

*Clarice Presents*

**CÉCILE MCLORIN SALVANT**



**Friday, April 25, 2025 • 8PM**

KAY THEATRE

AT THE CLARICE SMITH PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

UNIVERSITY OF  
**MARYLAND**

*Clarice Presents*

## CÉCILE MCLORIN SALVANT

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**Glenn Zaleski**

**Paul Sikivie**

**Kyle Poole**

Composer, singer, and visual artist, Cécile McLorin Salvant is passionate about storytelling and exploring connections between vaudeville, blues, folk traditions, theater, jazz and baroque music. An eclectic curator, she has unearthed rarely recorded, forgotten songs with strong narratives, power dynamics, twists and humor.

***Selections to be announced from the stage.***

### ENGAGEMENT ON CAMPUS AND IN THE COMMUNITY

This afternoon, Cécile was interviewed by Dr. Stephanie Shonekan, Dean of the University of Maryland College of Arts and Humanities, in a special event for students in the college. The discussion was about Cécile's career trajectory and how her music has been influenced by other prominent artists.

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*This performance is supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council, The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation and FACTOR Canada.*



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## CÉCILE MCLORIN SALVANT

**CÉCILE MCLORIN SALVANT** is a composer, singer and visual artist. The late Jessye Norman described Salvant as “a unique voice supported by an intelligence and full-fledged musicality, which light up every note she sings.” Salvant has developed a passion for storytelling and finding the connections between vaudeville, blues, theater, jazz, baroque and folkloric music. Salvant is an eclectic curator, unearthing rarely recorded, forgotten songs with strong narratives, interesting power dynamics, unexpected twists and humor. Salvant won the Thelonious Monk competition in 2010. She has received three consecutive Grammy Awards for Best Jazz Vocal Album for *The Window*, *Dreams and Daggers* and *For One To Love*, and was nominated for the award in 2014 for her album *WomanChild*. In 2020, Salvant received the MacArthur Fellowship and the Doris Duke Artist Award. Nonesuch Records released *Ghost Song* in March 2022, and has since gone on to receive two Grammy Nominations as well as appearing on a number of year end best lists for 2022. On March 24, 2023 Nonesuch Records released the highly anticipated follow up *Mélusine*, an album mostly sung in French, along with Occitan, English and Haitian Kreyòl.

Born and raised in Miami, FL, of a French mother and Haitian father, she started classical piano studies at five, sang in a children’s choir at eight and started classical voice lessons as a teenager. Salvant received a bachelor’s degree in French law from the Université Pierre-Mendes France in Grenoble while also studying baroque music and jazz at the Darius Milhaud Music Conservatory in Aix-en-Provence, France. Salvant’s latest work, *Ogresse*, is a musical fable in the form of a cantata that blends genres (folk, baroque, jazz, country). Salvant wrote the story, lyrics and music. It is arranged by Darcy James Argue for a 13-piece orchestra of multi-instrumentalists. *Ogresse*, both a biomythography and an homage to the Erzulie (as painted by Gerard Fortune) and Sara Baartman, explores fetishism, hunger, diaspora, cycles of appropriation, lies, othering and ecology. It is in development to become an animated feature-length film, which Salvant will direct. Salvant makes large-scale textile drawings. Her visual art can now be found at Picture Room in Brooklyn, NY.

## KYLE POOLE

Hailed by Jazz Speaks as a “young prodigious drummer,” Los Angeles native **KYLE POOLE** has been residing in New York City since 2011 and continues to impress wherever his drums take him next. Along with his band of fellow New York jazz upstarts aptly titled “Poole & the Gang,” Kyle has performed in New York’s most esteemed jazz clubs, notably Dizzy’s Club Coca-Cola and SMOKE Jazz, culminating in a weekly residency at Small’s Jazz Club lasting nearly three years. One of Poole’s chief missions is to expand jazz’s audience by incorporating all dance styles of music, reaching back to ragtime and bebop, while forging ahead all the way to funk, hip-hop and beyond. With the constant fluctuation of genre, rhythm and harmony, Poole & the Gang connects these musical dots in a uniquely improvised fashion, while audiences worldwide are delighted to simply “go with the flow”.

## PAUL SIKIVIE

**PAUL SIKIVIE** is an American jazz double bassist. Originally from Gainesville, FL, he has lived in New York City since 2007, when he began studies at The Juilliard School. He has played with many artists of international stature, including long associations with Cécile McLorin Salvant, Aaron Diehl, Matt Wilson, Johnny O'Neal, Ted Nash and Grant Stewart. Since 2015, Sikivie has turned attention towards composition and arranging. Most notably, he melded string quartet and jazz piano trio for six pieces on McLorin Salvant's *Dreams and Daggers*, which was awarded the 2018 Grammy for Best Jazz Vocal Album.

## GLENN ZALESKI

**GLENN ZALESKI** is one of the most in-demand pianists on the New York City jazz scene. Originally from Boylston, MA, Glenn has made a name for himself playing with the likes of Ravi Coltrane, Cécile McLorin Salvant, the Vanguard Jazz Orchestra, Yotam Silberstein, Ken Peplowski, Lage Lund, Ari Hoenig and many more. His latest album is *Solo Vol. 2*, a solo album of standards recorded during the pandemic and the second from his own label Stark Terrace Music. In 2011, Glenn was a semi-finalist in the Thelonious Monk International Jazz Piano Competition, as well as a finalist for the 2011 APA Cole Porter Fellowship in Jazz. He attended the Brubeck Institute Fellowship program in Stockton, CA from 2005 to 2007, and then finished his undergraduate studies at The New School in 2009. From 2009 to 2011, while working towards his graduate degree at NYU, Glenn was also on NYU faculty, teaching a variety of classes and private students.