

APOLLO

Apollo Theater Presents

Hendrix in Harlem

One Night Only Concert Featuring
Hendrix Contemporaries and those Inspired by his Legacy

Featuring **Fishbone**

And special guests **Ernie Isley, Nona Hendryx, Saul Williams,
Liv Warfield and more!**

Concert Chronicles the Early R&B Influences that Defined
Hendrix's Pioneering Rock Experimentation

Saturday, November 26th at 7 p.m. and 11 p.m.

Harlem, NY – November 1, 2016 – The Apollo Theater will celebrate the influence and legacy of **Jimi Hendrix** with *Hendrix in Harlem*, on Saturday, November 26th at 7pm and 11pm. Featuring musicians from Rock & Roll to Funk and Soul, the concert will trace the guitar genius' early foundations in R&B he developed at the Theater, which would go on to inspire his rock innovations. For one night only, audiences will be invited to explore Hendrix's music from the mid-1960s through his posthumously released album, *First Rays of the New Rising Sun*.

Hendrix's star was born on the Apollo stage, when the young musician won Amateur Night in 1964. Following his win, Hendrix played numerous Harlem clubs and appeared at the Theater as the Isley Brothers' lead guitarist, and as sideman for Little Richard, King Curtis, and Wilson Pickett. The Jimi Hendrix Experience was formed soon thereafter in 1966, and the following year the band released its iconic album *Are You Experienced*. *Hendrix in Harlem* will feature selections from his lesser-known R&B works, classic material from the Jimi Hendrix Experience, as well as highlights from his solo work.

The Apollo will bring together a diverse group of performers to reimagine the late artist's celebrated body of work on the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Jimi Hendrix Experience and the eve of what would have been Hendrix's 74th birthday. The concert will be led by innovative rock pioneers **Fishbone**, who have performed and recorded a body of influential original music, fusing together eclectic sounds with a funk sensibility that draws upon the spirit of Hendrix's musical innovation. One of the most distinctive and acclaimed alternative rock bands of their generation, their work extends Hendrix's experimental approach. Fishbone will invite audiences along a survey of the great instrumentalist's oeuvre, by highlighting music from his earliest recordings with artists Isley Brothers, Don Covay and Little Richard as well as spotlight Hendrix's greatest hits.

Fishbone will be joined by special guests **Ernie Isley**, a personal friend of Hendrix, celebrated guitarist, and member of iconic pop group the Isley Brothers; singer, songwriter, and producer **Nona Hendryx**; poet and alternative hip hop artist Saul Williams; Liv Warfield, R&B singer-songwriter and member of Prince's backing band The New Power Generation; Gary Lucas, founder of New York City rock band *Gods and Monsters*; and child star of Broadway's School of Rock, **Brandon Niederauer "TAZ"**.

"Jimi Hendrix found a home on our stage and throughout the Harlem community during his short but phenomenally influential career," said Kamilah Forbes, the Apollo Theater's Executive Producer. "His story epitomizes the importance of providing platforms for young, daring artists, which is central to the Apollo's mission today. We are so proud to present *Hendrix in Harlem* and celebrate the continued influence of this great musician today."

Hendrix in Harlem is one of many highlights in the Apollo Theater's 2016-2017 season. Additional events include *100: The Apollo Celebrates Ella*, a blockbuster concert with powerhouse vocalists and the Count Basie Orchestra honoring the Queen of Jazz, Ella Fitzgerald; *WOW – Women of the World Festival*, featuring a celebration of the life, music, and legacy of jazz master and civil rights activist Abbey Lincoln; *Unapologetically Black: The African-American Songbook Remixed*, a partnership with international cultural movement AFROPUNK paying homage to black protest music; and the return of the Theater's signature programs *Amateur Night*, *Africa Now!*, *Apollo Salon Series*, *Apollo Music Café*, *Apollo Comedy Club*, as well as free, ongoing Education and Community Outreach programs.

Tickets for Hendrix in Harlem are \$35- \$95. Tickets will be available at The Apollo Theater Box Office: (212) 531-5305, 253 West 125th Street, and Ticketmaster at 1-800-745-3000, www.ticketmaster.com.

Apollo Theater Information

Box Office Hours:

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri – 10:00 am - 6:00 pm

Wednesday – 10:00 am - 8:30 pm

Saturday – 12:00 pm - 6:00pm

Get social! For exclusive photos, updates and more use the hashtags #HendrixInHarlem

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About Fishbone

Celebrating 25+ groundbreaking years, Fishbone has been trailblazing their way through the history of American Ska, Funk, Punk, Rock Fusion and (so-called) Black Rock since starting their professional career in Los Angeles' burgeoning, Alternative Rock music scene of the mid-1980s. They have toured worldwide with bands such as the Beastie Boys, Red Hot Chili Peppers, The Roots, Les Claypool/Primus, Fela Kuti, George Clinton, The Dead Kennedys and many more.

