CSU Summer Arts Returns to Fresno State

More than 25 events led by world class artists will be held for the general public.

Fresno draws creative minds from around the world with the return of CSU Summer Arts to Fresno State. After a 5 year stay with Cal State Monterey Bay, the educational and celebrated festival of the arts is back for the summer. The intensive 2-week master class program in the visual, performing, literary and media arts are taught by world-class artists who will also be holding performances for the general public.

The cinematographer who blew the Death Star in the original "Star Wars", a Grammy-winning Latin jazz saxophonist, and a Brooklyn-based dance troupe famous for addressing social and political issues will all be calling Fresno home this summer. And the people of Fresno will be able to see their talents on full display.

Additional performances include an animation lecture from the creative minds of Nimble Collective, readings from Eileen Myles, recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship, Li-Young Lee, author of Behind My Eyes, and Brenda Shaughnessy, author of three books of poetry, including Human Dark with Sugar. Not to mention, the always free and inspiring student showcases.

As students eat, sleep, and breathe the arts, spending anywhere from 8-16 hours a day purely focused on their chosen discipline, more than 25 events will be held for the general public to enjoy. The festival, hosted by Fresno State's College of Arts and Humanities begins on June 25 and runs until July 22 with scheduled performances and lectures throughout the 2 weeks.

Summer Arts is a unique arts summer school and festival of the California State University that works with not only students but also professionals already working in their desired industry. It's a program designed to take even established skills to the next level. Each course will host culminations at the end of the program to show what they've been working towards, which are also open to the public. The Summer Arts public performances give audiences the opportunity to enjoy the best of today's artistic talent.

The schedule of performances include:

- A cinematography lecture from the world-renowned cinematographer, Bruce Logan, best known for blowing up the Death Star in Star Wars.
- Latin Jazz concert by Grammy-Award Winner Artist, David Sanchez
- Vicki Lewis, best known as Beth on NewsRadio, One-Woman Show
- Urban Bush Women, the groundbreaking Brooklyn-based dance troupes, using choreography to address socio-political issues.

A more comprehensive list of scheduled performances can be found on page 10 of this edition with short descriptions about each event. Tickets for the 2017 CSU Summer Arts Festival season are available online for purchase. You can find more information along with ticket availability by visiting www.csusummerarts.org

CSU Summer Arts Festival

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David Sanchez & Friends on July 5

writer and critic Howard Brice is talented at the bandshell saying, "Sanchez's prowess on saxophone is matched by the intellectual depth of his concept and compositions."

He will be joined by:

Miguel De Armas is a versatile jazz pianist and composer who weaves strands of Cuban and American jazz influences in a compellingly eclectic way. In 1988, he co-founded the acclaimed Cuban band NG La Banda Orchestra with Jose Luis Cortes and other prestigious Cuban musicians.

Kendrick Freeman's background in both drumset and hand drums has allowed him the flexibility to collaborate with a range of artists. His current work includes Malian ngoni player Mamado Sidibe, guitarist Ricardo Peixoto, Pakistani singer Sukhawat Ali Khan, and the Haitian dance company Rara Tou Limen.

Ernesto Mazzar Kendelbin began music studies at the age of eight and was always interested in the sound of "that big piece of wood with strings." In 2006, Ernesto became the bass player of the Grammy-nominated and internationally popular samba and timba group, David Califado y su Charanga Habanera.

Carlitos Medrano has performed extensively with some of Havana's best known Latin Jazz and Salsa groups, and since coming to the US has played with many of the Bay Area's finest Latin groups. After extensive participation in various musical groups, he decided to start his own projects with local Bay Area musicians; Cuban-style salsa performed by Sabor De Mi.

Grammy Award-winner David Sanchez is recognized around the world as one of the finest saxophonists of his generation. His mastery of the instrument is undeniable and his sound unmistakable. World-renowned jazz

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Video Game Development Lecture with Mattie Brice on July 3

Mattie Brice is a play and games designer, artist, critic, and educator. Starting from media criticism centered on cultural and literary theories, she grappled with video games to understand how the content of games to their positions of power and visibility in the creative process of making games.

Mattie was a part of a DIY movement within video games that created games inspired by personal experiences using tools that didn't require programming. She made experimental games that broadened both the ways games could be used to communicate with other people and the kinds of people who could make them. Her first notable work, Maitschi, has toured museums (Museum of Design Atlanta), art festivals (IndieCade), game conventions (GameX), and more, becoming prominent work discussed in independent games and queer games studies.

Balancing theory with practicing art and design, Mattie regularly speaks at conferences and universities internationally on creative practice, outsider art, and political engagement. She became an activist for marginalized creators and players in games and organizes academic conferences (Queerness and Games Conference) and community events (Last Levels). Mattie currently teaches about play design and art activism at New York City schools (NYU, Parsons) and does grad work in the Integrated Digital Media program at NYU.

Her current research and practice interests include using play and performance to engage the public politically, intervene and vulnerable methods of activism, and design processes that account for measuring social impact. She also consults for companies on issues of representation and diversity with regards to interactive media and acts as project manager and organizational strategist for design companies and artists. Mattie is frequently influenced by cooking, performance art, fashion, fan cultures, dating apps, BDSM, the everyday, and cyborgs.
For tickets and more information visit us online at www.csusummerarts.org.