

INSIDE ART

KSDS-FM

Produced and Hosted by Dave Drexler

Show Synopsis: Peter Sprague

Guest: Peter Sprague – Guitarist/Composer/Producer

Contact: Peter Sprague – Guitarist/Composer/Producer, SpragueLand Studios
(760) 436-3906 peter@petersprague.com

Topic: Peter Sprague's New Album Releases

Air Date/Time: October 1, 2023 6:00pm

Duration: 30 minutes

Recording Site: Drexler Media Studio, La Mesa, CA

Broadcast Site: KSDS Studios

Description: This "Inside Art" program welcomed longtime North County-based guitarist, composer and producer Peter Sprague on the release of four new self-produced albums. Sprague discussed and played excerpts from each of the albums, which reinterpret the music of jazz legend John Coltrane, plus eclectic vocal standards adapted for guitar along with two albums of original compositions with his local band – all largely recorded and live-streamed during the COVID pandemic at his SpragueLand recording studio. These releases follow Sprague's previous pandemic-era projects celebrating the music of Pat Metheny, Carol King, Paul Simon and other iconic musicians. Sprague has stayed as active as ever as a leader of his own ensembles and a frequent sideman for artists like Dianne Reeves and other established jazz greats. He's also one of today's leading jazz guitar instructors, whose lessons available through the Open Studio online network.

Public Interest Issues: New advancements in internet streaming and recording technology disrupting the music industry and re-shaping musician's ability to earn a living as professional artists. The lingering effects of COVID-19 on live, in-person arts attendance and its implications for the future support of performers.

INSIDE ART

KSDS-FM

Produced and Hosted by Dave Drexler

Show Synopsis: Wayne Escoffery/North Coast Repertory Theatre

Guests: Wayne Escoffery – Saxophonist/Composer

Shana Wride – Director, North Coast Rep's *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*

Contacts: Wayne Escoffery – Saxophonist/Composer (971) 353-7733

wayne.escoffery@gmail.com

Nancy Richards - Public Relations, North Coast Repertory Theatre (917) 873-

6389 nancy@northcoastrep.org

Topic: Wayne Escoffery Concert and North Coast Rep's *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*

Air Date/Time: October 8, 2023 6:00pm

Duration: 30 minutes

Recording Site: Drexler Media Studios, La Mesa, CA

Broadcast Site: KSDS Studios

Description: The first segment featured one of today's most talented saxophonists and sidemen - Grammy-winning saxophonist Wayne Escoffery. Wayne has recorded or played with a who's who of jazz, including Ron Carter, Tom Harrell and Herbie Hancock. Known for his distinctive tone, impressive technique and versatility, Escoffery has recorded 10 albums as a leader, including his latest *Like Minds* released by Smoke Records. Escoffery previewed his upcoming concert at Bread and Salt in Barrio Logan, the neighborhood that was once home to one of his musical icons, the late San Diego-bred saxophonist Harold Land. Escoffery shared his early studies of Harold Land's music, plus he previewed his New York-based quartet's San Diego performance, as well as discussing his newest recording projects.

In the second segment, Award-winning Theatre Director Shana Wride previewed North Coast Repertory Theatre's re-imagining of Robert Louis Stevenson's literary thriller *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*. Wride described contemporary playwright Jeffrey Hatcher's wickedly clever adaptation of this classic story that delves deep into the human psyche, exploring the eternal conflict between good and evil in a suspenseful cat and mouse showdown. She talked about the production's cast and creative team and what she hoped audiences would come away with after experiencing this innovative approach to Stevenson's iconic story.

Public Interest Issues: Young black musicians preserving and developing the distinct musical tradition of jazz that reflects the African-American experience. *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde's* exploration of good and evil in contemporary culture.

