HANCHER AUDITORIUM  45TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

Great Artists.
Great Audiences.
Hancher Performances.

SPRING 2018 EVENTS
TICKETS

Tickets can be purchased in person at the Hancher Box Office, by phone at 1-800-HANCHER / (319) 335-1160, or online at hancher.uiowa.edu.

PLEASE NOTE: Always be sure that you are on our Hancher site hancher.uiowa.edu before making an online purchase. Sites with other addresses are operated by resellers who may charge you well above the actual face value of the tickets.

SAVE 20% WHEN PURCHASING 5 OR MORE EVENTS
A discount program is available for anyone wishing to buy five or more unique events from our 17-18 season. Anyone interested in this discount must order his or her tickets in person at the Hancher Box Office, or by phone at 1-800-HANCHER. This discount is NOT available online. All five unique events must be purchased in a single order to qualify for the discount. Please note that a few events do not have a 20% discount, but those events can still count toward the five or more event total.

DISCOUNTED TICKETS FOR GROUPS
Discounted group prices are available for many performances when the block of tickets is purchased at the same time with a single payment. Tickets are held until three weeks before the chosen performance, at which time final count and full payment is due. Contact the Hancher Box Office for group prices and to arrange for your group.

HANCHER BOX OFFICE
141 East Park Road, Iowa City, IA 52242
Open Monday-Friday 10 am-5:30 pm, and 2 hours prior to each performance at Hancher Auditorium
hancher-box-office@uiowa.edu
(319) 335-1160 / 1-800-HANCHER
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>Hancher Culinary Arts Experience: Orchard Green Restaurant - SOLD OUT</td>
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<td>2/25</td>
<td>Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan <em>Formosa</em></td>
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<td><em>Motown The Musical</em></td>
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<td>Elias String Quartet</td>
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<td>3/21</td>
<td><em>My Lai</em>, Kronos Quartet, Rinde Eckert, Vân-Ánh Vanessa Võ</td>
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<td>Brian Stokes Mitchell with the University of Iowa Symphony Orchestra</td>
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<td>Taylor Mac Lecture</td>
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<td>Taylor Mac <em>A 24-Decade History of Popular Music (Abridged)</em></td>
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<td>Chicago Symphony Orchestra</td>
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<td>5/25-26</td>
<td>Zeshan Bagewadi and the Transistors</td>
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Thursday Nights at Hancher: every Thursday between 1/18-5/31 except 3/15 and 5/10
The Embracing Complexity project seeks to build textured knowledge of Islamic cultures, while creating a greater sense of empathy for the experiences of peoples of diverse racial, ethnic, and religious backgrounds. We believe this is an urgent program at this moment.

Learn more at [hancher.uiowa.edu/embracing-complexity](http://hancher.uiowa.edu/embracing-complexity).

This project is made possible in part by a grant from the Association of Performing Arts Professionals – Building Bridges: Arts, Culture, and Identity, a component of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art.

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1. Amir ElSaffar and Rivers of Sound  February 8, 2018
2. *Feathers of Fire: A Persian Epic*  April 4, 2018
3. Bassem Youssef  Part of Mission Creek Festival  April 7, 2018
4. Reading: *Muslims in Iowa*  April 10, 2018
5. Zeshan Bagewadi and the Transistors  May 25–26, 2018

Photo: Miriam Alarcón Avila
Camille A. Brown & Dancers

*ink*

Saturday, January 27, 7:30 pm
The Auditorium, Hadley Stage

“The heart of the work is about seeing the dancers,” says Camille A. Brown. “They are people. What are the stories that live inside of their bodies?” Her new work, *ink*, seeks to reclaim African American narratives and culture from appropriation and silence. The third work in a trilogy about identity, *ink* is an amalgamation of African dance, African American social dance, tap, jazz, modern, and hip-hop.

“*Ink* was often intriguing, as Brown’s seven dancers, including her, can make you believe that whole weather systems are coursing through their bodies; they convulse, shake, and calm themselves with exceptional ease.” – *Washington Post*

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**EVENT SPONSORS:**

Ed and Patricia Folsom

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**Creative Matters Lecture with Camille A. Brown**

* A partnership with the UI Office of Research & Economic Development

Friday, January 26, 7:30 pm
Strauss Hall
Free - no tickets required
Billy Childs Quartet

Friday and Saturday, February 2-3, 7 and 9:30 pm
Strauss Hall

Pianist and composer Billy Childs joined the Ying Quartet for a classical concert last season at Hancher. This season, he returns for a run of Club Hancher performances with his jazz quartet. The four-time Grammy winner and his bandmates are grounded in bebop’s quartet roots, but their musical path explores expansive territories of rhythmic and melodic counterpoint.

Club Hancher events are intimate affairs, and the 7 pm performances are all but sold out. But those in the know make plans for the late show.