Fishbone continues to tour all over the world, turning heads at some of the most noteworthy festivals around the globe such as Coachella Music Festival (2014), Gathering of the Vibes (2013), and Outside Lands Music Festival (2013).

In 2012, the band performed on *Jimmy Kimmel Live!* and Angelo Moore played as a guest with The Roots on *Late Night with Jimmy Fallon*. They have also been featured in the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Los Angeles Times*, *MTV Hive*, *Spin Magazine*, and *E! Entertainment*.

In 2014, Fishbone released their newest musical adventure *Intrinsically Intertwined (Controlled Substance Sound Labs/Zojak Worldwide)* digitally, alongside the launch of their 5-part “mockumentary” webisode series.

About Ernie Isley

Isley was born in Cincinnati, where his older brothers formed The Isley Brothers, first as a gospel group, then as a secular singing group. Ernie fully joined the The Isley Brothers in 1973 after playing on the previous albums, *Get Into Something*, *Givin' It Back*, and *Brother, Brother, Brother* as a multi-instrumentalist playing acoustic guitar, electric guitar, drums and percussion.

Isley also lent his talents as a prolific songwriter, penning such classics as “Fight the Power,” “Harvest for the World,” “Voyage to Atlantis,” “(at Your Best) You Are Love,” “Footsteps in the Dark,” “Brown Eyed Girl,” among others. His signature guitar riffs are easily recognizable on classics such as “Summer Breeze,” “That Lady,” “Voyage to Atlantis,” “Choosy Lover,” and others. In 1984, he, Marvin and Chris formed the group Isley-Jasper-Isley, scoring with their number one album *Caravan of Love*.

In 1990, Ernie released his first solo album, *High Wire*. In 1991, he rejoined Ronald and Marvin on tour and in the studio. In 1996 they scored with their platinum CD *Mission to Please* and again in 2001 with “Eternal,” the lyrics to the title cut written by Isley. In 2010 and 2011, he participated in the *Experience Hendrix Tour*.

The Isley Brothers were inducted into the Rock n' Roll Hall of Fame in 1992. In 2014, the group received the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award. Isley is active as a musical mentor in schools and community music programs and has been a returning guest lecturer at Berklee School of Music in Boston, where he received an honorary doctorate of music in May 2016.

About Nona Hendryx

As a musician, songwriter, multimedia artist and activist, and a founder of SistersMATR, Nona Hendryx evolved from Patti LaBelle & The Bluebelles to the ground breaking glam funk band Labelle, responsible for the hit ‘Lady Marmalade’ to a stunning solo career. Hendryx has always been on the cutting edge of music. She’s written music for a Broadway play (BLUE with Phylicia Rashad), as well as scored and contributed music and new songs for multiple films. She has performed at summer festivals and taught music seminars across the United States and Europe. Nona Hendryx is a current Ambassador for Artistry in Music for Berklee College of Music in Boston.

As a solo artist, Nona has collaborated with everyone from Prince, Peter Gabriel, Talking Heads, Laurie Anderson, Living Color, and Afrika Bambata to George Clinton and P-Funk. Her work has resulted in several top ten hits and awards.

In her performances, Nona wears special audio clothing created in collaboration with Electrong Production and Design students at Berklee College of Music in Boston and Valencia, Spain; Takahiko Tsuchiya (Wave Glove), a Bodysuit bluetooth/midi audio controller in collaboration with 'Curiosbot' Alayna Huges & Pierluigi Barberis; the Benoit Maubrey, 'Audio Tutu' – a self-contained sound system allowing her the freedom to explore non-conventional performance spaces and to merge music and multimedia technology with art and her given environment.

About Liv Warfield

Born in Peoria, IL, Liv Warfield began her singing career in Portland, OR where she was named "Portland's most soulful singer." In 2006, Liv's self-released debut album *Embrace Me*, was well received and offered the world a glimpse into her distinguished sound. However, it was in 2009, when the legendary performer Prince invited her to audition for his vocal backing group, the New Power Generation (NPG), that the pivotal change came in Liv's career. Following this, Liv sang on Prince's 2010 album *Lotusflow3r*. Her sophomore album, *The Unexpected*, released in 2014, was produced by Prince. Also In 2014, Vh1 Soul reintroduced its popular "You Oughta Know" promo campaign with Liv as their first featured artist.

Liv has also performed alongside numerous legendary artist including Al Green, B.B. King, Dave Matthews Band, The Roots and more. She has performed on "The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon," "Late Show with David Letterman" and "The Arsenio Hall Show," and been interviewed on NPR. She was nominated for three Soul Train Music Awards, winning the 2014 Soul Train Award for Best Contemporary Jazz Performance for her raw performance of "Stay-Soul Lifted." Warfield was also nominated for the NAACP 2015 Image Award for Outstanding New Artist.

