



Sat | Sep 10 | 3pm | Arlington Street Church, Back Bay

Celebrity Series of Boston presents a Neighborhood Arts performance
co-hosted with Agora Cultural Architects

Musicians from **Castle of our Skins**

Brianna J. Robinson soprano

DeShaun Gordon-King flute

Francesca McNeeley cello

David Coleman piano

Tania León

(1945-1996)

“Oh Yemanjá” for voice, cello, and piano

Andre Myers

(b. 1973)

“Falling Skyward” for solo flute

Zenobia Powell Perry

(1908-2004)

“The Hidden Words of Baha’u’llah”
for flute, voice, and piano

Coleridge-Taylor Perkinson

(1932-2004)

“Calvary Ostinato” from *Black Folksongs
and Lamentations for solo cello*

Undine Smith Moore

(1904-1989)

Afro-American Suite for flute, cello, and piano
Andante
Allegro molto e marcato
Adagio ma appassionato
Allegro molto

DBR (Daniel Bernard Roumain)

(b. 1970)

Music For Black People No. 1

“Relentless” for voice, flute, cello, and piano

Today’s program will run approximately one hour with no intermission.

Solo(s) Together is supported by The Aaron Copland Fund for Music and
The National Endowment for the Arts

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2021/22 Season Sponsors **Amy & Joshua Boger**

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ABOUT CASTLE OF OUR SKINS

WHO WE ARE

Castle of our Skins is a Black arts institution dedicated to fostering cultural curiosity and celebrating Black artistry through music. In classrooms, concert halls, and beyond, Castle of our Skins invites Black heritage and culture exploration, spotlighting both unsung and celebrated figures of past and present.

OUR WORK

Celebrating Black Artistry; Challenging inequities with cultural representation -

Castle of our Skins is deeply aware of the lack of equity in composer representation on concert stages and the omission of important stories and figures in Black history. It is this lack of equity that we seek to change.

Fostering Cultural Curiosity by showcasing the beauty found within a richly diverse

culture - Through carefully designed educational workshops and creative concert programs, we aim to highlight the achievements of Black artists and historical figures.

Thought-provoking concerts combining music, history, spoken word, and other

arts - Our intergenerational and interdisciplinary concerts range in themes from Black love, African American quilting, and Black Feminism to freedom, civil rights, visual arts and Black excellence.

Interactive education reaching audiences of all ages with music and

storytelling - Through workshops, residencies, masterclasses, lectures, panel discussions and educational concert programs, we work to illustrate the breadth and depth of Black culture.

OUR INSPIRATION

The name *Castle of our Skins* comes from the celebrated poet Nikki Giovanni's "Poem (for Nina)." The poem beautifully captures the sense of adoration and celebration for the very fabric that makes us who we are: our skin.

ABOUT SOLO(S) TOGETHER

The Solo(s) Together Neighborhood Arts commissioning project has brought together five acclaimed composers and five groups of Boston-based musicians to create world premiere works for small ensembles of soloists. Premiered last spring were works by Valerie Coleman, Nathalie , Amir Bitran, and Paul Desenne. Celebrity Series of Boston is thrilled to present musicians from Castle of our Skins in today's world premiere by DBR (Daniel Bernard Roumain).

The score for *Music for Black People* includes this note from the composer:

Music for Black People, No. 1 - "Relentless" is just that: music for people who are Black. If you're not Black, you can, of course, still listen to this music but you might not hear it. If that offends you, you might ask yourself why. Power and place to Black people!

Daniel Bernard Romain
June 2021
Brooklyn, NY