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EVENT SPONSORS:
General Hancher Partners
Hancher Circle Donors
Amir ElSaffar and Rivers of Sound

Thursday, February 8, 7:30 pm
The Auditorium, Hadley Stage

The Wire says Amir ElSaffar is “uniquely poised to reconcile jazz and Arabic music without doing either harm.” A trumpeter, santur player, vocalist, and composer, ElSaffar is steeped in classical and jazz traditions while also bringing the microtones and ornaments idiomatic to Arabic music into play. He is also a practitioner of the culturally endangered Iraqi maqam music, which influences both his playing and his composing. All of this adds up to the Chicago Tribune calling ElSaffar “one of the most promising figures in jazz today.”

His band, Rivers of Sound, features 17 musicians who blend eastern and western music by using resonance as their organizing principle. As pitches and rhythms become fluid, so do cultural boundaries. The result is a fresh transcultural soundscape.

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EVENT SPONSORS:
François M. and Doris E. Abboud
Little Village
Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan

Formosa
Concept/Choreography by Lin Hwai-min

Sunday, February 25, 2 pm
The Auditorium, Hadley Stage

Lin Hwai-min is the founder and artistic director of Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan. He is also a University of Iowa graduate, earning his MFA from the Iowa Writers’ Workshop in 1971. He received his first training in modern dance while he was a UI student. After studying at the Martha Graham Center of Contemporary Dance, he founded Cloud Gate in 1973. The company blends Asian traditions with a modern sensibility to create beautiful works performed to great acclaim around the world. Formosa is inspired by the landscape and history of Taiwan while also reflecting on universal human experiences.

This tour is made possible by the grants from the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of China (Taiwan). Formosa was co-produced by The National Performing Arts Center - National Theater & Concert Hall, Republic of China (Taiwan); National Kaohsiung Center for the Arts (Weiwuying), Republic of China (Taiwan); Sadler’s Wells, London, UK; Theatre de la Ville, Paris, France; Carolina Performing Arts, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Movimentos Festwochen der Autostadt, Wolfsburg, Germany.

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EVENT SPONSORS:
Alan and Liz Swanson
GET READY, ’CAUSE HERE WE COME.
MARCH 1–4
THU–FRI AT 7:30 PM, SAT AT 2 PM & 7:30 PM, SUN AT 1 PM
THE AUDITORIUM, HADLEY STAGE

The performance on Sunday, March 4, at 1:00 pm will feature an American Sign Language interpreter.

TICKETS:

PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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EVENT SPONSORS:
Riverside Casino & Golf Resort
Toyota/Scion of Iowa City
and ABRA Auto and Body Glass
Jeffrey R. and Tammy S. Tronvold

MotownTheMusical.com

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Elias String Quartet

Tuesday, March 6, 7:30 pm
The Auditorium, Hadley Stage

A collaboration with the UI String Quartet Residency Program

There are plenty of top tier string quartets in the world. Even so, the Elias String Quartet stands out among its peers. As the Philadelphia Enquirer put it, “Few quartets at any stage of their evolution have this much personality.” The Herald of Glasgow had this to say: “It is hardly ever the case that gratitude is the lasting impression of a concert, but this is one of them.”

PROGRAM:

Schubert: Quartettsatz in C Minor, D. 703
Janácek: Quartet No. 2 (“Intimate Letters”)
Beethoven: Quartet No. 12 in E-flat Major, Op. 127

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EVENT SPONSORS:
General Hancher Partners
Hancher Circle Donors
My Lai
Kronos Quartet, Rinde Eckert, Vàn-Ánh Vanessa Võ

Jonathan Berger, composer
Harriet Scott Chessman, librettist
Brian H. Scott, lighting designer

Wednesday, March 21, 7:30 pm
The Auditorium, Hadley Stage

Hancher has enjoyed a long and creatively fruitful relationship with both the Kronos Quartet and UI alum Rinde Eckert. For My Lai, the string quartet and the vocalist come together with Vietnamese multi-instrumentalist Vàn Ánh Vanessa Võ to lay bare the tragedy of the 1968 massacre at My Lai. The story of the destruction of the village at the hands of American soldiers is told from the perspective of Hugh Thompson, a helicopter pilot who tried to intervene and who was vilified for reporting what he had witnessed.

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EVENT SPONSORS:

General Hancher Partners
Hancher Circle Donors
Brian Stokes Mitchell
with the University of Iowa Symphony Orchestra
Dr. William LaRue Jones, conductor

Wednesday, March 28, 7:30 pm
The Auditorium, Hadley Stage

“The last leading man” comes to Hancher Auditorium to perform with University of Iowa student musicians under the baton of Dr. William LaRue Jones. A star of the Broadway stage (Man of La Mancha, Ragtime, Kiss Me Kate, Shuffle Along) and screen (Trapper John, M.D., Frasier, Glee, The Blacklist), Brian Stokes Mitchell possesses what the New York Times calls “a singularly thunderous baritone.” He and his trio will join the UI Symphony Orchestra, which will provide a lush setting for Stokes’s luscious voice.

