

### PORTLAND OVATIONS PRESENTS: POP 90 A VIRTUAL CELEBRATION TO BENEFIT OVATIONS' 90TH YEAR

THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 2021 LIVE AT MERRILL AUDITORIUM PRESENTED ON ZOOM



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#### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

6:30PM EST
POP STAR HOST PRE-PARTY
Paige Hernandez & Nick tha 1da

7PM EST MAINSTAGE EVENT Mary Allen Lindemann, Aimée M. Petrin, Kerem Durdag, Sara Juli

> 8PM EST DANCE PARTY Cherry Lemonade



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#### BRIDGMAN I PACKER DANCE

Art Bridgman and Myrna Packer, Co-Artistic Directors of Bridgman|Packer Dance, have collaborated in choreography and performance since 1978. Decades later, they continue to be a vital and present voice in the dance ecosystem. In 2001, they expanded their choreographic vision, stretching the boundaries of dance by merging it with video technology. They continue to receive international critical praise for seamlessly melding these two art forms. In 2017, they received a New York Dance and Performance Award for Outstanding Production (The Bessies) for their work *Voyeur* at The Sheen Center.





#### CHERRY LEMONADE

In a city full of Lime Rickeys, Cherry Lemonade has grabbed Portland's attention for being bold, beautiful, and brilliantly boisterous as a premier nightlife personality. A multiple award-winning performer, she has traveled the country storming stages big and small for audiences of all kinds to rave reviews.

Follow her on social media @ch3rryl3monad3



Lauren Kennedy Photography



#### KEREM DURDAG

Kerem Durdag is currently President and Chief Operating Officer of GWI, a leading ISP/telco in Maine. Previously he served as the Entrepreneur-In-Residence for the Maine Technology Institute, a quasi-public loan and venture capital entity. He was the CEO of a start-up (in the sensors market) leading it to growth and eventual acquisition by a public company. Another start-up he led (medical device and advanced materials) was sold in 2016 to a global Chinese company after he failed to sustain the growth trajectory. He has also been the CTO of a large US subsidiary of a public German semiconductor and optical media company and prior was the leader of the engineering department of an electronics company which went public

(twice). With an inherent strong bias towards action, a long-time advocate for the inclusion of immigrant and refugee voices in societal conversation and extremely passionate about doing his part to close the economic and digital divide, Kerem also serves on several Boards and is a member of the Maine angel investing community.

Mr. Durdag has deep roots in theater and poetry, having translated Urdu and Turkish poetry while having performed and published his original poems.





#### PAIGE HERNANDEZ

Paige Hernandez is a multidisciplinary artist who is critically acclaimed as a performer, director, choreographer and playwright. As an AEA equity actress, Paige has performed on many stages throughout the country. She has collaborated with the Lincoln Center and has been commissioned by several companies including the National New Play Network, the Smithsonian, The Kennedy Center, La Jolla Playhouse and the Glimmerglass Festival. She is the recipient of an Individual Artist Award from the Maryland State Arts Council as well as four Helen Hayes nominations for choreography,

directing and performance. Paige has also been named a "classroom hero" by The Huffington Post, a "Citizen Artist Fellow" with the Kennedy Center, "4O under 4O" by the Washington Post and one of "Six Theatre Workers You Should Know" by American Theatre Magazine. She is elated to be the Associate Artistic Director of Everyman Theatre in her hometown of Baltimore, MD. With her company B-FLY ENTERTAINMENT, Paige continues to develop and tour original work internationally. www.paigehernandez.com





#### NICK HERNANDEZ (NICK THA 1DA)

Nick "tha Ida" Hernandez is a composer and music director who has produced original compositions for: Long Way Down and Darius & Twig (The Kennedy Center); The 51st State (Arena Stage); The Hip-Hop Children's Trilogy with playwright Psalmayene 24 (Imagination Stage); Fences (Ford's Theater); Native Son and Les Deux Noir (Mosaic Theater); Word Becomes Flesh (Helen Hayes Award, Outstanding Production) at Theater Alliance; Snowy Day & other Stories (Adventure Theater); and Havana Hop and All The Way Live with sibling Paige Hernandez (Discovery Theater).

