

ROOTS AND REASON:

A CELEBRATION OF AMERICAN ROOTS MUSIC

This year's Africana Studies music programming celebrates the richness of America's roots music traditions. The roots music artist is the chronicler of the ongoing story of America, told through song. Roots music grew out of the intermingling of influences across culture. Johnny Cash once said, "Every successful country singer I know has a humble background... and the colored blues has been a part of their musical heritage. Every one of them, bar none. Elvis will tell you himself that where he got his style is from colored blues singers."

From this fusion and sharing of American cultures came spirituals, blues, gospel, folk, country, and bluegrass—the roots of all American popular music.

PROGRAMMING THIS YEAR FEATURES...

ROOTS MUSIC FACULTY CONCERT with Professor Matt Glaser and the Bluegrass Ensemble
February 2, 7:30 p.m., David Friend Recital Hall

ROOTS AND REASON: Special Guest TBA
Concert, February 4, 8:15 p.m., Berklee Performance Center

LIONEL LOUEKE
Concert, February 9, 7:30 p.m., David Friend Recital Hall
Lionel Loueke is a Berklee alumnus who grew up in Benin, West Africa. His new album, Karibu, combines West African roots with jazz. Loueke also appears on Herbie Hancock's River: The Joni Letters.

THE ART MUSIC OF BLACK COMPOSERS: SPIRITUALS
Concert, February 16, 7:30 p.m., David Friend Recital Hall
Berklee faculty and staff perform original pieces.

DONALD HARRISON JR.
Concert, February 23, 7:30 p.m., David Friend Recital Hall
Donald Harrison Jr. is an American jazz saxophonist from New Orleans, nicknamed "The King of Nouveau Swing."

BERNICE JOHNSON REAGON AND TOSHI REAGON
Concert, February 18, 8:15 p.m., Berklee Performance Center
Bernice Johnson Reagon is a singer, composer, scholar, and social activist who founded the a cappella ensemble Sweet Honey in the Rock in 1973. Toshi Reagon, her daughter, is also a singer and songwriter.

SOUL OF THE CARIBBEAN with the Bob Marley, Afro-Cuban, and Steel Pan Ensembles
Concert, February 25, 8:15 p.m., Berklee Performance Center

REGINA CARTER
March 8, 8-16 (time?)
Regina Carter is an American jazz violinist considered one of the finest in the genre.

Berklee college of music



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TOSHI REAGON