KSDS-FM

Produced and Hosted by Dave Drexler

Show Synopsis: Timken Museum/Art of Elan Season

Guests: Derreck Cartwright – Curatorial Director, Timken Museum of Art

Alexis Miller – Paintings Conservator, Balboa Art Conservation Center

Kate Hatmaker – Violinist/Artistic Director, Art of Elan

Contacts: Stephen Kougias – Public Relations, Timken Museum of Art (619)

316-8478 skougias@timkenmuseum.org

Kate Hatmaker – Artistic Dir., Art of Elan (630) 632-0653 kate@artofelan.org

Topic: Timken Museum Art Restoration Exhibition and Art of Elan Season

Air Date/Time: October 15, 2023 6:00pm

Duration: 30 minutes

Recording Site: Drexler Media Studios, La Mesa, CA

Broadcast Site: KSDS Studios

Description: The first segment spotlighted the Timken Museum of Art's rare public opportunity to observe the conservation of a major work of art with the restoration of San Diego's largest Rococo painting *Lovers In The Park* by 18th Century French artist Francois Boucher. *Boucher: Conservation In A Park* is presented in partnership with the Balboa Art Conservation Center and displays the process of how a precious masterpiece is restored while demystifying the world of art conservation. Previewing this unique collaboration of two local arts institutions were Timken Curatorial Director Derrick Cartwright and Alexis Miller, the head of Paintings Conservation for the Balboa Art Conservation Center. They shared the history and processes of art restoration, how the public can see the actual restorative processes and ask questions of the conservators.

The second segment previewed Art of Elan's 17th season of unique classical and contemporary music journeys presented in a variety of inclusive community settings. Violinist and Art of Elan Co-Founder Kate Hatmaker discussed the season's theme "True North," which includes three world premieres of Art of Elan commissioned works highlighting multimedia artist Mason Bynes, L.A. Philharmonic bassist/composer Jory Herman and composer/violinist Michi Wiancko, as well as numerous West Coast/San Diego premieres. Hatmaker also talked about Art of Elan's concerts as part of the statewide California Festival.

Public Interest Issues: New advancements in the technology and practice of painting restoration. Classical music outreach through concerts and music education programs by professional artists for at-risk youth in the community.

INSIDE ART

KSDS-FM

Produced and Hosted by Dave Drexler

Show Synopsis: *Tears of War/Camarada* Season

Guests: Anne Hoiberg – Author, *Tears of War- Stories of Refugee Women*

Dori Salois – Director/Co-Founder, Vantage Theatre

Beth Ross Buckley – Flutist/Co-Artistic Director, Camarada Chamber Ensemble

Dana Burnett – Pianist/Co-Artistic Director, Camarada Chamber Ensemble

Contacts: Dori Salois – Director, Vantage Theatre (858) 504-1013

vantagetheatre@gmail.com

Beth Ross Buckley – Co-Artistic Director, Camarada Ensemble (619) 917-2444

bethrossbuckley@gmail.com

Topic: *Tears of War* and Camarada Season Preview

Air Date/Time: October 22, 2023 6:00pm

Duration: 30 minutes

Recording Site: Drexler Media Studio, La Mesa, CA

Broadcast Site: KSDS Studios

Description: The first segment welcomed author Anne Hoiberg and Vantage Theatre Co-founder Dori Salois to preview a unique stage performance of the stories of refugee women highlighted in Hoiberg's book *Tears of War-Stories of Refugee Women* at La Jolla Library. Seven of these women will share their experiences fleeing war, surviving horrific journeys to refuge, and resettling here in our community, presented in conjunction with the San Diego arrival of *Little Amal*, a 12-foot puppet of a young Syrian girl who's become a global symbol of human rights and the struggles of refugees and asylees. Both guests shared several of these local women's stories and the unimaginable challenges they overcame to flee war zones and ultimately thrive in our San Diego community.

The second segment previewed Camarada's 2023-34 season of eclectic chamber, jazz and world-infused concerts. Camarada engages diverse audiences through visionary and educational programs featuring masterworks, living composers and new commissions presented at four distinct venues - Bread and Salt, Mingei Museum, The Conrad and UC San Diego's Park and Market. Co-founders Beth Ross Buckley and Dana Burnett discussed the season's theme *Heart to Heart*, detailing several of their upcoming concerts and repertoire.

Public Interest Issues: The historic burden of war on women throughout the world and the inspiring stories of women's migration to peaceful countries to raise their children and become productive citizens of their new countries.

