



Photo by Chris Payne

**The Javaad Alipoor Company**  
*Things Hidden Since the  
Foundation of the World*

Fri, Sep 27, 2024 at 8 pm

Sat, Sep 28, 2024 at 8 pm

The Nimoy

**CENTER  
FOR THE ART OF  
PERFORMANCE  
UCLA**

# WELCOME TO THE 2024–25 SEASON

UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance (CAP UCLA) is dedicated to the advancement of the contemporary performing arts in all disciplines – dance, music, spoken word and theater, as well as emerging digital, collaborative and cross cultural platforms – by leading artists from around the globe.

Our mission aligns with UCLA's mission of education, research and civic engagement by providing cultural and experiential programs that provoke inquiry and facilitate connection and creativity.

[cap.ucla.edu](https://cap.ucla.edu)



# The poetics of movement and migration

Welcome to my inaugural season at CAP UCLA. Inspired by the diversity of Los Angeles and the city's ability to shape-shift, the 2024–25 season encompasses narratives of change, adaptation and a quest for new perspectives. The works presented speak to our universal urge for exploration and our innate desire for belonging. The visionary artists whose work will bring the season to life ask us to ponder our origins, our trajectory, and the nature of human existence.

Across thirty performances, scores of artists from Los Angeles, around the US, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Indonesia, Iran, Mexico, South Africa and the United Kingdom inspire thought-provoking conversations and seek to create a more just world together. Each performance adds another thread to the ever-evolving tapestry of existence, a testament to the resilience and beauty found in movement and migration.

The performing arts provide fertile ground for transformation and evolution, creating spaces that encourage reflection, connection, and action. My hope is that when you exit a performance, you will be transformed by the desire for a more dignified and empathic world.

In these times of global strife, we must create new ways of being with one another. I invite you to join us this season: ignite your curiosity, partner with us as we fuel new aspirations, and embrace the power and possibility of change.

I look forward to welcoming you.

A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read 'Edgar Miramontes', is positioned to the left of the photograph.

Edgar Miramontes  
*Executive and Artistic Director*





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**CAP UCLA Presents**

**The Javaad Alipoor Company**  
***Things Hidden Since the Foundation of  
the World***

Fri, Sep 27, 2024 at 8 pm

Sat, Sep 28, 2024 at 8 pm

The Nimoy

**Program duration: 90 minutes**

**No intermission**

Additional funds provided by the Doris Duke Charitable  
Foundation Endowment Fund.

# PRODUCTION CREDITS

## **Written by**

Javaad Alipoor with Chris Thorpe

## **Co-created by**

Javaad Alipoor and Natalie Diddams

## **Dramaturgy by**

Chris Thorpe

## **Directed by**

Javaad Alipoor

## **Set, Costume and Lighting Design**

Ben Brockman

## **Composer, Music Director and Musician**

Me-Lee Hay

## **With Music by**

Raam Emami

## **Sound Design**

Simon McCorry

## **Projection and Video Design**

Limbic Cinema

## **Specialist AV Technician**

Barret Hodgson

## **Company Stage Manager**

Dylan Tate

## **Touring Production Manager**

Daniel Potter

## **Performed by**

Javaad Alipoor and Asha Reid with Raam Emami, together with on-stage musician Me-Lee Hay

## **Production Management**

The Production Family

## **Produced by**

The Javaad Alipoor Company, co-produced with National Theatre of Parramatta

## **ABOUT THE PROGRAM**

“A dazzlingly complex show that unpicks the way our very thinking can be conditioned by the tools we use and by the assumptions of both those constructing them and using them.” – *Financial Times*

An investigation into the nature of investigation, with the unsolved murder of a pop icon at its centre...

It's the 1970's and Fereydoun Farrokhzad's star is blazing bright – he's a sex symbol and chart-topping pop singer – imagine an Iranian Tom Jones. A decade on and he's living in political exile in Germany, though still performing to sold-out audiences in Europe.

On 7 August 1992, he's found brutally murdered. The neighbours say his dogs had been barking for two nights.

