

INSIDE ART
KSDS-FM
Produced and Hosted by Dave Drexler

Show Synopsis: Best of “Inside Art” 2022

Guests: Nikki Giovanni – Poet
Leonard Maltin - Film Critic/Historian/Author
Kevin Eubanks – Guitarist/Composer
Mike Stern – Guitarist/Composer
Dr. Anthony Fauci – Director, NIAID with Hugo Crothswaite – Visual Artist

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Topic: The Best of “Inside Art” 2022

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

Duration: 30 minutes

Recording Site: Drexler Media Studio, La Mesa, CA

Broadcast Site: KSDS Studios, San Diego City College

Description: This program featured excerpts from memorable “Inside Art” programs aired in 2022. Poet Nikki Giovanni spoke about her jazz/gospel collaboration with saxophonist Javon Jackson and her first experience singing, inspired by her friendship with Nina Simone. Legendary Film Critic Leonard Maltin shared his love of jazz and early career as a jazz writer for *Downbeat Magazine*. Guitarist Kevin Eubanks recounted his fondest memories leading NBC’s *Tonight Show* band for 20 years. Guitarist Mike Stern talked about playing on tour with Miles Davis and his ongoing recovery from a career-threatening accident. Finally, America’s leading infectious diseases doctor Anthony Fauci and San Diego/Tijuana artist Hugo Crothswaite discussed the making of Fauci’s unique portrait for the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery in Washington, unveiled in November of 2022.

Public Interest Issues: Gospel music as a vehicle for faith and social change throughout African-American history. Strategies for recovery from catastrophic injuries. The artistic portrayal of the life and times of Dr. Anthony Fauci.

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Show Synopsis: North Coast Rep's *Blues In The Night*/Gilbert Castellanos

Guests: Yvette Freeman – Director, *Blues In The Night*
Gilbert Castellanos – Trumpeter/Composer

Contacts: Nancy Richards – Director of Marketing and Public Relations, North Coast Repertory Theatre (858) 481-2155 ext. 220 nancy@northcoastrep.org
Gilbert Castellanos - (619) 708-8503 gilbertc1972@aol.com

Topic: NCRT's *Desperate Measures* & Gilbert Castellanos' *Esperame en el Cielo*

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

Duration: 30 minutes

Recording Site: Drexler Media Studio, La Mesa, CA

Broadcast Site: KSDS Studios, San Diego City College

Description: The first segment featured North Coast Repertory Theatre's Tony-nominated musical revue *Blues In The Night*, conceived by American theatre legend Sheldon Epps. The show's director Yvette Freeman talked about the show's storyline, its cast and the score of beloved blues and torch songs by Bessie Smith, Johnny Mercer, Harold Arlen, Alberta Hunter and others, performed by a powerful cast sharing the heartbreak and humor of life and the indomitable will to do more than survive. Freeman previously directed North Coast Rep's musical *Ain't Misbehavin'* and is most familiar as an actor in the hit TV series *E-R*, *Working* and *Orange Is The New Black*.

The second segment welcomed six-time San Diego Music Award winning trumpeter and recipient of the Jazz Journalists Association Hero Award, Gilbert Castellanos, whose new album *Esperame En El Cielo* is his first in 10 years. Gilbert talked about the making of this eclectic recording of songs from his childhood growing up in Mexico plus new music reflecting his well-documented career-threatening health struggles. Gilbert also credited his musical collaborators, including bassist John Murray, who was making his debut performance on an album. Castellanos also discussed his other work advancing the art of jazz in our community through the Young Lions Jazz Conservatory and as Curator of Jazz Programming for San Diego Symphony.

Public Interest Issues: The historic role of Blues music in expressing the struggles, hopes and dreams of African-Americans. Advancements in reconstructive jaw surgery being pioneered with Gilbert Castellanos and local physicians. Jazz education opportunities for youth throughout San Diego.