INSIDE ART

KSDS-FM

Produced and Hosted by Dave Drexler

Show Synopsis: Cecil Alexander/California Festival

Guests: Cecil Alexander – Guitarist/Composer

A.J. Benson – Director of Artistic Planning - San Diego Symphony

Contacts: Karl Soukup - Director of Jazz Studies, SDSU School of Music & Dance (619) 594-6031 ksoukup@sdsu.edu

Kristen Turner – Director of Communications, San Diego Symphony (723) 817-3219 kturner@sandiegosymphony.org

Topic: Cecil Alexander Concert and the California Festival of New Music

Air Date/Time: October 29, 2023 6:00pm

Duration: 30 minutes

Recording Site: Drexler Media Studios, La Mesa, CA

Broadcast Site: KSDS Studios

Description: The first segment welcomed rising jazz guitarist Cecil Alexander. A recent graduate of the Berklee College of Music and William Patterson University Masters program, Alexander has recorded with Bill Charlap, Antonio Hart, Nathan East and others. His debut album from Heartcore Records, *Introducing Cecil Alexander* is a collection of cover tunes that have inspired him over the years. Cecil talked about his development as a jazz guitarist, what he hoped to accomplish with his debut album and his upcoming performance locally with the SDSU Jazz Ensemble.

The second segment previewed the California Festival, a statewide celebration of new music presented by California's three leading orchestras – the Los Angeles Philharmonic, San Francisco Symphony and San Diego Symphony. The festival is an unprecedented collaboration of today's most forward-looking music and performers - and the spirit of innovation and inclusivity that continues to lure people to California. San Diego Symphony's Director of Artistic Planning A.J. Benson discussed the many San Diego area events throughout the three-week festival, including symphonies, chamber concerts, jazz programs, choral works and more.

Public Interest Issues: The unique history and role of California as a magnet and incubator of innovation in contemporary classical and experimental music. A celebration of California's long tradition of openness and inclusiveness for composers and musicians of all backgrounds from throughout the world.

INSIDE ART

KSDS-FM

Produced and Hosted by Dave Drexler

Show Synopsis: *Babbitt*/Silk Road Ensemble's *American Railroad*

Guests: Joe DiPietro – Playwright, La Jolla Playhouse's *Babbitt*

Wu Man – Pipa Musician/Co-Founder, Silk Road Ensemble

Contacts: Becky Biegelsen – Public Relations Director, La Jolla Playhouse (858) 555-1070 ext. 104 bbiegelsen@ljp.org

Stephanie Thompson – Communications and Public Relations Mgr., La Jolla Music Society (858) 526-3423 sthompson@ljms.org

Topic: *Babbitt* and Silk Road Ensemble's *American Railroad*

Air Date/Time: November 5, 2023 6:00pm

Duration: 30 minutes

Recording Site: Drexler Media Studio, La Mesa, CA

Broadcast Site: KSDS Studios

Description: The first segment welcomed Tony Award-winning playwright Joe DiPietro to preview La Jolla Playhouse's world-premiere stage adaptation of Sinclair Lewis' novel *Babbitt*, starring acclaimed stage and screen actor Matthew Broderick. Adapted from one of the best-loved books in American literature, the story follows George F. Babbitt, a prosperous real estate broker by day, who yearns for more meaning in life and leaps with abandon into a spectacular rebellion that could end up costing him everything. DiPietro talked about his long-held interest in adapting *Babbitt* for the stage, the making and updating of the piece for today's audiences and his collaboration with its Director Christopher Ashley and star Matthew Broderick from the play's inception.

The second segment previewed the Silk Road Ensemble's newest initiative *American Railroad*, a concert illuminating the historic role of African-American, Chinese, indigenous and other immigrant communities on the making of the U.S. Transcontinental Railroad. *American Railroad* celebrates through music the immigrant populations that were fundamental in the building of one of the 19th century's landmark technological and economic achievements, yet whose contributions have largely been erased from history. Chinese Pipa virtuoso Wu Man, a founding member of the Silk Road Ensemble, discussed the making of *American Railroad* and the history of her renowned ensemble.

