *Search Party*, where the costumes are characters inasmuch as the actors who wear them. Matthew's understanding of character development and his ability to harness the reality of the make-believe is a testament to his genius. Matthew is credited as the designer of the Amazon feature *Birds of Paradise*, the HBO feature *Unpregnant*, and the Hulu limited series *Looking for Alaska*. His indie film work includes the Berlinale International Film Festival—and Spirit Awards-nominated *Driveways*; *After Everything*, which premiered in Official Selection at SXSW; the Tribeca Film Festival-premiered feature *King Cobra* and *Welcome the Stranger*, distributed by Universal Sony Pictures.

Brian Tovar

Lighting Design

Brian Tovar is a Drama Desk-nominated lighting designer who has created original work for major Off-Broadway and regional theaters everywhere. His body of work spans theater, dance, opera, installations, and live events. Brian has developed and collaborated on multiple groundbreaking and award-winning live experiences, earning multiple Clio Awards. Brian is a frequent collaborator with the City of New York and has created and designed multiple art installations in New York City.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS



Photo by Stephanie Berger

Suzanne Bocanegra: Honor

Fri, Feb 10, 2023, 8 PM

This subversive performance by conceptual artist [Suzanne Bocanegra](#) masquerades as an artist talk but reveals her current fixation, and aesthetic engagement, with one of the Metropolitan Museum of Art's greatest tapestries, the colossal *Honor* (from the series *The Honors*), measuring almost 19 by 25 feet. Weaving Bocanegra's personal narrative with an artist's interpretation of the 16th-century tapestry which reveals a multitude of different characters and narratives, *Honor* features celebrated film and theater actor Lili Taylor in the title role of "The Artist."

[Get your tickets now →](#)



Photo by Astrid Ackermann

HYENA

Fri, Feb 24, 2023, 8 PM

Austrian composer Georg Friedrich Haas has become one of the most provocative and important voices in contemporary music. As a composer, he often brings his life and family into his work. *HYENA* is a concerto for orchestra and narrator featuring a remarkable score to accompany the autobiographical story told by his American wife, the writer and storyteller Mollena Lee Williams-Haas. An alcoholic for years, Williams-Haas wrote a searing story about her long journey to sobriety. In concert, she reads her story as the music reinforces her narrative's hallucinatory qualities. *HYENA* will be performed by Boston's own Sound Icon Ensemble, led by Jeffrey Means. The hyena is Mollena Lee Williams-Haas's inner demon, which encouraged her to drink and with which she is now settling scores once and for all.

[Get your tickets now →](#)



Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company:

Curriculum II

Fri, Mar 10, 2023, 8 PM

Sat, Mar 11, 2023, 8 PM

Sun, Mar 12, 2023, 2 PM

Curriculum II is a timely new work conceived and directed by the iconic, Tony-winning Bill T. Jones and choreographed by Jones with Janet Wong and the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company. Applying the ideas of Cameroonian historian and political theorist Achille Mbembe, Nigerian-born Afrofuturism scholar Louis Chude-Sokei, and Jamaican writer and cultural theorist Sylvia Wynter, *Curriculum II* explores the historical and persistent connection between race and technology and the pursuit of what is human.

[Get your tickets now →](#)



| ABOUT THE ICA

Since its founding in 1936, the ICA has shared the pleasures of reflection, inspiration, imagination, and provocation that contemporary art offers with its audiences. A museum at the intersection of contemporary art and civic life, the ICA has advanced a bold vision for amplifying the artist's voice and expanding the museum's role as educator, incubator, and convener. Its exhibitions, performances, and educational programs provide access to the breadth and diversity of contemporary art, artists, and the creative process, inviting audiences of all ages and backgrounds to participate in the excitement of new art and ideas.

[Learn more about the ICA here →](#)



Photo by Chuck Choi

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All ICA members receive the following benefits:

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- Unlimited admission for a full year to the ICA
- First access to new exhibitions during members-only preview days
- 10% discount at the ICA Store online and in-person*
- Discounts at select area businesses

Virtual

- Access to virtual programming designed exclusively for members
- Free member tickets to select events such as our popular online cooking class, Talking Taste
- Subscriptions to ICA member communications
- Member pricing on tickets for virtual film screenings and performances presented by the ICA

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