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Show Synopsis: Terence Blanchard/*The Notebooks of Leonardo Da Vinci*

Guest: Terence Blanchard – Trumpeter/Composer
Mary Zimmerman – Creator/Director, *The Notebooks of Leonardo Da Vinci*

Contacts: Joanna Christian – Associate Director of Marketing and Communications, UC San Diego's ArtPower (858) 822-3199 artpower@ucsd.edu
Patty Onagan, Public Relations Director, The Old Globe Theatre (818) 600-8092 patty@poattyonagan.com

Topic: Terence Blanchard Concert and *The Notebooks of Leonardo Da Vinci*

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

Duration: 30 minutes

Recording Site: Drexler Media Studio, La Mesa, CA

Broadcast Site: KSDS Studios, San Diego City College

Description: This edition of "Inside Art" welcomed multiple Grammy-winner and two-time Oscar nominee Terence Blanchard. Blanchard has enjoyed an extraordinarily varied and celebrated career as a performer, bandleader and composer for more than 20 Spike Lee films plus many others, as well as being the first African-American composer to have their opera premiered at New York's Metropolitan Opera. Blanchard talked about his current album *Absence*, an homage to legendary saxophonist and composer Wayne Shorter, which teams his E-Collective band with the renowned Turtle Island String Quartet, all of whom were performing with Terence Blanchard at UCSD.

The second segment featured Mary Zimmerman, the Tony-winning Creator and Director of *The Notebooks of Leonardo Da Vinci*, a genre-busting play drawn entirely from Leonardo's own notebooks at The Old Globe Theatre. Zimmerman specializes in adapting classic stories of world literature for the stage. She's a 1998 MacArthur Genius grantee and a Professor of Performance Studies at Northwestern University. Zimmerman talked about her chameleon-like cast who take audiences on a journey through da Vinci's mind as he considers everything from math and engineering to philosophy and love, exploring what it truly means to be a Renaissance man.

Public Interest Issues: The making of an opera based on the life story of gay African-American New York Times columnist Charles Blow. Exploring the mind and genius of one of history's greatest thinkers Leonardo DaVinci and bringing his writings about art, science and nature to the stage as a piece of theatre.

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Show Synopsis: Lakecia Benjamin/*The Ferryman*

Guests: Lakecia Benjamin – Saxophonist
Kristianne Kurner – Director, *The Ferryman* at New Village Arts

Contacts: Stephanie Thompson – Communications and Public Relations
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Kristianne Kurner – Executive Artistic Director, New Village Arts (760) 729-8703
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Topic: *Monterey Jazz Festival on Tour* and *The Ferryman*

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

Duration: 30 minutes

Recording Site: Drexler Media Studio, La Mesa, CA

Broadcast Site: KSDS Studios, San Diego City College

Description: The first segment previewed the *Monterey Jazz Festival on Tour* coming to the Balboa Theatre. This tour is led by pianist Christian Sands with legendary vocalists Dee Dee Bridgewater and Kurt Elling, plus rising saxophonist Lakecia Benjamin. A 2020 *Downbeat Magazine* critic's poll "rising star" and Jazz Journalist Association "up and coming artist of the year," Benjamin fuses traditional conceptions of jazz, hip-hop and soul. Lakecia talked about her journey as a young female saxophonist, her current album of all original works *Phoenix* and her upcoming concert with *Monterey Jazz Festival on Tour*.

The second segment celebrated the grand re-opening of New Village Arts Theatre in Carlsbad and their West Coast premiere of Jez Butterworth's 2019 Tony-winning Irish thriller *The Ferryman*. Universally acknowledged as one of the greatest plays of the modern era, *The Ferryman* is set in Northern Ireland during the heart of its politically fraught period known as "the troubles." It deals with the disastrous effects of the conflict on a large rural family, a member of which was among "the disappeared" - men who were abducted, secretly murdered and buried without the knowledge of their families. The show's Director and NVA Executive Artistic Director Kristianne Kurner discussed the making of this play and the re-making of the New Village Arts Center in Carlsbad.

Public Interest Issues: The rise of female instrumentalists in jazz and their emerging acceptance within the industry. The tragic history of sectarian violence in Northern Ireland from the 1960s through 1990s and its generational trauma portrayed in the story of one extended family.

