

Wiley Hausam, Director
Daniel Gurskis, Dean, College of the Arts



PRESENTS

GABRIEL KAHANE MAGNIFICENT (BIRD / BOOK OF TRAVELERS

TWO SONG CYCLES IN REP

Magnificent Bird

Saturday, February 7, 2026, 4:00 PM

Book of Travelers

Saturday, February 7, 2026, 7:00 PM



Alexander Kasser Theater

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Running time: *Magnificent Bird*: 75 minutes, no intermission.

Book of Travelers: 65 minutes, no intermission.

About the Artist

Gabriel Kahane is a musician, writer, and storyteller.

Highlights of the 2025/26 season include collaborations with Roomful of Teeth, Attacca Quartet, and Jeffrey Kahane; conducting debuts with Santa Fe Pro Music and the San Antonio Philharmonic; composer-in-residence posts with the University of Iowa and the Charlotte Symphony; the world premiere of a new set of songs at the 92nd Street Y; and the Carnegie Hall premiere of *If love will not swing wide the gates*, a clarinet concerto written for Anthony McGill.

An avid theater artist, Kahane opened last season at Playwrights Horizons with the off-Broadway debut of two solo pieces, *Magnificent Bird* and *Book of Travelers*, the latter of which chronicled the composer's 8,980-mile railway journey in the aftermath of the 2016 presidential election. His album and stage spectacle *The Ambassador* was produced at the BAM Next Wave Festival in 2014, under the direction of Tony winner John Tiffany. A musical, *February House*, written with the playwright Seth Bockley, received its New York premiere at the Public Theater in 2012. In 2018, Kahane made his Broadway debut with the score for Kenneth Lonergan's play *The Waverly Gallery*, starring Elaine May, Lucas Hedges, and Michael Cera.

Kahane is known for tackling politically thorny subject matter in his work with subtlety and grace, perhaps most notably in his orchestral oratorio, *emergency shelter intake form*, which addresses economic inequality through the lens of homelessness

and housing insecurity and has been heard from London to New York to Chicago to San Francisco and beyond. He is also increasingly productive as a writer, with prose appearing in the *Atlantic*, the *New Yorker*, and the *New York Times*. Via the newsletter *Words and Music*, Kahane publishes bi-weekly essays on a variety of topics, all of which can be accessed at gabrielkahane.substack.com.

Kahane's wide-ranging discography includes five albums as a singer-songwriter, several orchestral projects, a disc of chamber music (with the string quartet Brooklyn Rider), and various other collaborative albums. He has worked with an array of artists spanning the aesthetic gamut, from Phoebe Bridgers, Paul Simon, Sylvan Esso, Chris Thile, and Sufjan Stevens to the Danish String Quartet, Caroline Shaw, and Pekka Kuusisto, with whom he plays as the duo Council. The recipient of a 2021 Charles Ives Fellowship from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, Kahane relocated to Portland, OR, in the spring of 2020, where he lives with his family and serves as Creative Chair of the Oregon Symphony, a post he has held since 2019.



Photo: Jason Quigley



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Programs in this season were made possible, in part, by the Alexander Kasser Theater Endowment Fund and PEAK Patrons.

PEAK Performances develops, presents, and produces a broad range of world-class dance, film, master classes, music, opera and music theater, talks, and theater in the Alexander Kasser Theater on the campus of Montclair State University for students, faculty, staff, and the general public. We are building community through live performance. PEAK Performances is a program of the university's Arts + Cultural Programming Department.

