



HANCHER AUDITORIUM **50** YEARS
1972-2022

DAN + CLAUDIA ZANES *LET LOVE BE YOUR GUIDE*



Saturday,
February 18, 2023
2:00 pm

HANCHER'S GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY: WE ALL RISE
2022-23 SEASON

Photo: Anna Zanes

IOWA

THE (BLACK AND) GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY HANCHER SEASON CUP!

JUST \$5

The Hancher Season Cup allows patrons to take drinks purchased in the Stanley Café into the auditorium to enjoy during performances.

Purchase yours at the Box Office, the Hancher Showcase, or the Stanley Café.

Only beverages purchased from the Stanley Café can be taken into the auditorium. The 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 Season Cups can be used. Patrons should not bring beverages from home. Also, alcoholic beverages cannot be taken out of Hancher Auditorium in a Hancher Season Cup as this would violate "open container" restrictions.



CELEBRATING **50** YEARS $\frac{1972}{2022}$

DAN + CLAUDIA ZANES

LET LOVE BE YOUR GUIDE

Saturday, February 18, 2023, at 2:00 pm
Hancher Auditorium, the University of Iowa

DAN ZANES

vocals, guitar, mandolin,
harmonica, percussion, jawharp

CLAUDIA ZANES

vocals, flute, trombone,
percussion, guitar sometimes



HANCHER EVENT PARTNERS

The Gazette



ABOUT THE ARTISTS

DAN + CLAUDIA ZANES

Grammy award-winning children’s performer Dan Zanes and Haitian-American music therapist / jazz vocalist Claudia Zanes have been making music with each other since the day they met in the fall of 2016.

The two decided, while sitting at Dan’s kitchen table that afternoon, that they would continue singing together and, in the spirit of progress and inclusion, would work with presenters to try and make all of their concerts Sensory Friendly.

Inspired by their artful modern-day all-ages folk music and their commitment to accessibility, the Kennedy Center commissioned Claudia and Dan to create a theater piece for young audiences. *Night Train 57: A Sensory Friendly Folk Opera* premiered in October 2017 and has been performed several times since.

Their love of songs and communal music-making led to a publishing deal with the Quarto Group USA and the result, an award-winning songbook entitled *Dan Zanes’ House Party: A Family Roots Music Treasury*, was released in 2018.

In late 2019, the couple—now married!—moved from Brooklyn to Baltimore and what had been a full schedule of theater, school, and festival performances evaporated with the advent of the coronavirus. When a national state of emergency was declared in March, Dan and Claudia started their Social Isolation Song Series. For the next 200 days, in an effort to stay connected and uplift others, they performed a different song every day. This series of videos currently resides in the Library of Congress.

The two continue to adapt and reinvent and sing their way to new beginnings. In addition to making music, Claudia runs her flourishing handmade skin care business called CLEO Soaps and Dan continues his work with Constructive White Conversations, a white antiracist organization he co-founded in 2011.

DAN ZANES

Grammy Award-winner Dan Zanes occupies a unique place in American music—where sea shanties, English Music hall, play party songs, the spirit of early rock-n-roll, soul, and North American and West Indian folk music collide. For the past 20 years, he has toured the world with his band, Dan Zanes and Friends, sharing handmade 21st century social music with enthusiastic crowds of kids and kid sympathizers.

From thrift shop basements to Carnegie Hall, from Brooklyn to Bahrain, Zanes has been introducing new songs and reconnecting people to the forgotten music of the past. Referred to as “the family-music genre’s most outspoken and eloquent advocate” by *Time* magazine, his critically acclaimed music has been featured on *Sesame Street*, Playhouse Disney, Nickelodeon, HBO Family and Sprout. Over the course of 14 albums, 2 DVDs, 2 picture books, and dozens of videos, he has collaborated with Philip Glass, Lou Reed, Angélique Kidjo, Natalie Merchant, Carol Channing, Sharon Jones, Bob Weir, Debbie Harry, Rosanne Cash, The Blind Boys of Alabama, and many more.



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ABOUT THE ARTISTS

In the 1980s, Zanes was a member of The Del Fuegos, a roots rock band who released several albums and toured heavily before spontaneously combusting in 1989. In 1994 he became a father and began trying to create music that he and his daughter could enjoy together as a shared experience, an updated version of the Folkways records he grew up on. In 2000, Zanes moved to Brooklyn and released *Rocket Ship Beach*, which became an immediate hit with families in America. NPR called him “The Gold Standard in kid’s music.”