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Show Synopsis: *El Huracan*/San Diego Museum Month

Guest: Daniel Jaquez – Director, *El Huracan*
Bob Lehman – Executive Director, San Diego Museum Council

Contacts: Autumn Doermann-Rojas– Marketing Director, Cygnet Theatre (619) 574-0059 ext. 120 autumn@cygnettheatre.com
Bridget Palitz – President, Short Fuse Marketing (619) 933-8722
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Topic: Cygnet Theatre's *El Huracan*/San Diego Museum Month

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

Duration: 30 minutes

Recording Site: Drexler Media Studio, La Mesa, CA

Broadcast Site: KSDS Studios, San Diego City College

Description: The first segment previewed Cygnet Theatre's West Coast premiere of Charisse Castro Smith's play *El Huracan*. The show follows a mother and daughter as they ready themselves for an epic hurricane threatening Miami. Four generations of Latina women are at the center of this universal tale of family, forgiveness, what can be rebuilt and what is irreplaceable in the aftermath of life's most devastating tempests. Director Daniel Jaquez discussed his production of *El Huracan* along with the cast and storyline. Jaquez also talked about founding and leading San Diego's *TuYo* Theatre, a company that creates and produces theater from a diverse Latinx perspective.

The second segment spotlighted San Diego Museum Month presented by the San Diego Museum Council. This 34th annual month-long celebration of our thriving civic museums, historic sites and public gardens features half-price admission and in-person experiences at more than 70 participating museums and cultural attractions. Museum Council Executive Director Bob Lehman discussed this initiative, its newest museums that have recently opened in town and the important opportunity for these institutions to showcase their resiliency and continuing commitment to our community.

Public Interest Issues: Bringing diverse stories of the Latino experience to the stage and their overall universality for all audiences and communities. The high value of museum accessibility as a tool of enrichment, education and culture in the San Diego community.

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Show Synopsis: Joel Ross/The Brain Observatory

Guests: Joel Ross – Vibraphonist/Composer
Jacopo Annese – President/CEO, The Brain Observatory

Contacts: Joanna Christian – Associate Director of Marketing and
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Jacopo Annese – President/CEO, The Brain Observatory (310) 230-6804
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Topic: Vibraphonist Joel Ross and The Brain Observatory

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

Duration: 30 minutes

Recording Site: Drexler Media Studio, La Mesa

Broadcast Site: KSDS Studios, San Diego City College

Description: The first segment welcomed Joel Ross, one of the finest vibraphonists working in jazz today, who previewed his upcoming concert in The Loft at UC San Diego. Chicago native Ross is a perennial Downbeat critic's poll favorite and Jazz Journalist Association Mallet Instrumentalist of the year. His most recent album *The Parable of the Poet* explores feelings of self-awareness, confidence, doubt, regret and forgiveness. Ross discussed his career as a vibraphonist and the making of *Parable*, which continues his evolution as a collaborative improviser with a commitment to authentic discourse among his band and the audience.

The second segment spotlighted The Brain Observatory, a new local museum with an entirely novel scope and purpose housed in the old San Diego Gas and Electric building on Broadway. Brain Observatory Founder, President and CEO Jacopo Annese talked about the organization's mission of improving knowledge of the brain and mental health awareness through scientific research, education and the arts. He also discussed their current gallery exhibition featuring six artists exploring how the intangible mind relates to the physical object we call the brain.

Public Interest Issues: How musical artists translate and explore complex emotional states through written compositions and improvised jazz. Brain health awareness and education for the community through a unique facility combining scientific and arts exhibitions and programs.

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Show Synopsis: Cyrille Aimee/Writer's Symposium By-The-Sea

Guests: Cyrille Aimee – Vocalist
Dean Nelson – Founder/Interviewer, Writer's Symposium By-The-Sea

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Topic: Cyrille Aimee Concert and the 28th Writer's Symposium By-The-Sea

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

Duration: 30 minutes

Recording Site: Drexler Media Studio, La Mesa

Broadcast Site: KSDS Studios, San Diego City College

Description: The first segment welcomed Grammy-nominated French jazz vocalist Cyrille Aimee. Cyrille's accolades include winning first place at the Montreux Jazz Festival and Sarah Vaughn International Jazz Vocal competitions. Her arrival on American stages led the Wall Street Journal to call Aimee "one of the most promising jazz singers of her generation." Aimee discussed her early exposure to Gypsy music and culture in France and the impression it made on her as a budding singer. She previewed her upcoming performance in The Loft at UC San Diego plus her admiration and work for composer Steven Sondheim, who cast her in a Broadway celebration of his iconic theatre music with celebrated musical theatre performer Bernadette Peters.