Public Interest Issues: The re-making of a classic 20th century novel into a 21st century stage play. A musical commemoration of the contributions and sacrifices of immigrants in the making of America's historic Transcontinental Railroad.

INSIDE ART

KSDS-FM

Produced and Hosted by Dave Drexler

Show Synopsis: Lenny Bruce Play/Remembering Robert Irwin

Guests: Ronnie Marmo – Actor/Creator, *I'm Not A Comedian...I'm Lenny Bruce*
Kathryn Kanjo – CEO/Director, Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego

Contacts: Nancy Richards - Public Relations, North Coast Repertory Theatre
(917) 873-6389 nancy@northcoastrep.org

Toni Robin – TRPR San Diego (858) 483-3918 tr@trprsandiego.com

Topic: *I'm Not A Comedian...I'm Lenny Bruce* and Remembering Robert Irwin

Air Date/Time: November 12, 2023 6:00pm

Duration: 30 minutes

Recording Site: Drexler Media Studio, La Mesa, CA

Broadcast Site: KSDS Studios

Description: The first segment welcomed Ronnie Marmo, creator of *I'm Not A Comedian...I'm Lenny Bruce* at North Coast Repertory Theatre. Marmo's solo stage play chronicles the life and enduring influence of comedy legend Lenny Bruce, along with his personal struggles and unwavering passion for free speech. The show is directed by Tony-winning stage, screen and television star Joe Mantegna and presented with the blessings of Lenny's daughter Kitty Bruce. Marmo discussed the making of the play, his motivation in crafting Lenny's story as a theatrical play and his long association with Joseph Mantegna, plus his hope that audiences resonate with Lenny Bruce's struggles against censorship in our contemporary era of political divisiveness, cancel culture and book banning.

The second segment presented a remembrance of pioneering San Diego artist Robert Irwin, who recently passed away at age 95. Irwin was a pivotal artist in the West Coast minimalism movement known as "Light and Space," exploring the nuances of perception and the boundaries between art and its environment, what Irwin called "site conditional." Fortunately, Irwin's work lives on at major art institutions throughout the world and locally at the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, which has the largest holdings of his artwork. Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego Director/CEO Kathryn Kanjo discussed Irwin's legacy and groundbreaking art and shared how listeners could continue to experience his works at the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego galleries.

Public Interest Issues: America's conflicts over free speech and censorship in the era of ground-breaking comedian Lenny Bruce and today's culture. San Diegan Robert Irwin's unique contributions to the development of modern art.

INSIDE ART

KSDS-FM

Produced and Hosted by Dave Drexler

Show Synopsis: Pianist Bill Cunliffe

Guest: Bill Cunliffe – Pianist/Composer/Educator

Contact: Bill Cunliffe – Pianist/Professor of Jazz Studies, California State University Fullerton (818) 903-5523 billcunliffe@icloud.com

Topic: Bill Cunliffe San Diego Concert

Air Date/Time: November 19, 2023 6:00pm

Duration: 30 minutes

Recording Site: Drexler Media Studio, La Mesa, CA

Broadcast Site: KSDS Studios

Description: This edition of “Inside Art” featured Grammy Award-winning West Coast jazz pianist, composer and arranger Bill Cunliffe. Cunliffe has worked with some of the biggest names in jazz, including Buddy Rich, Frank Sinatra, Joe Henderson, Freddie Hubbard and James Moody. He studied jazz at Duke University with legendary pianist Mary Lou Williams and received his Masters degree from the prestigious Eastman School of Music. Cunliffe was the 1989 winner of the Thelonious Monk International Piano Competition and since then he’s been one of the most in-demand pianists based in the Los Angeles area. Additionally, he serves on the faculty of Cal State Fullerton jazz program.

Bill discussed his early musical education and performing experiences, including the profound impact pianist Oscar Peterson played in his choosing to focus on jazz as a teenager. Cunliffe talked about some of his recent compositions and shared excerpts from his latest album *Border Widow’s Lament*, a musical statement on the tragic history of sectarian conflict in Northern Ireland. He previewed his upcoming trio performance at Tio Leo’s in San Diego’s Morena area with bassist Mike Gurrola and fellow CSU Fullerton Professor and drummer Rodolfo Zuniga.