About Gary Lucas

A world class guitar hero, a Grammy-nominated songwriter and composer, an international recording artist, and a soundtrack composer for film and television, Gary Lucas is debuting three new albums in 2016. Lucas has collaborated with Leonard Bernstein, Jeff Buckley, Captain Beefheart, and countless other artists. He was the recipient of the Premio Ciampi Festival's Lifetime Achievement Award in Tuscany, as well as the U.S. Consul General's Award for Cultural Diplomacy.

Gary Lucas is the founder of New York rock band *Gods and Monsters*. He has been profiled in the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, and the *International Herald Tribune*. To date, Gary Lucas has released over 20 highly acclaimed albums in various genres (psychedelic rock, solo acoustic, world music, electronic dance, rock-jazz, classical, ambient), played as a guest on over 50 other albums, and performed in 40 countries around the world.

About Saul Williams

Saul Williams has been breaking musical ground since his debut album, *Amethyst Rock Star*, was released in 2001. After gaining global fame for his poetry and writings at the turn of the century, Williams performed in over 30 countries and read in over 300 universities, with invitations that have spanned from the White House, the Sydney Opera House, Lincoln Center, The Lourve, The Getty Center, and Queen Elizabeth Hall. The Newburg, New York native earned a BA in philosophy and drama from Morehouse College and an MFA in acting from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, and has gone on to record with Nine Inch Nails and Allen Ginsburg, as well as countless film and television appearances. Williams starred in the Broadway musical "Holla if you Hear Me," as well as the films *Slam* (1998) and *Today* (2012).

Williams' most current album *Martyr Loser King* is a multimedia project that engaged the digital dialogue between the 1st and 3rd Worlds, and the global street sounds that yoke the two. He cites Beyoncé, Fredo Santana, and Haitian field recordings as musical inspirations for his self-produced 6th album, straining trap hi-hats and mbira strokes together for a nuanced, entirely original sound.

About Brandon Niedrauer “TAZ”

Thirteen-year-old guitarist Brandon Niederauer is living proof that dreams really do come true. After being inspired by his father's record collection, Brandon instantly realized he wanted to play guitar. Four years later, he was cast as the principle role of guitarist “Zack Mooneyham” in the Tony Award-nominated Andrew Lloyd Webber Broadway production, *School of Rock the Musical* at the Winter Garden Theatre.

Brandon has played with members of the Allman Brothers Band including Gregg Allman, Butch Trucks, Warren Haynes, and Oteil Burbridge, as well as other notable musicians such as Buddy Guy, Stevie Nicks, George Clinton & Parliament Funkadelic, Dr. John, Gary Clark Jr., Eric Krasno, George Porter Jr., Robert Randolph, Karl Denson, and countless others. He has also played with Umphrey's McGee Scorpions, Dumpstaphunk, The Revivalists, Galactic, and so many more.

Since performing on the Ellen DeGeneres Show at the age of ten, Brandon has made additional national television appearances on *The Late Show* with Stephen Colbert, *Good Morning America*, and *The View*.

About the Apollo Theater

The legendary Apollo Theater—the soul of American culture—plays a vital role in cultivating emerging talents and launching legends. Since its founding, the Apollo has served as a center of innovation and a creative catalyst for Harlem, the city of New York, and the world.

With music at its core, the Apollo's programming extends to dance, theater, performance art, spoken word initiatives, and more. This includes the October 2014 premiere and 2015 international tour of the dance celebration project *James Brown: Get on the Good Foot*, the annual *Africa Now! Festival*, and the New York premiere of the opera *Charlie Parker's YARDBIRD*. The Apollo is a presenting organization that also produces festivals, large-scale dance and music works organized around a set of core initiatives: Apollo Music Signature Programs—*Amateur Night*, *Salon Series*, *Apollo Music Café*; Legacy Series—work that celebrates and extends the Apollo's legacy through a contemporary lens; Global Festivals including the *Women of the World (WOW) Festival* and *Breakin' Convention*, international and U.S.-based artist presentations focused on a specific theme; and Special Projects, multidisciplinary work with partner organizations.

Since introducing the first Amateur Night contests in 1934, the Apollo Theater has served as a testing ground for new artists working across a variety of art forms, and has ushered in the emergence of many new musical genres—including jazz, swing, bebop, R&B, gospel, blues, soul, and hip hop. Among the countless legendary performers who launched their careers at the Apollo are D'Angelo, Lauryn Hill, Machine Gun Kelly, Miri Ben Ari, Ella Fitzgerald, Sarah Vaughan, Billie Holiday, James Brown, Michael Jackson, Gladys Knight, Luther Vandross, and Stevie Wonder; and the Apollo's forward-looking artistic vision continues to build on this legacy.

The Apollo Theater is a not-for-profit organization with the mission to extend the institution's role in fostering artistic innovation and in building appreciation of American culture around the world. For more information, visit www.apollotheater.org.

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