## **ABOUT THE ARTISTS**

### **Javaad Alipoor**

Javaad Alipoor is a British-Iranian writer, director and performer. He founded The Javaad Alipoor Company in 2019. The Company's most recent work, *Things Hidden Since the Foundation of the World*, opened to five-star reviews and sell-out audiences at Battersea Arts Centre and HOME, Manchester. *Things Hidden Since the Foundation of the World* then began a world tour, opening in the USA at The University of Michigan and Australia at The Sydney Opera House.

Previously, Javaad Alipoor wrote, co-directed and performed in *The Believers Are But Brothers* as an international touring show, and wrote and performed in the TV adaptation for BBC Four. Its follow up, *Rich Kids: A History of Shopping Malls in Tehran*, also co-created

with Kirsty Housley, won a Fringe First Award before the COVID-19 lockdown led it to transform into an immersive digital experience. The digital version opened at Battersea Arts Centre, before it toured to Sundance Film Festival and The Public Theatre's Under the Radar Festival.

Together with Chris Thorpe, Javaad Alipoor wrote and directed the trilingual theatre production, *Made of Mannheim*, which had its world premiere with Nationaltheater Mannheim and Theaterhaus G7.

Javaad was Resident Associate Director at Sheffield Theatres from 2017-18 where he directed a new version of *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*. Prior to this he was Associate Director at Bradford's Theatre in the Mill from 2015-17. Javaad is involved in politics and activism, co-founding The International Alliance in Support of Iranian Workers, The Syria Solidarity Campaign and a Bradford-based network supporting EU migrants after Brexit. His writing about politics and culture has been featured in The Guardian, The Independent and The Stage. His plays have been published by Oberon and Nick Hern, and his poetry by Art in Usual Places.

## **Chris Thorpe**

Chris is a writer and performer from Manchester. His work tours and is produced in the UK and internationally. He has collaborated with Javaad on several projects, including dramaturgy on *The Believers Are But Brothers* and *Rich Kids: A History of Shopping Malls in Tehran*, as well as co-writing and dramaturgy on *Things Hidden Since the Foundation of the World*. In 2021 Chris and Javaad also co-wrote and directed *Made of Mannheim* for Nationaltheater Mannheim, Germany. Chris also has ongoing collaborations with artists and companies including Rachel Chavkin, China Plate, Yusra Warsama and Portugal's mala voadora. Work as a writer includes *Victory Condition*, and the film *What do*

*You Want Me To Say* for the Royal Court, *There Has Possibly Been an Incident* and *The Mysteries* for the Royal Exchange and *Beowulf* for the Unicorn. Upcoming work includes a new, as-yet-untitled large scale piece co-written with Javaad Alipoor, *The Soprano Always Dies*, for mala voadora/ Portuguese National Opera, *Always Maybe The Last Time* for the Royal Court, and *A Family Business* and *Talking About The Fire* for Staatstheater Mainz/China Plate - two shows about nuclear treaty negotiation and disarmament, developed with diplomats, activists and NGOs, touring the UK and internationally in 2024/5. As well as writing, Chris also mentors writers with a particular focus on working with young people in the care system, post-prison groups, and addiction recovery.

### **Natalie Diddams**

Natalie Diddams is a dramaturg, director and academic researcher based in Manchester. Notable productions include *A Series of Metaphors About a Plague* (HOME, Manchester), *The Believers Are But Brothers* (International Tour), *BIRTH* (Royal Exchange Theatre), and *Thesmo* (National Tour). Natalie has a PhD from Manchester Metropolitan University, and is an Assistant Professor at the University of Warwick. Through her research, Natalie is a leading voice on the intersection between comedy and contemporary politics, and regularly hosts workshops and performances aimed at empowering participants through comedy. Natalie is an Associate Artist of The Javaad Alipoor Company, Trestle Theatre, and the International Schools Theatre Association (ISTA).