Additionally, Nick has produced theme music and projects for Hot 97 FM, Red Bull Music, Netflix, DC Public Library, Smithsonian Associates, and Words, Beats & Life Inc. Social Media: @nickthalda





#### SARA JULI

Sara Juli's mission is to explore her own personal struggles through the medium of performance. In sharing her work, she is hopeful that others will understand an aspect of her personal turmoil, and be able to relate it to their own. Her introspective autobiographical solo performance fuses movement, text, song, voice, gesture and audience participation to both acknowledge the gravity of her burdens as well as to simultaneously laugh at their reality.



Nick Pierce Photo



#### KENNETH KELLOGG

Praised for his "commanding stage presence" and "rich, resonant bass," Kenneth was born and raised in Washington, D.C., music has been a part of his life since grade school. Nurtured in the public school system by amazing music teachers, he participated in choirs throughout the city and began formal training at the Duke Ellington School of the Performing and Visual Arts as a Vocal and Visual Arts student.





#### TAYLOR MAC

Taylor Mac (who uses "judy"—lowercase sic—as a gender pronoun) is a playwright, actor, singer-songwriter, performance artist, director and producer. Mac's many works have garnered judy a MacArthur Fellow, a Tony Award nomination, a Pulitzer Prize Finalist citation, the Kennedy Prize, a NY Drama Critics Circle Award, a Doris Duke Performing Artist Award, a Guggenheim, the Herb Alpert in Theater, The Booth Award, the Peter Zeisler Memorial Award, the Helen Merrill Playwriting Award, two Bessies, two Obies, two Helpmann's, and an Ethyl Eichelberger Award. An alumnus of New Dramatists, judy is currently the resident playwright at the Here Arts Center.



Sarah Walker Photo



#### DANIEL BERNARD ROUMAIN

Daniel Bernard Roumain (DBR) is a prolific and endlessly collaborative composer, performer, educator, and social entrepreneur. "About as omnivorous as a contemporary artist gets" (New York Times), DBR has worked with artists from Philip Glass to Bill T. Jones to Lady Gaga; appeared on NPR, American Idol, and ESPN; and has collaborated with the Sydney Opera House and the City of Burlington, Vermont. Acclaimed as a violinist and activist, DBR's career spans more than two decades, earning commissions by venerable artists and institutions worldwide.





## EXCERPT FROM "SOALROAR' BY KEREM DURDAG

This is the journey Sunbeams of painful beauty Through the valleys of lament Unbroken love ascent

Onmuzlarin gokyuzunden gunes akar [the sun drips over your shoulders]
Soyledim sana ruhun acar [I told you your soul will bloom]
Geldim gidemedim sarkilar soyledim [I came I couldn't go I sang songs]
Nefesim bitti amma seni unutamadim [my breath is gone but I couldn't forget you]

Dekho tum meray piyare ajnabi [look here my beloved stranger] Nehire-zindaga ke pas rahi [living near the river of life] Anjumane-kismet key divan may [at the seat of the destiny of the stars] Mohabat ki ansoo hato may [the tears of love in your hands]

This is the journey Sunbeams of painful beauty Through the valleys of lament Unbroken love ascent

So tell me will you come back After the sun has set The breath of the sky at rest The tears of the earth lost in the zodiac

Simdi sen benim acik ellerimden kactin [And now you have escaped me from my open hands]

Daglardan agladim agladim [I cried and cried from the mountaintops]
Sesinin kullerini sonlara kadar aradim [I searched endlessly for the ashes of your voice]
Ararken Gunesin sahilerinde hayatimi verdim [And while searching I died on the shores of the sun]



Teri zaban may khabo ki ruh sirf vo rahi [On your tongue what is left are the souls of dreams]

Dastane akaile may ghane ki alfaz rahi [epic tales of loneliness have songs with leftover alphabets]

Yay zulm jo hay sirif tumare ankhoo may say koh gayi [this torture that is present is only lost from your eyes]

Abhi bol meray mohabat hangi raston may milenge hum ajnabi [now say my love, upon which roads will be meet as strangers]

This is the journey Sunbeams of painful beauty Through the valleys of lament Unbroken love ascent

Onmuzlarin gokyuzunden gunes akar [the sun drips over your shoulders]
Soyledim sana ruhun acar [I told you your soul will bloom]
Geldim gidemedim sarkilar soyledim [I came I couldn't go I sang songs]
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WE LOOK FORWARD TO
SHARING IN THE NEXT 90!