Public Interest Issues: New music reflecting the long and painful era of sectarian violence in Northern Ireland and its example for a divided America today. One musician’s lessons learned from triumphs and struggles of pianist Mary Lou Williams, one of the earliest and most influential women in jazz history.

INSIDE ART

KSDS-FM

Produced and Hosted by Dave Drexler

Show Synopsis: Jonathan Karrant/Patrick Combs

Guests: Jonathan Karrant – Vocalist/Producer, *Eclectic*

Patrick Combs – Actor/Creator, *Trying To Break A Leg*

Contacts: Jonathan Karrant – Vocalist/Producer (619) 987-5503

jonathan@jonathankarrant.com

Jennifer Coburn – Author (619) 838-0125 jen@jencoburn.com

Topic: Jonathan Karrant's *Eclectic* & Patrick Combs' *Trying To Break A Leg*

Air Date/Time: November 26, 2023 6:00pm

Duration: 30 minutes

Recording Site: Drexler Media Studio, La Mesa, CA

Broadcast Site: KSDS Studios

Description: The first segment welcomed vocalist Jonathan Karrant, who's singing is reminiscent of the classic song stylists of yesteryear, while his diverse interpretations of the Great American Songbook and contemporary pop offer fresh perspectives and musical surprises. Karrant shared music from his new album *Eclectic*, which features guest appearances by vocalist Jane Monheit, saxophonist Houston Person and others. He also previewed his upcoming live concert of music from *Eclectic* plus Christmas favorites with a longtime San Diego trio he's been associated with at the Fairmont Grand Hotel in Del Mar.

The second segment featured San Diego-based actor, author and motivational speaker Patrick Combs, who created the worldwide smash solo show *Man 1, Bank 0*. Combs returns to the stage with the world-premiere of *Trying To Break A Leg* at City Heights Performing Annex. Patrick discussed this love letter to theatre which is described as a masterclass in the art of failing forward, where sheer persistence, though often painful to watch, becomes the stuff of legend. Combs characterizes it as a lesson in the resilience of the human spirit and a reminder that sometimes, it's the journey, not the destination, that truly matters.

Public Interest Issues: One artist's dedication to preserving and elevating the music of the Great American Songbook for a new generation. An inspiring story of a self-admitted untalented amateur who, through persistence, creates a stage play based detailing his real life experiences that becomes a theatrical sensation.

INSIDE ART

KSDS-FM

Produced and Hosted by Dave Drexler

Show Synopsis: Etienne Charles

Guest: Etienne Charles – Trumpeter/Percussionist/Composer

Contact: Dan Atkinson – Producer, Athenaeum Jazz (858) 883-7373
datkinsoncpt@gmail.com

Topic: Etienne Charles' Creole Christmas Concert

Air Date/Time: December 3, 2023 6:00pm

Duration: 30 minutes

Recording Site: Drexler Media Studio, La Mesa, CA

Broadcast Site: KSDS Studios

Description: This edition of "Inside Art" featured Etienne Charles, one of today's leading jazz and Afro-Caribbean trumpeters, composers and musical storytellers. A Guggenheim Fellow and Creative Capital honoree, this Trinidad native has performed and arranged with a host of jazz and pop innovators, including Roberta Flack, Marcus Roberts, Gregory Porter, Monty Alexander and many others. As a leader of multiple ensembles, Etienne's concerts engage, enlighten and educate, often including dance, short films and spoken word to create a holistic cultural experience for audiences.

Charles recounted the story of his first forays into making music growing up in Trinidad. He described the island's Calypso music and Christmas holiday traditions he was influenced by and how they became an inspiration for his *Creole Christmas* album and concert program that has been performed over the last decade. Etienne also talked about his newest live album *Traces*, which explores the stories of African and Sephardic migration between the Caribbean and South America and its musical connections – part of a continuing focus on music of the African diaspora. Additionally, the interview previewed the *Creole Christmas* concert and musicians taking part in this Athenaeum Fall Jazz series performance at the Scripps Research Auditorium in La Jolla.