College of the Arts

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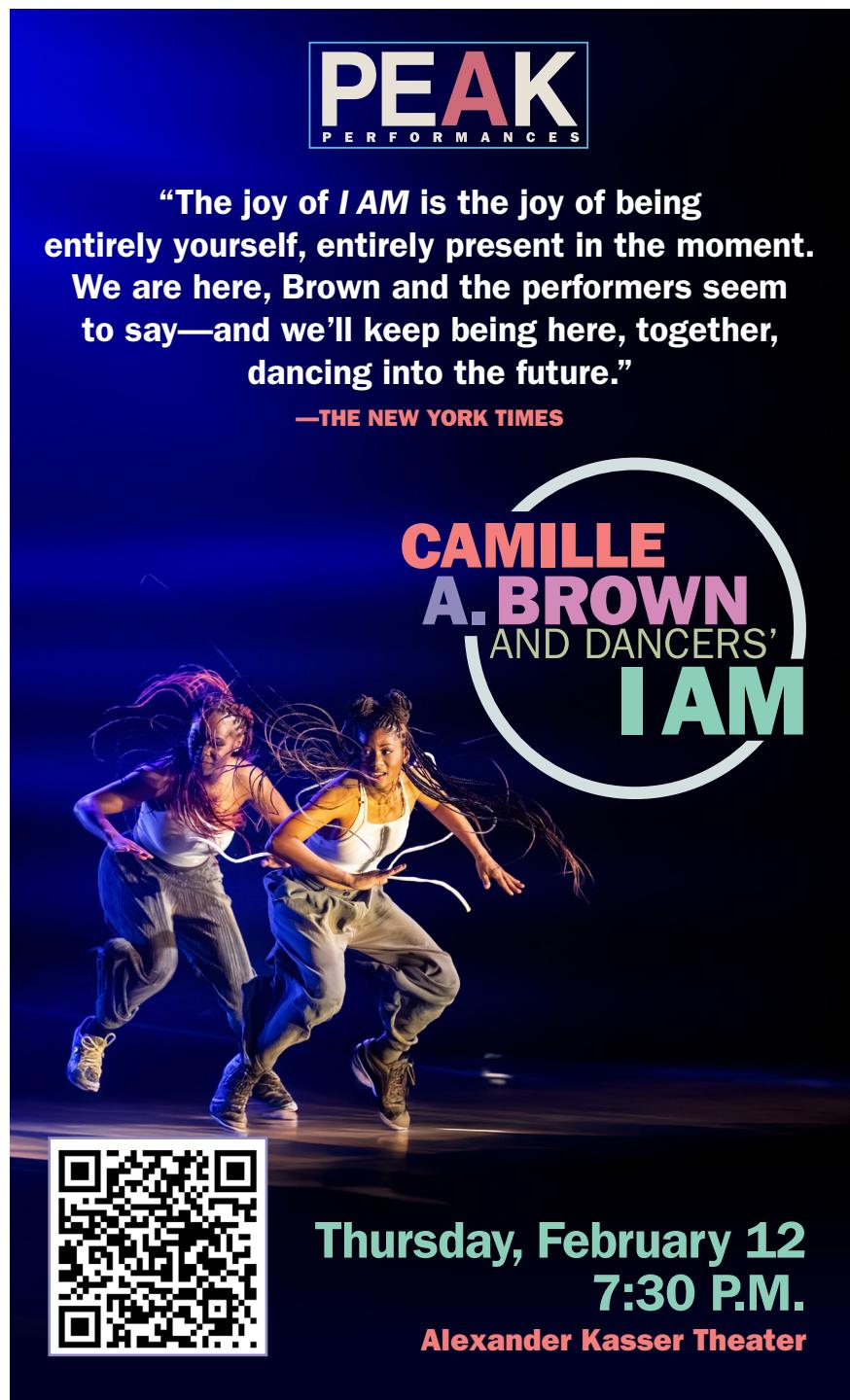
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PEAK
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*“The joy of *I AM* is the joy of being entirely yourself, entirely present in the moment. We are here, Brown and the performers seem to say—and we’ll keep being here, together, dancing into the future.”*

—THE NEW YORK TIMES

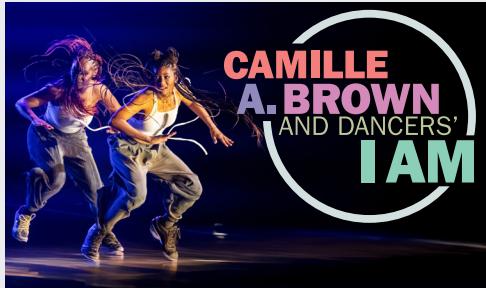
CAMILLE A. BROWN AND DANCERS' *I AM*



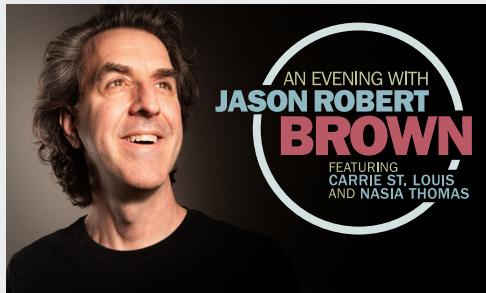
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