### **Asha Reid**

Theatre includes: - *One Jewish Boy* (Trafalgar Studios), *Snowflakes* (Old Red Lion), *Pufferfish* (Vault Festival), *One Jewish Boy* (Old Red Lion), *Graceful* (RADA Studio/ Rosemary Branch Theatre), *Inside Pussy Riot* (Les Enfants Terribles), *Biggest Tarantino Fan in the World* (The Vaults)



Festival/Arcola), *Edinburgh Test* (Pleasance/Old Red Lion), *Stay Happy Keep Smiling* (Jermyn Street Theatre), *I Found Joy in a Hopeless Place* (Hackney Showrooms), *Money Womb* (Theatre 503), *A Third* (Finborough Theatre), *Scarlet* (Southwark Playhouse), *Electra* (Old Vic), *Cross Purpose* (Crypt Gallery), *Medea* (The London Theatre), *The Hate Play* (Box Clever Theatre), *Miniaturists: The Interval* (Arcola), *Scarlet* (Bush), *The Tempest* (Watford Palace), *Lord of the Flies* (Broadway Theatre), *The Magpies The Wolves* (Tristan Bates/Pleasance), *Hacked* (Theatre 503), *The Beggars Opera* (Regent's Park Open Air).

Film includes: *This Is Gay* (BBC), FEMME Feature Film, FEMME Short Film – (BIFA Winner & BAFTA Nominated), *Horror Vacui*, *Into Me See*, *Face The Camera & Smile*, *House Hold*, *Gemma's Wedding*, *Puzzled*, *White Collar*, *Weird Love*. Television: *The Syndicate* (BBC1), *Nutritiously Nicola* (London Live).

## **Raam Emami**

Raam is an Iranian musician, writer, actor and podcast host. He started his musical career in the undergrounds of Tehran. With a great deal of international press behind his band, including features in *New York Times*, *MTV*, *Billboard*, *NPR*, *CNN*, *VICE*, *NME* and *Vanity Fair*, Raam paved the way for a new generation of aspiring underground Iranian artists. In January 2018, Raam's father, *Kavous Seyed Emami*, a prominent environmentalist, was arrested in Tehran under false charges of espionage. Two weeks after his arrest he was killed in Iran's notorious Evin Prison. Raam and his family attempted to flee Iran, but the authorities detained his mother and confiscated her passport. Raam and his brother were allowed to leave, but his mother was held hostage in Iran for 582 days. Besides his live shows with his band, Raam has also channeled his creative energy into a one-man storytelling performance called "Departure" about his family's experience and his father's legacy, woven together with his music. He also has a podcast in Persian called

“Masty o Rasty,” since its inception in 2020 the show has had over forty million streams.

## **Me-Lee Hay**

Me-Lee Hay composes for film, TV, dance and theatre. A Malaysian born Chinese- Australian, she has had works shown across multiple platforms including Netflix, Amazon Prime, Tubi, commercial TV channels and mainstream cinemas plus international planetariums and film festivals including Canne and Sitges. Off the screen, Me-Lee has been commissioned by leading arts companies of Australia such as Sydney Dance Company’s PPy, Sydney Theatre Company as well as performing at the Sydney Opera House. Me-Lee received her debut nomination at the Sydney Theatre Awards in 2024 for Best Composer and Sound Designer in Independent Theatre (*Face of Jizo*) as well as her first AACTA (Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts) nomination for Best Original Score in Film in the same year (*Suka*).

Classically trained in piano and cello, Me-Lee is a graduate of the Australian Film Television Radio School (AFTRS), an Associate Composer Representative of the Australian Music Centre and was the Vice President of the Australian Guild of Screen Composers for 4 years. She composed for her first ballet in 2024 entitled GOLD presented at Parramatta Riverside Theatre (Sydney), a magical children’s ballet set in the Australian bush during the historic gold rush era.

## **Benjamin Brockman (they/them)**

Benjamin Brockman is award-winning lighting and set designer who has worked both in Australia and Internationally

Sydney Theatre Company: *Constellations, A Fool In Love, American Signs*; Queensland Theatre Company: *Family Values*; Griffin Theatre Company: *Family Values, Splinter*,

