

Lincoln Center's

February–May 2017

American Songbook

Lead Support provided by PGIM

The Program

Wednesday, March 29, 2017, at 8:00 pm

Ruby Amanfu

This evening's program is approximately 75 minutes long and will be performed without intermission.

Please make certain all your electronic devices are switched off.

Major support for Lincoln Center's American Songbook is provided by Amy & Joseph Perella.
Endowment support provided by Bank of America

This performance is made possible in part by the Josie Robertson Fund for Lincoln Center.

Stanley H. Kaplan Penthouse

Additional support for Lincoln Center's American Songbook is provided by Meg and Bennett Goodman, Rita J. and Stanley H. Kaplan Family Foundation, Inc., The DuBose and Dorothy Heyward Memorial Fund, Jill & Irwin B. Cohen, The Shubert Foundation, Great Performers Circle, Chairman's Council, and Friends of Lincoln Center.

Public support is provided by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

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Artist catering provided by Zabar's and Zabars.com

UPCOMING AMERICAN SONGBOOK EVENTS IN ALICE TULLY HALL:

Friday, April 14, at 7:30 pm

Sutton Foster

Saturday, May 13, at 7:30 pm

Rhiannon Giddens

The Stanley H. Kaplan Penthouse is located at 165 West 65th Street, 10th floor.

For tickets, call (212) 721-6500 or visit AmericanSongbook.org. Call the Lincoln Center Info Request Line at (212) 875-5766 or visit AmericanSongbook.org for complete program information.

Join the conversation: #LCSongbook

We would like to remind you that the sound of coughing and rustling paper might distract the performers and your fellow audience members.

In consideration of the performing artists and members of the audience, those who must leave before the end of the performance are asked to do so between pieces. Flash photography and the use of recording equipment are not allowed in the building.

Meet the Artist

SHERVIN LAINEZ

Ruby Amanfu



Ruby Amanfu has built a rich and varied career based on an array of exceptional talents and a singular voice. Whether lending vocals to Beyoncé's album *Lemonade*, or writing and performing Grammy-nominated songs, the Ghana-born, Nashville-reared artist has generated a succession of critically acclaimed projects.

Ms. Amanfu released her first solo album, *Smoke & Honey* (Polydor/Murlyn/Interscope Records), in 2003; its single "Sugah" reached No. 3 on Billboard's airplay chart. After an extended period overseas, Ms. Amanfu returned to Nashville to focus on songwriting for a time. The songs she penned have been cut worldwide by a variety of acts, including Kelly Clarkson, Lene Nystrom, Sanne Salomonsen, Rachael Lampa, and the Duhks. In 2007 Ms. Amanfu earned Grammy recognition for the Duhks' version of "Heaven's My Home," a song she co-wrote with Katie Herzig. In 2005 she started the duo Sam & Ruby with Sam Brooker. In 2009 the pair's *The Here & The Now* (Rykodisc) was named Album of the Year by the Associated Press.

Ms. Amanfu released her first solo album, *Smoke & Honey* (Polydor/

Ms. Amanfu has also found inspiration through collaboration. Her powerful vocals infuse Beyoncé's track "Don't Hurt Yourself" on the Grammy-nominated *Lemonade*, as well as on Jack White's debut single, "Love Interruption," and his two acclaimed solo albums, *Blunderbuss* and *Lazaretto*. Ms. Amanfu's additional collaborations expand to artists including Brittany Howard (Alabama Shakes), Sara Bareilles, Ben Folds, Hozier, Norah Jones, and Ryan Adams. Her performances range from the Grammys to two appearances on *Saturday Night Live* as well as Fuji Rock Festival in Tokyo, to name a few.

For her 2015 solo album, *Standing Still* (Thirty Tigers/Rival & Co.), Ms. Amanfu interpreted the songs of artists such as Brandi Carlile, Woody Guthrie, and Kanye West. The album and Ms. Amanfu's artistry continue to be hailed by the likes of NPR, *Rolling Stone*, and *Billboard*.

In addition, Ms. Amanfu is a part-time actor (appearing as herself on the current season of *Nashville*), chef, and blogger.

American Songbook

In 1998 Lincoln Center launched American Songbook, dedicated to the celebration of popular American song. Designed to highlight and affirm the creative mastery of America's songwriters from their emergence at the turn of the 19th century up through the present, American Songbook spans all styles and genres, from the form's early roots in Tin Pan Alley and Broadway to the eclecticism of today's singer-songwriters. American Songbook also showcases the outstanding interpreters of popular song, including established and emerging concert, cabaret, theater, and songwriter performers.

Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, Inc.

Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts (LCPA) serves three primary roles: presenter of artistic programming, national leader in arts and education and community relations, and manager of the Lincoln Center campus. A presenter of more than 3,000 free and ticketed events, performances, tours, and educational activities annually, LCPA offers 15 programs, series, and festivals including American Songbook, Great Performers, Lincoln Center Festival, Lincoln Center Out of Doors, Midsummer Night Swing, the Mostly Mozart Festival, and the White Light Festival, as well as the Emmy Award-winning *Live From Lincoln Center*, which airs nationally on PBS. As manager of the Lincoln Center campus, LCPA provides support and services for the Lincoln Center complex and the 11 resident organizations. In addition, LCPA led a \$1.2 billion campus renovation, completed in October 2012.

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For American Songbook

Rocky Noel, *Lighting Design*

Scott Stauffer, *Sound Design*

Michael Nazario, *Sound Engineer*

Janet Rucker, *Company Manager*

Rocky Noel

Lighting designer Rocky Noel returns to Lincoln Center's American Songbook after recently completing two weeks on Broadway with Kristin Chenoweth in *My Love Letter to Broadway*. Mr. Noel calls New York City home and has worked extensively with artists such as Liza Minnelli, Barbra Streisand, Alan Cumming, Chita Rivera, Christine Ebersole, Elaine Paige, Stephanie J. Block, and Joel Grey, among countless others.

Scott Stauffer

Scott Stauffer has been the sound designer for Lincoln Center's American Songbook since 1999. His Broadway design credits include *A Free Man of Color*, *The Rivals*, *Contact* (also in London and Tokyo), *Marie Christine*, *Twelfth Night*, and *Jekyll & Hyde*. Off-Broadway Mr. Stauffer has worked on *Subverted*, *Promises, Hereafter*, *A Minister's Wife*, *Bernarda Alba*, *Third*, *Belle Epoque*, *Big Bill*, *Elegies*, *Hello Again*, *The Spitfire Grill*, *Pageant*, and *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*. His regional credits include productions at the Capitol Repertory Theatre, University of Michigan, Hanger Theatre, Berkshire Theatre Festival, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, and Alley Theatre. His concert credits include many Lincoln Center galas, as well as the Actors Fund concerts of *Frank Loesser*, *Broadway 101*, *Hair*, and *On the Twentieth Century*. At Carnegie Hall he has worked with Chita Rivera and Brian Stokes Mitchell. As a sound engineer, Mr. Stauffer has worked on *The Lion King*, *Juan Darién*, *Chronicle of a Death Foretold*, *Carousel*, *Once on This Island*, and the original *Little Shop of Horrors*.