

46th SEASON



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**SAN FRANCISCO PERFORMANCES PRESENTS
DAVÓNE TINES | BASS-BARITONE
RUCKUS**



**Saturday, February 7, 2026 | 7:30pm
Herbst Theatre**

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – January 14, 2026 – San Francisco Performances (SFP) presents acclaimed bass-baritone **Davóne Tines** and the early music ensemble **Ruckus** in concert on **Saturday, February 7, 2026, 7:30pm** at **Herbst Theatre**.

Their exciting collaboration reimagines American revolutionary music as the nation prepares to mark the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Their program, titled *What is Your Hand in This*, asks audiences to confront the complexity of America’s founding and to reflect on their own role in its ongoing story.

Tickets are \$65/\$55/\$45 and can be purchased at sfperformances.org or by calling 415.392.2545. Tickets can also be purchased at the door as available, including 50% off student rush tickets and 20% off senior rush tickets.

“Davóne Tines’ collaboration with the baroque ‘rock band’ Ruckus will shine a different—and personal—light on the 250th birthday of the United States. Tines will frame this performance around the

question ‘What is My Hand in This,’ exploring issues of freedom, race, identity and complicity in this retrospective program of American music, from the colonial to the contemporary.” — Melanie Smith, SFP President

ABOUT DAVÓNE TINES

Davóne Tines is a pathbreaking artist whose work encompasses a diverse repertoire, ranging from early music to new commissions by leading composers, while exploring the social issues of today. A Grammy©-nominated creator, curator, and performer at the intersection of many histories, cultures, and aesthetics, he is engaged in work that blends opera, art song, spirituals, contemporary classical, gospel, and protest songs as a means to tell a deeply personal story of perseverance connecting to all of humanity.

Tines is a musician who takes full agency of his work, devising new programs and pieces from conception to performance. He reflects this ethos in his *Recital No. 1: MASS*, an examination of the liturgy, comparing Western European, African American, and 21st Century traditions; as well as in his orchestral creations: *Concerto No. 1: SERMON*, a work he premiered with the Philadelphia and BBC Symphony Orchestras; and *Concerto No. 2: ANTHEM*, premiered with the Los Angeles Philharmonic. Tines has also premiered operas by today’s leading composers, including Terence Blanchard, Matthew Aucoin, and most recently, John Adams’s *El Niño* at the Met Opera. His concert appearances include performances of works ranging from Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony to Kaija Saariaho’s *True Fire*. Tines’s first studio album, *ROBESON*, was released on Nonesuch Records in September 2024. Through a diverse set of repertoire ranging from classical and gospel to Broadway and Black folk music, Tines explores his connection to legendary American baritone Paul Robeson, reimagining some of the music Robeson famously sang.

He is Brooklyn Academy of Music’s Artist-in-Residence and Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra & Chorale’s first-ever Creative Partner. He recently served as Artist-in-Residence at Detroit Opera—an appointment that culminated in his performance in the title role of Anthony Davis’ *X: The Life and Times of Malcolm X* in the spring of 2022. Tines is featured on the Grammy-nominated world premiere recording of the opera released on BMOP/sound in 2022. Tines is a member of AMOC and co-creator of *The Black Clown*, a music theater experience commissioned and premiered by American Repertory Theater and coming to Opera Philadelphia in May 2026. He is *Musical America*’s 2022 Vocalist of the Year, a winner of the 2020 Sphinx Medal of Excellence, a recipient of the 2018 Emerging Artists Award from Lincoln Center, and a recipient of the 2024 Chanel Next Prize. He is a graduate of The Juilliard School and Harvard University, and is the recipient of the prestigious 2025 Harvard Arts Medal.

ABOUT RUCKUS

Ruckus is a shapeshifting, collaborative baroque ensemble with a visceral and playful approach to early music. Described as “the world’s only period-instrument rock band” (San Francisco Classical Voice), Ruckus’ core is a continuo group, the baroque equivalent of a jazz rhythm section: guitars, keyboards, cello, bassoon and bass. The NYC-based ensemble aims to fuse the early-music movement’s questing, creative spirit with the grit, groove and jangle of American roots music, creating a unique sound of “rough-edged intensity” (New Yorker) that’s “achingly delicate one moment, incisive and punchy the next” (New York Times). The group’s members are among the most creative and virtuosic performers in North American early music.