*Replay, Diving For Pearls*; National Theatre Of Paramatta: *Things Hidden Since The Foundation Of The World* (AUS/UK), *Lady Tabouli, Girl In The Machine, The Girl/ The Woman, The Sorry Mum Project, Let Me Know When You Get Home*; Darlinghurst Theatre Company: *Overflow, Torch Song Trilogy, Broken, Detroit, Mother Fucker With A Hat, Tinder Box*; Hayes Theatre Company: *Ride the Cyclone, Gentlemen Prefer Blondes, Carmen Alive Or Dead, Razorhurst*; Belvoir 25a: *Horses, Jess & Joe Forever, Greater Sunrise*; Ensemble Theatre: *Tribes, The Big Dry, The Plant, Neville's Island*; Pinchgut Opera: *Farnace*; Critical Stages: *Alphabetical Sydney*; CDP: *Are we there yet?, Guess How Much I Love You, Spot Live On Stage*; Sydney Mardi Gras Festival: *Sissy Ball 2022, Sissy Ball 2020*; Campbelltown Arts Centre: *Mirage; Apocalypse: Cleansed, Metamorphoses, Angels In America Part 1 And 2*; bAKEHOUSE: *Coram Boy, Dresden, Visiting Hours, The Laden Table, Jatinga*; Squabbalogic: *Day of the triffids development, Good Omens The Musical development, Herringbone, Grey Gardens The Musical, Man Of La Mancha; Little Eggs Collective: Symphonie Fantastique*; Legs On The Wall: *Cat's Cradle, The Raft, Waters Edge*; Shaun Parker & Company: *In The Zone, King*; Dance Makers Collective: *The Rivoli, Wolverine*.

Awards: APDG Award for best lighting design for a Live Performance or Event (Cleansed), Best Lighting Design for an Mainstage Production 2023 (Constellations), Best Lighting Design for an Independent Production 2019 (Metamorphoses), Best Lighting Design for an Independent Production 2021 (Symphonie Fantastique).

## **Simon McCorry**

“Blissful, serene and yet broken at the edges to reveal something unseen” – *Magazine Sixty*.

“The leading voice of McCorry’s cello is an irresistible beam of light in the darkness” – *The Quietus*.

“Electro -orchestral drone-scapes of, by turns, gauzy

intimacy and soaring grandeur” – *Mojo*.

Born in London of mixed Indian/British ethnicity, McCorry studied music at The Centre for Young Musicians and Morley College, philosophy at Durham University. Now based in Stroud, Gloucestershire, McCorry has worked as a composer and sound designer in theatre, film and contemporary dance for over twenty years. McCorry’s recent work is a combination of loop based cello compositions and atmospheric improvisations, field recordings and modular synth.

### **Limbic Cinema**

Limbic Cinema is an award-winning multimedia creative studio that specialises in projection mapping and immersive video design. The studio creates mesmerising, meaningful and memorable encounters that empower people through the use of light, sound and moving image. Directing and collaborating on ambitious productions that utilise cutting edge tools and immersive technology to transform spaces and transport audiences. Animation is central to the studio’s output, taking traditional workflows and expanding on them through the use of emerging technologies. Their work can be seen in theatres and music halls, at festivals, large- scale public events and online.

Recent work featured at Video Mapping Festival, Lille (*Spectra* - 2022), Glastonbury Festival (*Temple* - 2022), Edinburgh Fringe (*Megalith* - 2022), Sundance Film Festival (*Rich Kids* - 2021), Vivid Sydney (*Critical Point* - 2021) Limbic was nominated by CreaTech (Creative Industries Council) as one of the ‘Ones to Watch’ in 2021.

### **Barret Hodgson**

Barret is an award-winning video artist and digital projection designer. His company, Vent Media, was created after his master’s degree in ‘Collaborative Arts Practice’

at Trent University, Nottingham. Vent Media specialises in creating and staging visual media for live performance including theatre, dance and music events, gallery installations, film productions and architectural projection. Barret has continued to refine his practice, working on cutting-edge techniques and hardware to create a huge array of visual digital experiences.

Clients and commissions have included the BBC, 59 Productions, Game City, Sadlers Wells, Red Bull, DreamThinkSpeak, Warp Films and Glastonbury Festival. Barret has toured nationally as a VJ for many years and has collaborated with DJ Yoda, Fat Boy Slim, Ghostface Killah and Roni Size, amongst many others. His theatre and dance collaborations have had international recognition including touring in Asia, North America and across Europe.