Public Interest Issues: A celebration of the unique Caribbean Calypso Christmas traditions and holiday music of Trinidad. How the music of Jewish and Middle Eastern cultures migrated to the Caribbean and intermingled with the sounds made by descendants of Afro-Caribbean slaves to produce new forms of popular music throughout the region.

INSIDE ART

KSDS-FM

Produced and Hosted by Dave Drexler

Show Synopsis: Cheryl Bentyne'/Sacra Profana

Guests: Cheryl Bentyne – Vocalist, The Manhattan Transfer
Juan Carlos Acosta – Artistic Director, Sacra/Profana Choral Ensemble

Contacts: Joanna Christian – Associate Director of Marketing and
Communications, UCSD ArtPower (858) 822-3199 artpower@ucsd.edu
Lizbeth Persons – Persons Price Communications (619) 254-9965
price.lizbeth@gmail.com

Topic: Manhattan Transfer Penultimate Performance and Sacra/Profana Season

Air Date/Time: December 10, 2023 6:00pm

Duration: 30 minutes

Recording Site: Drexler Media Studio, La Mesa, CA

Broadcast Site: KSDS Studios

Description: The first segment welcomed Manhattan Transfer's Cheryl Bentyne for a preview of the Grammy-winning vocal group's San Diego performance as part of their final world tour after a storied 50-year career. Bentyne shared the story of auditioning for the group following the departure of its co-founder Laurel Masse. She recounted the story behind the creation of group's classic song *Birdland* and how fellow vocalist Janis Siegal and jazz icon Jon Hendricks worked together to make it an iconic interpretation. Bentyne described how emotional this current tour has been for the group and their fans and also shared excerpts from Manhattan Transfer's new 50th anniversary commemoration album *Fifty*, a collection of new and reimagined material recorded with Germany's WDR Funkhausorkester orchestra.

The second segment featured Juan Carlos Acosta, Artistic Director of San Diego's premiere professional choir Sacra/ Profana ahead of the ensemble's winter-solstice-themed holiday concert *A Light in the Darkness* in Cardiff. Acosta previewed what he described as a poignant program of music for our times by Ralph Vaughan Williams, Amy Gordon and others. He also looked ahead to the remainder of Sacra/Profana's current season of concerts, ongoing educational outreach programs to local schools and their partnership with the non-profit San Diego Diplomacy Council.

Public Interest Issues: A unique collaboration of Sacra/Profana and the San Diego Diplomacy Council to bring awareness to and develop peaceful relations between countries through choral music and special concert programs.

INSIDE ART

KSDS-FM

Produced and Hosted by Dave Drexler

Show Synopsis: Zev Feldman

Guest: Zev Feldman – Producer/Co-President, Resonance Records

Contact: Ann Braithwaite - Braithwaite & Katz Communications (781) 259-9600
ann@bkmusicpr.com

Topic: New Archival Jazz Releases from Resonance Records

Air Date/Time: December 17, 2023 6:00pm

Duration: 30 minutes

Recording Site: Drexler Media Studio, La Mesa, CA

Broadcast Site: KSDS Studios

Description: This edition of “Inside Art” presented a holiday gift guide for jazz lovers with newly released rare archival performances by some of the most important artists in jazz that were either unknown, buried or largely forgotten. The guest for this musical journey was renowned multi awarding-winning Downbeat Magazine Producer of the Year Zev Feldman, who’s been called the “Indiana Jones of Jazz” and “The Jazz Detective” for his ability to unearth previously unreleased musical gems by the legends of music.

Feldman’s newest projects from both Resonance Records and his recently created Jazz Detective Record label include *The Wes Montgomery/Wynton Kelly Trio* from 1965, *Cal Tjader Live at Seattle’s hallowed Penthouse Jazz Club from 1963 through 1967* and *Ahmad Jamal’s Emerald City Nights: Live at the Penthouse from 1966 through 1968*. He also talked about other recent vinyl and CD issues including music from pianist Bill Evans, saxophonist Sonny Rollins, trumpeter Chet Baker, pianist/vocalist Les McCann, bass icon Jaco Pastorius and others. Feldman recounted how he discovered his latest archival projects, the many facets and challenges inherent in working with neglected recordings and their contribution to the history of jazz and these artist’s catalogue of music.