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EVENT SPONSORS:
Stuart and Lynn Weinstein
**Feathers of Fire: A Persian Epic**

Wednesday, April 4, 7:30 pm
The Auditorium, Hadley Stage

Created by Hamid Rahmanian, a Guggenheim fellowship-winning filmmaker and visual artist, *Feathers of Fire* is an ambitious shadow play recounting the fates of star-crossed lovers. The magical tale of Zaul and Rudabeh is drawn from the tenth-century Persian epic *Shahnameh (The Book of Kings)*. Casting shadows on a cinema-size screen, puppets, costumes, masks, scenography, and digital animation will bring the story to life. With techniques conceived by shadow master Larry Reed, *Feathers of Fire* is epic entertainment for the entire family.

The score for *Feathers of Fire* was composed by Niyaz, the band whose Hancher residency and performance in the fall was thought-provoking and beautiful.
Bassem Youssef

Saturday, April 7, 7:30 pm
The Auditorium, Hadley Stage

*Presented by Hancher and Mission Creek Festival*

From 2011 to 2014, Bassem Youssef hosted the satirical news program *Al-Bernameg (The Show)* in Egypt, earning a reputation as that country’s Jon Stewart. Named one of *Time* magazine’s “100 Most Influential People in the World” in 2013, the physician turned comedian and critic now lives in the United States where he continues to shine a light on global issues with thoughtful, hilarious commentary.

“Youssef, a blue-eyed prankster with a fierce intellect, embodied the verve and defiance of a protest movement that arose from decades of authoritarian corruption. An impeccably tailored mercurial antagonist, Youssef, who was tear-gassed during protests in Tahrir Square, sang and danced, and tossed out one-liners at those in charge.” – *Los Angeles Times*

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**EVENT SPONSORS:**

General Hancher Partners
Hancher Circle Donors
“Cyndi Lauper delivers the best Broadway score in years!”
—ABC News

Kinky Boots

Book by Harvey Fierstein
Music & Lyrics by Cyndi Lauper
Directed & Choreographed by Jerry Mitchell

Based on the Miramax motion picture Kinky Boots written by Geoff Deane & Tim Firth
The performance on Sunday, April 15, at 1:00 pm will feature an American Sign Language interpreter.

APRIL 13 - 15
FRI AT 7:30 PM, SAT AT 2 PM & 7:30 PM, SUN AT 1 PM & 6:30 PM
THE AUDITORIUM, HADLEY STAGE

The performance on Sunday, April 15, at 1:00 pm will feature an American Sign Language interpreter.

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EVENT SPONSORS
- TERRY AND JOHANNA ABERNATHY
- THE CHRIS AND SUZY DEWOLF FAMILY
- EVERYBODY’S WHOLE FOODS
- IOWA CITY PRESS-CITIZEN
- CORALVILLE MARRIOTT HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER
- OAKNOLL RETIREMENT RESIDENCE
- RHODA VERNON
Circa
*Carnival of the Animals*

Saturday, April 21, 2 and 7:30 pm
The Auditorium, Hadley Stage

*Carnival of the Animals*, inspired by composer Camille Saint-Saëns’s suite of the same name, is a delightful frolic through the animal kingdom. The Circa acrobats—with a little help from whimsical projections—portray a wide array of creatures while showing off their incredible circus skills. Bring the whole family to enjoy the adventure.

“The entire performance is bursting with color, humor, and most importantly, some pretty amazing circus performances. True to the show’s name, the cast takes on the behavior of individual creatures, such as butterflies, cats, dogs, fish, caterpillars, chickens, kangaroos, zebras, fleas, and more, with the performers generally incorporating some of these creatures’ characteristics into the jumping, tumbling, balancing, juggling, spinning, clowning, swinging, twirling, skipping, and aerial antics that unfold.” – *The Australia Times*

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**EVENT SPONSORS:**

*One* amazing circus troupe.

*Two* very different shows.

(Turn the page for more!)
Circa

Opus

Wednesday, April 25, 7:30 pm
The Auditorium, Hadley Stage

Opus, which is underpinned by the music of composer Dmitri Shostakovich, features fourteen acrobats creating powerful and nuanced geometries with their bodies. The performers are joined on stage by the Debussy String Quartet, and the musicians’ contributions are far more than simply playing the music. Delving deeply into the complex relationships between the individual and the group, the march of history and the dictates of the heart, and the tragic and the comic, Opus is an evening of circus that eschews the zany for the thought-provoking.