### **Dylan Tate**

Dylan has worked in a range of roles across the industry since 2008. He splits his career as a stage manager, director and videographer. Often producing and consulting on work across the UK with companies and individuals. He has toured internationally and around the UK as a filmmaker and performer. A founding member of Flabbergast Theatre, Associate Artist of Futures Theatre Company and Director of Tate Creations. Enjoying all aspects of theatre and film, he is proud to be involved with The Javaad Alipoor Company.

### **Daniel Potter**

Daniel is an arts management professional based in Sydney, Australia and holds a post-graduate degree in Arts and Entertainment Management (Deakin University), graduating with distinction. Daniel has worked extensively with some of Australia's most renowned theatre makers and administrators, leading production and creative teams to countless opening nights across the country and

internationally while holding production management positions at Merrigong Theatre Company and Belvoir. Between 2015 - 2023, Daniel held the position of Executive Director / CEO at Shopfront Arts Co-op., an arts organisation based in Sydney, Australia. Daniel serves on the board of Beyond Empathy, a grass roots organisation that uses community, arts and cultural development practice to create new works, and as chair of the board for Theatre Network NSW, the peak theatre body for the state of New South Wales in Australia. He is a member of Create NSW's Artform Advisory board for Theatre & Musical Theatre. Daniel believes creative expression is crucial to building strong community ties and is passionate about utilising the arts as a tool of empowerment for adults and Young People alike.

Want to hear more about what The Javaad Alipoor Company are up to and be the first to receive news about their next project? [Sign up for their newsletter here.](#)

The Javaad Alipoor Company would love to find out more about their audiences. [Please take 2 minutes to fill out this short survey.](#) Many thanks!

Loved what you saw? Tell us what you think about the show! Send your thoughts to [admin@javaadalipoor.co.uk](mailto:admin@javaadalipoor.co.uk) with a location of your choosing - to get the chance to see them published on the [TJAC world map!](#)

# DESIGN FOR SHARING (DFS)

Each year, Design for Sharing (DFS) brings thousands of K-12 public school students from across Los Angeles to CAP UCLA venues for free performances and interactive workshops with professional artists.

DFS programs are open to any public school in greater Los Angeles, and are always free to attend.

[cap.ucla.edu/dfs](https://cap.ucla.edu/dfs)





# UCLA NIMOY THEATER

CAP UCLA has a new home for live performance  
in Westwood!

Located near the UCLA campus on Westwood Boulevard,  
The Nimoy is a reimagining of the historic Crest Theatre as a  
flexible, state-of-the-art performance space.

This dynamic and intimately scaled venue immerses  
audiences in a profoundly engaging experience of live  
performance – while providing contemporary performing  
artists from Los Angeles and around the world expanded  
opportunities to develop and present new work.

[cap.ucla.edu/nimoy](https://cap.ucla.edu/nimoy)





# LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We at UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance acknowledge the Gabrielino/Tongva peoples as the traditional land caretakers of Tovaangar (the Los Angeles basin and South Channel Islands).

As a land grant institution, we pay our respects to the Ancestors (Honuukvetam), Elders (Ahihirom), and relatives/relations (Eyoohinkem) past, present and emerging.

# There is no room for racism, intolerance, or inequity.

## Anywhere

Not on our stages, in our offices, on our loading docks, in the box office lines, or on the dance floor.

## With anyone

Not with our staff, crew, artists, volunteers, ushers, audiences or fans.

We uphold and embrace principles of antiracism, equity, diversity and **AUTHENTIC** inclusion as integral to our mission.

We must **EMPOWER** the historically underrepresented.

We must **UPLIFT** excluded voices.

We must **RESIST** structural racism.

We will **COMMIT** fiercely to our responsibility to observe, absorb, consider, contemplate, endure, share and engage in this change.

We **STAND AGAINST** all forms of discrimination.

We will **STRIVE** to make our organization more equitable and inclusive.

As part of UCLA's School of Art & Architecture (SOAA), we – UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance (CAP UCLA) and Theater Management Services (TMS) – are committed to connecting and creating space for the arts and for all communities.

We acknowledge our organizations' histories as being predominantly white institutions. We are facing uncomfortable truths about systemic racism as we work to make the deep changes necessary to transform the organizational dynamics in our work culture and business practices and dismantle existing oppressive structures. We know there will be shortcomings, which we will face head on. We commit to continually addressing and adapting to changes as they arise. It is only in an improved, supportive work environment that everyone can be fully present, and respected as their true authentic selves.

