



Friday | March 17 | 8pm Sanders Theatre

Aoife O'Donovan

with special guest **Hawktail**

Hawktail
Brittany Haas fiddle
Paul Kowert bass
Jordan Tice guitar
Dominick Leslie mandolin

INTERMISSION

Aoife O'Donovan guitar, vocals Performing the album *Nebraska* solo

Tonight's performance will run approximately two hours and 15 minutes, including intermission.

Performance Sponsors: Support provided in part by **Kathleen & Chris Gaffney**

> 2022/23 Season Sponsors Amy & Joshua Boger

Celebrity Series of Boston is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

Aoife O'Donovan guitar, vocals

Grammy Award-winning artist Aoife O'Donovan operates in a thrilling musical world beyond genre. Tonight's show features a start-to-finish performance of the Bruce Springsteen album *Nebraska*. She first performed this album as part of a residency at Rockwood Music Hall in New York City in 2011. O'Donovan will also perform several songs from her album *Age of Apathy*. Released in January 2022, the album received three Grammy nominations including Best Folk Album. The song "B61" from the album was Folk Alliance International's 2022 Song of the Year.

Deemed "a vocalist of unerring instinct" by the *New York Times*, she has released three critically acclaimed and boundary-blurring solo albums including her most recent record, 2022's boldly orchestrated and literarily crafted *Age of Apathy*. Written by O'Donovan and recorded with acclaimed producer Joe Henry, *Age of Apathy* is "stunning" (*Rolling Stone*) and "taps into the propulsion of prime Joni Mitchell" (*Pitchfork*).

A savvy and generous collaborator, the Newton-born O'Donovan is one third of the group I'm With Her with bandmates Sara Watkins and Sarah Jarosz. The trio's debut album, See You Around, was hailed as "willfully open-hearted" by NPR Music. I'm With Her earned an Americana Music Association Award in 2019 for Duo/Group of the Year, and a Grammy Award in 2020 for Best American Roots Song. O'Donovan spent the preceding decade as co-founder and front woman of the string band, Crooked Still, and is the featured vocalist on The Goat Rodeo Sessions, the acclaimed album by the group including Yo-Yo Ma, Stuart Duncan, Edgar Meyer, and Chris Thile. She has appeared as a featured vocalist with more than a dozen symphonies, including the National Symphony Orchestra; written for Alison Krauss; performed with jazz trumpeter Dave Douglas; and spent a decade as a regular contributor to the radio variety shows Live From Here and A Prairie Home Companion.

Hawktail

Hawktail is the instrumental acoustic quartet of fiddler Brittany Haas, bassist Paul Kowert, guitarist Jordan Tice, and mandolinist Dominick Leslie. Though at first glance it looks like an acoustic superpicker side-project, their all-original music is cohesive and unique, distinguishing them as an ensemble with a sound built from the ground up. Flush with orchestral sweeps and sparse vigils, with strains of the American South and the North Atlantic, this cosmopolitan sound is not what you'd expect from a string band.

Each member of Hawktail brings a strong individuality to the project. Haas, whose 2004 self-titled release instantly became the touchstone for a generation of old-time fiddlers, has since lent her sound to Crooked Still, *Live from Here*, Steve Martin, and David Rawlings, where she played alongside Kowert, well known as the Grammy-winning Punch Brothers' virtuosic bass player. Tice is a rare guitar player whose music showcases his unique identity and a particular knack for song and tune-writing, and Leslie is a versatile mandolinist whose rhythmic sensibility has made him ubiquitous on the acoustic music scene for over a decade. However, despite each of their ability to contribute to many musical situations, something special happens when they unite as Hawktail. Together, they have fostered a reputation as a rare ensemble of composers and instrumentalists able to take the listener on a journey, without the use of words.

Did you enjoy the performance?

Let us know your thoughts

Scan for our survey





Béla Fleck, Edgar Meyer & Zakir Hussain



SATURDAY MAY 6 8PM BERKLEE PERFORMANCE CENTER

celebrityseries.org



FEBRUARY 2023

Chris Thile

Fri | Feb 3 | 8pm Sanders Theatre

Artemis

Sat | Feb 4 | 8pm **Berklee Performance Center**

What Makes It Great? with Rob Kapilow Copland's Appalachian Spring with A Far Cry Sun | Feb 5 | 3pm NEC's Jordan Hall

Jessica Vosk. My Golden Age Sun | Feb 5 | 5pm Symphony Hall

Circa, Sacre

Thu - Sat | Feb 9 - 11 | 8pm **Boch Center Shubert Theatre**

NEIGHBORHOOD ARTS Sandeep Das & Mike Block Where the soul never dies Sat | Feb 11 | 4pm Harvard-Epworth Church

Emi Ferguson and Ruckus Sat | Feb 11 | 8pm GBH's Calderwood Studio

Jason Moran and the Big Bandwagon James Reese Europe and the Harlem Hellfiahters: From the Dancehall to the Battlefield Fri | Feb 17 | 8pm Berklee Performance Center

DEBUT SERIES Alexi Kenneu, violin Shifting Ground Wed | Feb 22 | 8pm Longy's Pickman Hall

Dreamers' Circus Fri | Feb 24 | 8pm NEC's Jordan Hall

NEIGHBORHOOD ARTS Sandeep Das: Soundscapes of India - Suhail Yusuf Khan with Boston City Singers Sat | Feb 25 | 3pm Multicultural Arts Center, Cambridge

MARCH 2023 Igor Levit, piano Sat | Mar 4 | 8pm NEC's Jordan Hall

Lawrence Brownlee, tenor Kevin Miller, piano Rising Sun | Mar 5 | 3pm GBH's Calderwood Studio

Sun | Mar 12 | 5pm Symphony Hall

JAZZ FESTIVAL (Mar 8-11, 7pm) at Artists For Humanitu EpiCenter Melissa Aldana Quartet Hiromi **Nnenna Freelon** Ambrose Akinmusire

Aoife O'Donovan Fri | Mar 17 | 8pm Sanders Theatre

Chineke! Orchestra Andrew Grams, conductor Stewart Goodyear, piano Wed | Mar 22 | 8pm NEC's Jordan Hall

Terri Lyne Carrington + Social Science Fri | Mar 24 | 8pm

Berklee Performance Center

DEBUT SERIES Fatma Said, soprano Rafael Aguirre, guitar Thu | Mar 30 | 8pm Longy's Pickman Hall

and many more...