Public Interest Issues: The history of exploitation and withholding of music royalties to African-American jazz artists from the early days of recorded music through the 1960s. How one record company today is seeking to redress those inequities with their newly discovered archival releases of music made by some of these previously exploited artists that it brings to market.

INSIDE ART

KSDS-FM

Produced and Hosted by Dave Drexler

Show Synopsis: The Best of “Inside Art” 2023

Guests: Gregory Porter – Grammy-winning Vocalist/Composer
Cheryl Bentleyne – Grammy Award-winning vocalist, The Manhattan Transfer
Regina Carter – Violinist/Composer/NEA Jazz Master
Terrence Blanchard – Trumpeter/Composer/NEA Jazz Master
Maria Schneider – Grammy Award-winning Composer/NEA Jazz Master

Contacts: Joanna Christian – Associate Director of Marketing & Communications,
UCSD ArtPower (858) 822-3199 artpower@ucsd.edu
Dan Atkinson – Producer, Athenaeum (858) 883-7373 datkinsoncpt@gmail.com
Stephanie Thompson – Communications and Public Relations Mgr., La Jolla
Music Society (858) 526-3423 sthompson@ljms.org

Topic: The Best of “Inside Art” 2023

Air Date/Time: December 31, 2023 6:00pm

Duration: 30 minutes

Recording Site: Drexler Media Studio, La Mesa, CA

Broadcast Site: KSDS Studios

Description: This edition of “Inside Art” presented highlights from some of the best of the series jazz interviews aired during 2023. It began with Grammy-winning vocalist Gregory Porter, an internationally acclaimed singer and composer, who started his jazz career in San Diego. Gregory recounted meeting the major jazz figures at UC San Diego and around town who would influence and shape his extraordinarily successful career. He also described the thrill and emotion of singing along with his longtime idols Nat King Cole and Ella Fitzgerald through the use of new advancements in recording technology for his latest album *Still Rising*.

The second segment featured Manhattan Transfer’s Cheryl Bentleyne, who recounted her audition for the legendary vocal group. She also told the story behind the making of the group’s iconic song *Birdland*, which was the brainchild of vocalist Janis Siegal working with jazz legend Jon Hendricks.

In the third segment, NEA Jazz Master Regina Carter recalled the story of her 2018 San Diego area performance as part of pianist/bandleader Arturo O’Farrill’s *Fandango at the Wall* project at Friendship Park along the U.S./Mexico border. She vividly recounted the sights and sounds of families reuniting across the border fence and the extraordinary cross-border performance that featured jazz musicians performing together straddling both sides of the border barrier.

Segment four presented trumpeter and composer for jazz, film and opera Terrence Blanchard, who talked about what attracted him to the story of New York Times columnist Charles Blow, the subject of his opera *Fire Shut up In My Bones*. This work was the first opera written by a black composer to have been premiered by New York's Metropolitan Opera. He also talked about scoring for film and working for more than 30 years on filmmaker Spike Lee's movies.

In the final segment, composer and NEA Jazz Master Maria Schneider talked about the making of her Grammy Award-winning double album *Data Lords*, which came about after surprisingly being approached by pop icon David Bowie. The album explores the negative influence of "Big Data" on music and society, as well as offering a musical antidote through a return to nature as a way of healing from the negative, divisive effects of internet and social media on today's society.

Public Interest Issues: A memorable concert collaboration by renowned musical artists from the United States and Mexico straddling both sides of the contentious border between the two countries, bringing awareness to the plight of migrants and separation of families created by the border wall. The triumph of composer Terrence Blanchard to have his opera be the first-ever by an African-American to premiere at the iconic Metropolitan Opera and to present its story of renowned gay African-American columnist Charles Blow. The rising threat and challenges to creative artists posed by "Big Data" and control of the internet, along with technology's increasing role in the current climate of disinformation and political divisiveness.