*This statement was drafted by a committee of staff members from both the Center for the Art of Performance and Theater Management Services, from a variety of backgrounds, viewpoints and perspectives.*

Together we stand with UCLA's School of Art and Architecture's EDI statement.



# CAP UCLA COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

## CAP UCLA Executive Producer Council

The Executive Producer Council is CAP UCLA's philanthropic leadership group, which develops and contributes resources vital to CAP UCLA's programming and mission. The Council champions the creative development and presentation of live programs and public dialogue with contemporary performing artists by providing direct support for CAP UCLA's annual programming. The Council is engaged in dialogue about the artistic and curatorial practices that inform annual programs, long-term initiatives and collaborative planning efforts which stand at the heart of CAP UCLA's mission and public purpose.

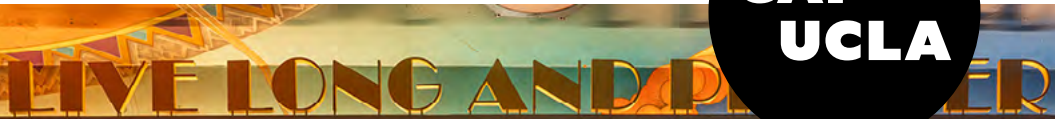
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The Design for Sharing Council is a group of dedicated supporters whose efforts help to resource the K-12 arts education programs of DFS.

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**CAP  
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LIVE LONG AND PROSPER



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Associate Technical Director/Audio & Video: Duncan Woodbury  
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## CAP UCLA Administrative Offices

B100 Royce Hall  
Box 951529  
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1529  
Tel: 310-825-4401  
Fax: 310-206-3843

## General Questions

info@cap.ucla.edu  
(please allow 48 hours for a response)

## UCLA Central Ticket Office

Tel: 310.825.2101  
Fax: 310.206.7540  
tickets@cap.ucla.edu

## Press Inquiries

Lisa Bellamore  
lbellamore@gmail.com

## Development Office

Tel: 310.267.4463  
Fax: 310.206.3843  
devinfo@cap.ucla.edu

## Design for Sharing/ K-12 Arts Education

Tel: 310.825.7681  
Fax: 310.206.3843  
dfs@cap.ucla.edu

## The Nimoy Rental Information

Mads Falcone  
m.falcone@arts.ucla.edu

## Theater Rental Information

Anthony T. Jones  
Tel: 310.825.4403  
Fax: 310.206.8678  
atjones@arts.ucla.edu  
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**UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance gratefully acknowledges our donors, sponsors and members whose gifts directly support the vitality of contemporary performing arts. Thank you!**

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Mimi Perloff Endowment for Design for Sharing

Mimi & Werner Wolfen Endowment  
for Design for Sharing  
National Endowment for the Arts  
Challenge Grant Endowment  
Plitt Theaters Fund for Design for Sharing  
Roslyn Holt Swartz & Allan J. Swartz Endowment  
for the Performing Arts  
Royce Center Circle Endowment Fund  
Royce Gala Endowment  
Sally & William A. Rutter Endowment  
for the Performing Arts  
Shirley & Ralph Shapiro Director's Discretionary  
Fund  
Shirley & Ralph Shapiro Endowment for Design for  
Sharing

## NAME YOUR SEAT

The opening of The Nimoy offers donors a rare opportunity to create a lasting legacy while celebrating their passion for contemporary performing arts at UCLA. Learn more about naming a seat in The Nimoy – CAP UCLA's newest home for live performance – and other opportunities to become a part of this state-of-the-art theater.

[cap.ucla.edu/give-nimoy](http://cap.ucla.edu/give-nimoy)



# JOIN THE CONSTANTLY CURIOUS

We invite you to become a CAP UCLA Member and support our ability to create a space for shared experiences, extraordinary artistry and the exchange of ideas.

- > Enjoy priority access and discounts
- > Support extraordinary artistry
- > Deepen relationships with artists and other arts enthusiasts

**Become a member**  
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