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One amazing circus troupe.
Two very different shows.
Taylor Mac
A 24-Decade History of Popular Music (Abridged)

Saturday, April 28, 7:30 pm
The Auditorium, Hadley Stage

Hancher was a proud commissioner and presenter of Taylor Mac’s 1846–1856 Whitman vs. Foster: Songs Popular Near the Breaking Point, a portion of the artist’s 24-Decade History of Popular Music. Now, in a condensed version of this magnum opus, Mac returns to take us on a musical and theatrical journey through American history. Easily one of the most dazzling performers of our time, Mac will take you out of your comfort zone and into a new conception of our shared story.

Hancher will host an exhibit of the stunning costumes made for Mac’s show by Machine Dazzle, a creative force unlike any other in the world of fashion.

Watch the Hancher website for complete details of the Taylor Mac and Machine Dazzle residencies.

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Creative Matters Lecture:
Taylor Mac in conversation with Garth Greenwell

A partnership with the UI Office of Research & Economic Development
Thursday, April 26, 7:00 pm
Strauss Hall
Free - no tickets required

EVENT SPONSORS:
Dale and Linda Baker
Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Riccardo Muti, Zell Music Director
Semyon Bychkov, conductor
Katia Labèque & Marielle Labèque, piano

Sunday, May 6, 3 pm
The Auditorium, Hadley Stage

Founded in 1891, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra is consistently recognized as one of the great orchestras in the world. The musicians of the CSO command a vast repertoire that spans from Baroque to new music, thrilling audiences at home and in great concert halls across the globe. Led by conductor Semyon Bychkov, the orchestra will be joined by sisters Katia and Marielle Labèque, who are according to the New York Times—“the best piano duo in front of an audience today.”

PROGRAM:
Bruch: Concerto for Two Pianos and Orchestra, Op. 88a
Tchaikovsky: Manfred Symphony, Op. 58

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EVENT SPONSORS:
Sue Strauss
Mace and Kay Braverman
Charles Richard and Barbara S. Clark
Gary and Randi Levitz
William Matthes and Alicia Brown-Matthes
Tim Terry and Gretchen Rice
Zeshan Bagewadi and the Transistors

Friday, May 25, 6:30 pm
Friday Night Concert Series in Downtown Iowa City
Free - no tickets required
*A collaboration with Summer of the Arts*

Saturday, May 26, 2 pm
Lynch Snyder Green
Free - no tickets required

Born in Chicago to Indian Muslim immigrants, Zeshan Bagewadi’s musical identity was formed at the harmonious intersection of two worlds. As he was growing up, his parent’s love of their native Indo-Pakistani music collided with the sounds of his father’s extensive blues, soul, and R&B collection. Bagewadi brings all of those influences to the stage, creating a unifying and soulful sound from seemingly disparate traditions. He and his band will perform at the Friday Night Concert Series and then play a Saturday show in Hancher’s backyard.

**EVENT SPONSORS:**
Anonymous Family Foundation
H. Dee and Myrene Hoover
Events in the Stanley Café
The Stanley Café is located on the second floor of Hancher.

THURSDAY NIGHTS AT HANCHER
Every Thursday from 5–7:30 pm until May 31 except 3/15 and 5/10

Throughout the spring, Hancher will be open Thursday nights—whether or not there is a performance that evening. Meet your friends for a relaxing evening and enjoy great food and beverages for sale from the Stanley Café.

SCIENCE ON TAP
February 15, March 29, and April 19, 5:30–6:30 pm

Science is brewing at Hancher’s Stanley Café! Science on Tap is an informal forum for UI researchers to engage the campus and the local community in a discussion of science in a fun and inviting atmosphere. The program, which is an occasional part of Thursday Nights at Hancher, is presented in conjunction with the UI Research Development Office.
Hancher’s Culinary Arts Experiences

Amazing dining experiences in the beautiful setting of the Stanley Café.

Tickets must be purchased in advance through the Hancher Box Office. Ticket price includes dinner, non-alcoholic beverages, tax, and gratuity. Capacity is limited.

TICKETS: $40 per person per event

Orchard Green Restaurant and Lounge - SOLD OUT
Wednesday, February 21, 5-8 pm

Orchard Green features gourmet classics and innovative American-Mediterranean cuisine artistically prepared with fresh, seasonal ingredients.

Trumpet Blossom Cafe
Wednesday, May 2, 5-8 pm

Trumpet Blossom creates plant-based comfort food that reflects the season, respects the land, and is truly sustainable using organic ingredients and making dishes from scratch.
Hancher thanks West Music Company for sponsoring the 2017-2018 season!

We also thank all of our 2017-2018 Hancher Partners. See the full list at hancher.uiowa.edu.

Individuals with disabilities are encouraged to attend all University of Iowa sponsored events. If you are a person with a disability who requires a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in this program, please contact Hancher in advance at (319) 335-1158.