

Thursday, April 13, 2017 at 7:30pm
Richardson Auditorium in Alexander Hall

17TH PERFORMANCE OF THE 123RD SEASON / HISTORY IN THE MUSIC MAKING



presents

BÉLA FLECK, Banjo
ABIGAIL WASHBURN, Banjo/Voice

Tonight's program will be announced from the stage by the artists.
The concert will last approximately two hours,
and will have one intermission.

On tonight's program, Béla Fleck and Abigail Washburn will perform music from their self-titled CD debut for which they took home the 2016 Grammy Award for Best Folk Album.

CDs and other merchandise will be for sale in the lobby.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS



Béla Fleck & Abigail Washburn, “the king and queen of the banjo” (*Paste Magazine*), have a musical partnership like no other. Béla Fleck is a sixteen-time Grammy Award winner who has taken the instrument across multiple genres, and Abigail Washburn a singer-songwriter and clawhammer banjo player who re-radicalized it by combining it with Far East culture and sounds.

The two met at a square dance, began collaborating musically and eventually fell in love. Over the years, they played

together most visibly in the Sparrow Quartet alongside cellist/singer-songwriter/composer Ben Sollee and bluegrass fiddler/singer Casey Driessen and informally at a pickin’ party here, a benefit there, or occasionally popping up in each other’s solo shows. Fans of tradition-tweaking acoustic fare eagerly anticipated that Béla Fleck & Abigail Washburn would produce a full-fledged project together as a duo. Sure, in the abstract, a banjo duo might seem like a musical concept beset by limitations. But, when the banjo players are Béla Fleck & Abigail Washburn, it’s a different

matter entirely. Whether at home, on stage or on record, their deep bond, on top of the way their distinct musical personalities and banjo styles interact, makes theirs a picking partnership unlike any other on the planet.

Fleck has the virtuosic, Jazz-to-Classical ingenuity of an iconic instrumentalist and composer with Bluegrass roots. His standard-setting ensemble Béla Fleck and the Flecktones and a staggeringly broad array of musical experiments, from writing concertos to exploring the banjo's African roots to Jazz duos with

Chick Corea, have had many tout that he's the world's premier banjo player.

Washburn has the earthy sophistication of a postmodern, old-time singer-songwriter who has drawn critical acclaim for her solo albums. She has also done fascinating work in Folk musical diplomacy in China, presented an original theatrical production, contributed to singular side groups Uncle Earl and The Wu-Force, and become quite a live draw in her own right. For more information, visit belafleck.com and abigailwashburn.com

DON'T MISS THESE OTHER OUTSTANDING MUSICAL DUOS....

PAMELA FRANK, Violin & CHRISTIAN TETZLAFF, Violin

Thursday, April 20, 2017 at 8PM

Richardson Auditorium in Alexander Hall
Music by LECLAIR, PROKOFIEV, and BARTÓK

PUC125: PERFORMANCES UP CLOSE (AUDIENCE ON STAGE!)

PEKKA KUUSISTO, Violin & NICO MUHLY, Piano

Sunday, April 30, 2017 at 7:30PM

Richardson Auditorium in Alexander Hall
Music by J.S. Bach, Philip Glass, Arvo Pärt, Nico Muhly, Finnish folksongs

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