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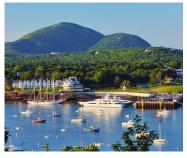
Est. 1931





#### A Maine Get-Away to Mount Desert Island, Experience the Way Life Should Be Estimated Value: \$2,500

Welcome to Mount Desert Island! You and your guests will stay 2-Nights in a Luxurious 2-Bedroom Suite (4 Persons) at The Acadia Hotel. Originally built as a ship captain's house in 1880, the Main House and attached Boat House offer Iuxurious comfort and privacy located in the heart of downtown Bar Harbor within two blocks of the restaurants, bars, shops, galleries, the waterfront, and minutes from Acadia National Park. You and your guests will have a unique culinary experience with a gift certificate to McKay's Public House, one of Bar Harbor's most sought after dining venues, featuring fresh local and organic food creatively prepared. To help you explore MDI's many attractions you will have a 1-Day Bike Rental at the Bar Harbor Bike Shop featuring 4 traditional or popular E-bikes for touring. For immersion into local culture we are pleased to include Complimentary Passes to the Abbe Museum, the only Smithsonian Affiliate in Maine, an exciting contemporary museum showcasing the history and cultures of the Native people in Maine, the Wabanaki.









#### Be Our Guest and Buoy Local Estimated Value: \$1,200

Indulge in days of enjoyment when you treat yourself to 6 lunches or dinners for two at Portland's most popular local restaurants; David's, Fore Street, North 43 Bistro, Scales, Union at The Press Hotel, and Yarmouth's Royal River Grill House. While you are out and about the town or before an Ovations performance, treat yourself with a \$250 Buoy Local Gift Card, compliments of Bangor Savings Bank, your trusted regional partner since 1852 for all your personal and business banking needs. The Buoy Local Program is designed to empower and connect locally owned Main Street businesses with local shoppers.









#### Laughter is the Best Medicine Estimated Value: \$1,000

This is the chance of a lifetime... for you and a guest to sit VIP to see Ari Shapiro (yes, of NPR "All Things Considered" fame) & Alan Cumming (yes, the beloved Scottish actor full of wit, charisma and enough energy to power every marquee on Broadway), when they team up for their debut at Merrill Auditorium in Och! & Oy!, a hilariously funny cabaret-inspired show filled with dazzling chemistry and amazing story telling. Musical director Henry Koperski joins them in this incredibly entertaining show that gets the audience involved with an ever changing Q&A. You will celebrate your good fortune with complimentary autographed memorabilia and a delightful champagne toast in the lobby! Bravo!









#### Re-Imagine ME Estimated Value: \$2,500

Beat the pandemic blues and emerge feeling renewed as your best possible authentic, confident self. You will have the opportunity to work with functional fitness experts during your complimentary 3-Month Membership at The Body Architect, East End Portland. This package includes the popular Semi Private Training option, and a Membership Concierge will make sure you have what you need to hit the ground running with access to a multitude of options. To compliment this life-changing experience you will indulge in a luxurious facial at BeautyMark in Portland where individualized skincare treatments calm the body and spirit with state of the art ingredients. For the final Re-Imagine ME immersion experience, you will have a personal styling session with designer Roxi Suger and you will leave with a complete look comprised of the most harmonious pieces for your unique body and lifestyle. This could be designs from either of Roxi's sustainable plant based collections: ANGELROX® (playful versatile elegant essentials) or SUGER® (smooth classics). Both collections are crafted with joy in the historic textile mills of Biddeford.









#### Rising Tide Craft Beer Virtual Tasting and Onsite Experience for 8 Estimated Value: \$1,200

You and up to 8 people (up to 4-households) will have an informative and unique virtual beer tasting with a brew master from Portland's Rising Tide Brewery. Your virtual tasting experience will explore 4 locally crafted Rising Tide beers, and will be accompanied by charcuterie boxes from Fire & Co., home to wood-fired creative cuisine. In addition, Rising Tide looks forward to welcoming you and up to 8-guests on site at their Back Cove location, 103 Fox Street, where you will be treated to a round of beers and pizza from Fire & Co. Each of the 8 guests will receive a Rising Tide swag bag filled with koozies, hats, tasting glasses and more.









#### Take a Bite Out of the Big Apple Estimated Value: \$4,000

Accompany Executive & Artistic Director Aimée M. Petrin to NYC for a Curatorial Immersion Trip January 14-16, 2022. Get a behind-the-scenes look at how an Ovations season comes together as you join Aimée in the Big Apple for two nights during the annual international industry conference. From the Great White Way to intimate downtown dance and theater experiences, discover and experience live performance in a whole new way. The whirlwind pace is offset by the luxury of your retreat and two night stay at The Hotel Beacon, called "The Jewel of the Westside", it's nestled in one on NYC's most sought after residential neighborhoods. Your experience will culminate with 2 VIP Portland Ovations 2021-2022 Season Tickets. Now that's a standing ovation!