The second segment spotlighted the 28th edition of the Writer's Symposium by the Sea at Point Loma Nazarine University. This annual event features interviews and evocative conversations with cutting edge creators who inspire both readers and writers alike. Symposium Founder and Interviewer Dean Nelson previewed this year's guests – novelists N. Scott Momaday and Anthony Doerr, plus groundbreaking journalists William Finnegan and Maria Hinajosa.

Public Interest Issues: Europe's gypsy culture and their unique influence on jazz artists throughout the world from the 1930s to today. Writing and literature that celebrates in an age of political and social division and isolation as addressed by four leading American authors and journalists.

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Show Synopsis: *The Outsiders*/San Diego Jazz Party

Guests: Danya Taymor – Director, *The Outsiders* Musical

Russell King – Vice President, San Diego Jazz Party

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

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Topic: *The Outsiders* and San Diego Jazz Party

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

Duration: 30 minutes

Recording Site: Drexler Media Studio, La Mesa

Broadcast Site: KSDS Studios, San Diego City College

Description: The first segment of this broadcast previewed La Jolla Playhouse's world premiere musical adaptation of S.E. Hinton's beloved coming-of-age novel (and Francis Ford Coppola film) *The Outsiders*. With music and lyrics by the Americana roots rock band Jamestown Revival, *The Outsiders* is set in 1967 Tulsa, where Ponyboy Curtis, Johnny Cade and their chosen family of 'Outsiders' are in a fight for survival and a quest for purpose in a world that may never accept them. Celebrated Director Danya Taymor talked about re-imagining this iconic story that defined a generation for musical theatre, the contributions of her creative team and many of the complex challenges staging this production.

The second segment previewed the 34th annual San Diego Jazz Party, a celebration of the Great American Songbook performed by 18 of the world's leading jazz musicians at the Hilton San Diego Del Mar. The organization's Vice President Russell King talked about the history, traditions and presentation of this year's festival, which returns from a pandemic hiatus to feature world-class jazz legends in a relaxed, intimate setting. King talked about this year's lineup, including reed players Houston Person, Harry Allen and Ken Peplowski, bassist Peter Washington and many others, often paired in unique, never before seen combinations.

Public Interest Issues: The struggles of at-risk youth and its corrosive effect on American families and society. Musical theatre as a vehicle for engaging young audiences and raising awareness of the roots of teenage violence. Hands-on Music education and mentoring opportunities from world-renowned jazz artists.

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Show Synopsis: Maria Schneider

Guest: Maria Schneider – Bandleader/Composer

Contact: Ann Braithwaite - Braithwaite Katz Marketing/Public Relations (781) 259-9600 ann@bkmusicpr.com

Topic: Maria Schneider Concert at The Conrad

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

Duration: 30 minutes

Recording Site: Drexler Media Studio, La Mesa, CA

Broadcast Site: KSDS Studios, San Diego City College

Description: This edition of “Inside Art” welcomed multi-Grammy winning composer, bandleader and NEA Jazz Master Maria Schneider for a preview of her 18-piece orchestra’s La Jolla Music Society concert at The Conrad. Schneider’s most recent album *Data Lords* was a Pulitzer Prize finalist, earning two Grammy Awards along with the 2021 Jazz Journalists Association and NPR Jazz Critics Poll album of the year. Her longstanding, genre-defying large ensemble includes some of the finest musicians working in jazz and Schneider crafts her distinctive compositions to fully mine the orchestra’s unique, individual talents.

Maria spoke about her rural Midwestern roots and good fortune in being mentored as a pianist from a young age by an accomplished teacher and performer who’d moved from New York to settle in her rural Minnesota town. She shared some of the highlights of her rise to becoming a respected composer, bandleader and innovator in the early days of independent digital downloading and artist ownership of their electronic music rights. Schneider also spoke about the themes behind *Data Lords*, a double album project comprised of two distinct, yet complimentary themes inspired by the troubling changes brought about by the rise of “big data” and the antidote as she sees it to return to a more naturalistic experience of the world around us.