In the fall of 2017, Dan and his wife, Haitian-American jazz vocalist / music therapist Claudia Zanes, premiered *Night Train 57: A Sensory Friendly Folk Opera* at the Kennedy Center. They occasionally tour this show with Mexican percussion player-turned-comic actor Yuriana Sobrino. *Night Train 57* is the first piece commissioned by the Kennedy Center to be created, from the beginning, as a Sensory Friendly experience. Dan and Claudia believe that Sensory Friendly is the future of family entertainment and have committed to presenting all of their various performances in this inclusive manner. The soundtrack to the show is now available digitally and on CD.

Recently, Dan and Claudia collaborated with illustrator Donald Saaf to make a songbook called *Dan Zanes’ House Party: A Family Roots Music Treasury* which was published by the Quarto Group in late 2018 to widespread acclaim from families, educators, and folk enthusiasts. Dan and Claudia tour constantly bringing their soulful folk music to people of all ages throughout the U.S. and Canada.

In addition, Dan is a co-founder of Constructive White Conversations, an ongoing white anti-racist affinity group based in New York. He and his childhood best friend, Mike Feldstein, are completing an audio book of personal essays about their experiences as white men called *Tales of White Racism for Stoners, Upholsterers, Financiers, Cowgirls, and Others*. It was released in the spring of 2019.

CLAUDIA ZANES

Haitian-American vocalist and music therapist, Claudia Eliaza was not looking to add more to her already full schedule when she ended up, through a twist of fate, at a dining room sing-along in Dan Zanes’s Brooklyn home. This chance Labor Day meeting in 2016 put her on a path from Boston to Brooklyn via the Kennedy Center and cities throughout the U.S. and Canada. All along the way she’s been combining performance and music therapy to create a new paradigm for joyful, inclusive, participatory performance.

Born in New Hampshire and raised in Northern California, Claudia’s desire to use music compassionately led her to the music therapy degree program at Berklee College of Music in Boston in 2005 where she worked with a spectrum of individuals through the life span—from children with special needs in public and private schools, orphans and youth in Nairobi, to frail and well-elders in adult day health programs. During that time, Claudia gained a reputation for her innovative methods and creative mentoring.

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ABOUT THE ARTISTS

In 2013, she became the director of music therapy at the Community Music Center of Boston. Besides managing a thriving urban music program, she served as the facilities clinical supervisor for Berklee Music Therapy fieldwork students. Her model of community music therapy helped redefine how music is used clinically through the Center. Drawing on her foundation in performance, she used the power of music and therapy to focus on individual's abilities rather than disabilities while connecting different groups of people together to positively impact quality of life and creating a level playing field where all were valued equally.

During this time, Claudia's gifts as a jazz vocalist had her touring near and far including concerts in the U.S., England, Germany, Australia, New Zealand, Israel, and Kenya, Africa. She continues to appear extensively throughout Russia and has performed at a number of jazz festivals including the Tong Jazz Festival, Jazz Fever Festival, and the Taimyr Cactus Jazz Festival.

And so, given all this, it's no surprise that Claudia would eventually collaborate with Dan Zanes in the spirit of freewheeling, festive, community music-making. In 2016, Dan invited her to join him at the Old Town School of Folk Music in Chicago for a Sensory Friendly family concert. The performance was a success and Eliaza suggested that if they were to continue singing together (something Dan was definitely wishing for) they should make every show Sensory Friendly, a decision that eventually led them to create *Night Train 57: A Sensory Friendly Folk Opera*, the first theater piece for young audiences commissioned by the Kennedy Center to be developed as Sensory Friendly from the ground up.

In 2018, Claudia and Dan were married! And now she's Claudia Zanes! She and Dan continue to perform throughout the U.S. and Canada often with vocalist Pauline Jean. They collaborated on the songbook *Dan Zanes' House Party: A Family Roots Music Treasury* which was published by the Quarto Group in December 2018.

When Claudia isn't busy making music and traveling, she creates handmade luxury artisan soaps under the name CLEO. For more information please visit cleosoaps.com.

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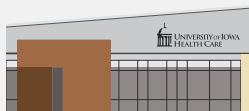
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HEALTH CONCERNS

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