#### This One's For You! Estimated Value: \$1,000

Want to give the person who has everything something really special? Want to honor the memory of the greatest life ever lived? Want to ask that special someone the big question in a way that says you are my immortal beloved? Have a performance dedicated LIVE, direct from the stage of Merrill Auditorium, at a performance during Portland Ovations' 2021-2022 Season. Themes could include honoring a loved one, recognizing a teacher or artist, celebrating an anniversary, announcing the arrival of a newborn member of the community or offer a proposal of marriage. The moment will last forever with a video recording of your dedication......the possibilities are endless.









## Coffee By Design Roastery Tour Proprietary Blend Session for 4 People Estimated Value: \$1,200

Enjoy an unique opportunity to spend an afternoon with Maine's own Coffee By Design, Roast Magazine's 2020 Roaster of the Year. Winner will receive a private roastery tour and coffee tasting for up to four people. You will sample a selection of beans curated by the Head Roaster and Director of Coffee, and create your own signature blend. 2 - 1 lb. bags of your proprietary blend will go home with you along with a swag bag which includes a \$100 Coffee By Design gift card and a selection of products featuring collaborations between Coffee By Design and other local specialty food and beverage retailers. Winner will be able to special order signature blend for up to a year as long as coffees selected are available.







## BE A BIDDER TO FUND OVATIONS' MISSION

Raise your digital paddle for a level in one or more of our reverse auction items and take home that great feeling of knowing you've directly funded innovative new performing arts programs for Maine students wherever they are; or support for Maine artists as they continue to innovate and create new work in these challenging times. In a reverse auction, every bid is a winner. We can all contribute to the programs that "inspire a curious and imaginative community where the experience of the performing arts is a vital part of everyday life." Every gift creates real impact throughout the performing arts community in Maine.



Yo -o Ma during a masterclass in 2009



#### Help Students Experience and Learn Through the Performing Arts Wherever They Are

Ensure that all students have access to spectacular performing arts experiences no matter their school budget or wher they are learning from. In 2020, not only were performances canceled: so were entire weeks of school-based learning for our students. Ovations pivoted to digital programming to make the arts accessible to learners whatever their circumstances might be: in limited classroom with no field trips or visiting artists; at home; or with other caregivers. We are working hard to create programming in such a way that teachers and caregivers are able to fit them into their new circumstances; including our delivery of books to schools for home libraries through our Cultivating Curiosity program

Ovations continues to believe there is nothing better than a full house of wiggly, whispering, excited students watching a live performance that expands their worldview, makes them feel connected to others, and invites them into the magic of performance, and looks forward to returning to that as soon as possible. We also recognized and are responding to the ongoing need to provide new ways to ensure students maintain access to the diverse artists, performances and experiences that only Ovations can bring: Step Afrika! Paige Hernandez.



TEXT 'POP9OEDU' TO 44-321 OR



#### Support for Maine Artists and Their New Performances

With performances and tours canceled and remaining uncertain going into this year, how do Maine's performing artists sustain themselves and their art? This is the question Portland Ovations asked nearly a year ago. Our response for our institution, our artists and our communities' well-being is to deploy Ovations' Catalyst Fund to commission a handful of Maine performing artists to create new performances vital to a return to a thriving and vibrant cultural scene. You've heard the names and voices of this diverse group of artists: playwright and survivor advocate dee Clarke. Our own co-host this evening, Kerem Durdag working with musician Andy Happel. Blues and roots musician and award-winning guitarist Samuel James. Innovative dance maker Riley Watts. And our institutional partners, Bar Harbor's Abbe Museum, committed to a decolonizing practice and learning for Maine's students in the creation of a performance of Wabanaki Stories for young audiences. As we continue into the year, the costs to sustain this program grow as we seek to present the performances they have developed with Ovations' support. Now in addition to the commissioned artists we need to raise funds to make their visions a reality and to pay ADDITIONAL artists: the actors, musicians, dancers and designers required to produce their work. Support Maine Artists: support Ovations' program to commission and develop these new works and help us continue to bring Maine artists to the world.





TEXT 'POP9Omaine' TO 44-321 OR

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#### SPECIAL THANKS

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#### ADDITIONAL THANKS

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