Ruckus is the house band for Hudson Hall’s baroque opera productions, directed by R.B. Schlather. The

New York Times' Zachary Woolfe wrote: "Ruckus aptly describes itself as a band: it's that tight, and that wild." Ruckus' next production at Hudson Hall will be Handel's final opera, Deidamia. In spring 2025, the band released *The Edinburgh Rollick* (featuring violinist Keir GoGwilt) bringing new life to the tunes of Neil Gow, one of Scotland's most important 18th-century composers. Praised as "a perfect meeting of folk repertoire and ancient instruments" (*Le Canard Folk*), it will come to NYC in January 2026 at Music Before 1800.

Ruckus' debut album, *Fly the Coop*, a collaboration with flutist Emi Ferguson, was Billboard's #2 Classical album upon its release. Performances of *Fly the Coop* have been described as "a fizzing, daring display of personality and imagination" (New York Times). The Boston Musical Intelligencer describes the group as taking continuo playing to "not simply a new level, but a revelatory new dimension of dynamism altogether... an eruption of pure, pulsing hoedown joy."

Watch [Davóne Tines](#)

Watch [Ruckus](#)

The evening's program will be as follows:

WHAT IS YOUR HAND IN THIS?

STEPHEN FOSTER: *Beautiful Dreamer*

HANDEL: *Musette* from *Concerto in G Minor*, Op. 6; *March*; *Why Do the Nations So Furiously Rage* from *Messiah*

DOUGLAS ADAM AUGUST BALLIETT: *The Despised One*, *The Four F's*, *Holy Word*, *Nunc Dimittis*, and *Overture* from *Compassion Preludes*; *Federal Nations*

TRADITIONAL (arr. Davóne Tines): *Be the Lover of My Soul*

JOSHUA McCARTER SIMPSON: *A Note to the Public*; *To the White People of America*

JOHN DICKINSON (arr. Balliett): *The Liberty Song*

BENJAMIN CARR: *The Federal Overture*

JULIUS EASTMAN: *Buddha*

CLYDE OTIS (arr. Tines and Balliett): *This Bitter Earth*

GEORGE W. CLARK: *The House I Live In*

DAVÓNE TINES (arr. Balliett): *What Is My Hand In This?*

WILLIAM BILLINGS: *Chester*

SAM COOKE (arr. Balliett): *A Change Is Gonna Come*

ABOUT SAN FRANCISCO PERFORMANCES

San Francisco Performances has been a leader in the Bay Area cultural scene since our founding in 1979. With a strong curatorial vision and adventurous programming, we are the city's premier presenter of intimate concerts and solo performances.

We have introduced hundreds of established and emerging classical music, jazz, and dance artists to audiences, including Yo-Yo Ma, the Juilliard String Quartet, Philip Glass, Wendy Whelan, and the Paul Taylor Dance Company. We also champion a new generation, committed to building a contemporary and equitable repertoire. Performers like the Catalyst Quartet, violinist Jennifer Koh, tenor Lawrence Brownlee,

and pianist/composer Vijay Iyer are moving their art into the present and future, making it accessible to younger audiences while converting many traditionalists to new possibilities. They represent the path forward.

Quality, intimacy, and connection are the hallmarks of San Francisco Performances. We nurture unique relationships with today's best artists to create an accessible, warm, and engaging arts experience.

CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

(Please include [our name as the presenter](#) --many thanks!)

SAN FRANCISCO PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

DAVÓNE TINES, Bass-Baritone, and RUCKUS

WHEN: Saturday, February 7, 2026, 7:30pm

WHERE: Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness Avenue (at McAllister), San Francisco

PROGRAM: *What is Your Hand in This?*

STEPHEN FOSTER: *Beautiful Dreamer*; **HANDEL:** *Musette* from *Concerto in G Minor, Op. 6*; *March*; *Why Do the Nations So Furiously Rage* from *Messiah*; **DOUGLAS ADAM AUGUST BALLIETT:** *The Despised One*, *The Four F's*, *Holy Word*, *Nunc Dimittis*, and *Overture* from *Compassion Preludes*; *Federal Nations*;

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BENJAMIN CARR: *The Federal Overture*; **JULIUS EASTMAN:** *Buddha*; **CLYDE OTIS** (arr. Tines and Balliett): *This Bitter Earth*; **GEORGE W. CLARK:** *The House I Live In*; **DAVÓNE TINES** (arr. Balliett): *What Is My Hand In This?*; **WILLIAM BILLINGS:** *Chester*; **SAM COOKE** (arr. Balliett): *A Change Is Gonna Come*

CONCERT TICKETS: \$65/\$55/\$45

CONTACT: (415) 392.2545; sfperformances.org

For high-resolution images, contact Terry Conway at terry@sfperformances.org
or [click here](#)

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