Public Interest Issues: The rise of “Big Data” and its effects on the music industry and how society consumes the arts. How musicians are forced to adhere to a challenging model of creating and marketing their work. The role of Big Data in exacerbating political and cultural divisiveness throughout the world.

INSIDE ART

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Show Synopsis: San Diego Latino Film Festival/*God of Carnage*

Guests: Moises Esparza – Film Programmer, SD Latino Film Festival

Jessica John – Co-founder/Actor, Backyard Renaissance Theatre

Contact: Ethan Van Thillo – Founder/Executive Director, Media Arts Center

San Diego (619) 230-1938 ext.101 ethan@mediaartscenter.org

Jessica John – Co-founder/Actor, Backyard Renaissance Theatre (619) 977-0999 jessicarjohn@gmail.com

Topic: SD Latino Film Festival and *God of Carnage* at Backyard Renaissance

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

Duration: 30 minutes

Recording Site: Drexler Media, La Mesa, CA

Broadcast Site: KSDS Studios, San Diego City College

Description: The first segment previewed the 30th annual San Diego Latino Film Festival. The festival returned to live, in-person screenings at the Westfield Mission Valley AMC Theatres and Digital Gym Cinema Downtown. This truly international celebration of film remains one of the largest and most respected Latino film festivals in the country, with more than 160 films featured this year, along with live music, plus a companion food, beer and wine festival. Festival Programmer/Exhibitions Manager Moises Esparza previewed this year's featured films and events, as well as the festival's special theme categories and artist appearances.

The second segment featured Yazmina Reza's Olivier and Tony-winning dark comedy of extremely bad manners *God of Carnage* from Backyard Renaissance Theatre Company. The story follows two sets of parents who meet to discuss a violent playground incident between their sons. What begins as a civilized, adult encounter among the couples devolves into childishness and chaos as they irrationally argue about a host of loaded topics, exploring some very big ideas amidst the comedic conflict. Backyard Renaissance Co-Founder Jessica John previewed the play, it's actors and the complete season of shows being presented by the theatre company.

Public Interest Issues: New feature films and documentaries from the U.S. and Latin America that explore contemporary issues in the Latino experience. The pressures and challenges of raising children in the digital age and an era of frequent "helicopter" parenting.

INSIDE ART

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Show Synopsis: Alisa Weilerstein/San Diego Storytelling Festival

Guests: Alisa Weilerstein - Cellist

Marilyn McPhie – President, Storytellers of San Diego

Mindy Donner – Storyteller/Educator

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Manager, La Jolla Music Society (858) 526-3423 sthompson@ljms.org

Marilyn McPhie – President, Storytellers of San Diego (858) 337-0990
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Topic: Cellist Alisa Weilerstein and the San Diego Storytelling Festival

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

Duration: 30 minutes

Recording Site: Drexler Media Studio, La Mesa, CA

Broadcast Site: KSDS Studios, San Diego City College

Description: The first segment welcomed world-renowned cellist and San Diego resident Alisa Weilerstein, who's launching an innovative multi-sensory project weaving together newly commissioned compositions with solo cello music by Bach at The Conrad in La Jolla. The series known as *Fragments* is enhanced by responsive lighting and scenic architecture and is performed without pause, making for a wholly original and immersive audience experience. Weilerstein described her inspiration for *Fragments* and reimagining how she hoped to reshape the classical concert experience. She also discussed several of the commissioned pieces planned for the concert in La Jolla.

The second segment spotlighted the 13th annual San Diego Storytelling Festival, celebrating of the art of storytelling through performances and workshops at Coronado Public Library. This free event features performances by top local and regional storytellers, live music, plus hands-on workshops for aspiring storytellers of all ages and levels of experience and interactive performances for children. Previewing the festival were two longtime members of the Storytellers of San Diego, Marilyn McPhie and Mindy Donner, who discussed this year's festival events and other specifics about the varied art of storytelling.

Public Interest Issues: New concepts in presenting Classical music through immersive, theatrical audience experiences. The role of storytelling and oral traditions throughout human history. Celebrating and the craft of storytelling through performances and workshops for all ages and experience levels.

INSIDE ART

KSDS-FM

Produced and Hosted by Dave Drexler

Show Synopsis: Brian Levy/Corey Lynn Fayman

Guests: Brian Levy – Saxophonist/Educator

Corey Lynn Fayman – Mystery Novelist, *Gillespie Field Groove*

Contacts: Brian Levy – Saxophonist (617) 304-2667 brian.levy@necmusic.edu

Corey Lynn Fayman – Author (619) 851-8460 clf@coreyllynfayman.com

Topic: Brian Levy Tribute to Wayne Shorter and Corey Lynn Fayman

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

Duration: 30 minutes

Recording Site: Drexler Media Studio, La Mesa, CA

Broadcast Site: KSDS Studios, San Diego City College

Description: The first segment welcomed acclaimed San Diego-bred saxophonist, musicologist and jazz educator Brian Levy, who returned to town for a tribute to the music of Wayne Shorter at Dizzy's Jazz Club. Levy has become a leading jazz instrumentalist based in Boston while serving on the faculty of the New England Conservatory of Music. He's also a featured member of the European-based Rick Hollander Quartet. Levy spoke about his career journey, Wayne Shorter's influence as a saxophonist and composer and previewed the music and supporting players coming to Dizzy's Jazz Club.

In the second segment, award-winning San Diego author Corey Lynn Fayman discussed his newly released fifth mystery novel following the exploits of guitar playing detective Rolly Waters. As with Fayman's previous books, *Gillespie Field Groove* is set and steeped in the unique ecosystem of the San Diego region and features a healthy and humorous dose of musical references. With *Gillespie Field Groove*, the story follows Waters' effort to track down a missing, potentially Jimi Hendrix-owned Stratocaster guitar - involving an aging rock'n'roll impresario, his trophy wife, a Russian gangster and the FBI. Corey talked about his inspiration for the novel and his explorations of San Diego's East County in his research for the story and characters.

Public Interest Issues: The story of saxophonist/composer Wayne Shorter and his influence as a leading American musical figure over six decades. The historic and increasing value of culturally significant musical instruments as artifacts and objects of allure for collectors. The stories behind some of the San Diego region's longtime music instrument makers.

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Show Synopsis: SD Poet Laureate Jason Magabo Perez/Devlin's *Wild Women*

Guests: Jason Magabo Perez- San Diego Poet Laureate
Devlin Pierce– Vocalist/Actor, *Wild Women*

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Commission for Arts and Culture (619) 533-4587 RVasquez@sandiego.gov
Devlin Pierce – Vocalist/Actor, (858) 699-8058 dpierce5@outlook.com

Topic: San Diego Poet Laureate Jason Magabo Perez/Devlin's *Wild Women*

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

Duration: 30 minutes

Recording Site: Drexler Media Studio, La Mesa, CA

Broadcast Site: KSDS Studios, San Diego City College

Description: The first segment welcomed San Diego's new Poet Laureate for 2023-2024 Jason Magabo Perez. Perez spoke about his duties as an ambassador for the arts, advocating for poetry, spoken word and literary arts on behalf of the city, plus creating original works aimed at broadening poetry audiences, inspiring critical thinking and cultivating community connections. He talked about his long career blending poetry, prose, performance, film/video, ethnography and oral history to explore Filipino American histories, colonialism, state violence, migration, memory, and intimacy. Perez also performed an excerpt from a forthcoming collection of poetry to be published soon.

The second segment featured longtime San Diego vocalist and musical theatre artist Devlin, who was bringing her New York Cabaret show *Wild Women* to Point Loma Playhouse. Originally produced and performed in New York City at Helen's and The Metropolitan Room, *Wild Women* combines jazz, blues, emotional ballads and pop songs, proving wild women do get the blues but they also have a heck of a good time along the way. Devlin talked about the making of this show in the 1990s and her desire to revive it now given her more seasoned life experience as a subtext. She described many of the songs that are featured and her work with accompanying pianist Richard James for the production.

Public Interest Issues: The role of a Poet Laureate to add reflection, purpose and human context to civic ceremonies and events. New strategies for engaging ordinary citizens in the process of writing and performing poetry that reflect the diversity of San Diego's neighborhoods and populations. A journey overcoming the stigma and societal challenges of being a "plus-sized" female performer.