



NOVEMBER 4 SUNDAY 7:00PM

DESERT GUITAR SUMMIT
TINARIWEN; VIEUX FARKA TOURÉ

PALACE OF FINE ARTS THEATRE

“The best-known musical export from the Saharan desert.”
 —GUARDIAN (UK) ON TINARIWEN

Brought to the southern U.S. via slave routes, West Africans introduced their musical traditions into a fledgling North American musical stew. The subsequent blues, jazz, and rock & roll styles that developed have since been exported back to Africa and, in turn, have inspired new generations of musicians there—as exemplified by the two genre- and ocean-crossing headliners sharing tonight’s bill.

Tinariwen’s three founding members met in the early 1980s as teenagers who were exiled to southern Algeria and then conscripted into Muammar Qaddafi’s Tuareg training camps in Libya. In creating Tinariwen’s original musical style of “Tishoumaren,” they replaced traditional acoustic lutes and flutes with western rock instruments such as electric guitars and drum kits.

As *The Guardian* (UK) summed up the group’s standing on the international music scene: “Nurtured in exile, raised in conflict and driven underground, where they achieved legendary status, Tinariwen are the kind of band that generations of Western rebel rockers could only dream of being.”

Tinariwen and singer-songwriter-guitarist-percussionist Vieux Farka Touré share one obvious influence: the latter’s late father, legendary guitarist-vocalist Ali Farka Touré. London’s *Independent* called Vieux’s eponymous 2007 debut CD “a timeless piece of work that...subtly bridges the gap between old and new, adding hints of reggae and rock, but always maintaining a profoundly Malian feel.” Or, as *Billboard* proclaimed: “Vieux Farka Touré has taken up where his father left off with the release of this sublime debut album.”

TINARIWEN
Ibrahim Ag Alhabib, vocals, guitar, flute
Abdallah Ag Alhousseyni, vocals, guitar
Touhami Ag Alhassane, vocals, guitar
Eyadou Ag Leche, vocals, bass guitar
Said Ag Ayad, vocals, percussion
Abdallah Ag Lamida, vocals, guitar
Wonou Walet Sidati, vocals

VIEUX FARKA TOURÉ
Vieux Farka Touré, guitar, lead vocals
Mamdou Sissoko, ngoni, guitar
Seckou Toure, calabash, vocals
Eric Herman, bass, vocals
Tim Keiper, drums, percussion

1 **Festival Debut.**
 Artists making their first Festival appearance.



NOVEMBER 7 WEDNESDAY 8:00PM

NEW DISCOVERIES
HAPPY APPLE; KNEEBODY

GREAT AMERICAN MUSIC HALL

“Razor sharp soloing, whirlwind intensity and bountiful storylines.”
 —ALL ABOUT JAZZ ON HAPPY APPLE

In this 25th Anniversary season, the Festival continues to look forward to jazz’s future even as it reflects on the music’s glorious past. In Happy Apple and Kneebody, one can hear two exiting sounds of the present that promise to help shape the future.

Whether rocking with authority, or engaging in the kind of interactive improvisation that comes with years of playing together, Happy Apple embraces developments from the past 40 years in both jazz and popular music. The group can be described—loosely—as a classic saxophone trio with bass and drums. The elasticity of that definition becomes obvious as saxophones are swapped for keyboards and bass guitars traded for electric six-strings. And, as he’s known to do with his other band, The Bad Plus, drummer Dave King often adds some actual toys into the sonic mix, including the band’s Fisher Price namesake.

Drawing on both classical and electronic influences, Kneebody is a bi-coastal acoustic-electric jazz ensemble. The core quartet met as students at the Eastman School of Music in the late ‘90s, adding drummer Nate Wood after immigrating to the Left Coast. A weekly residency gig in Santa Monica became an incubator for Kneebody’s trademark brand of musical interaction, in which any member can signal for a change of tempo, key and even instrumentation through musical cues.

Kneebody’s eponymous first album was the first release on Dave Douglas’ Greenleaf music that wasn’t by Douglas himself. “Their music is a great direction for jazz musicians to go,” Douglas told *DownBeat*. “It’s spontaneous and exciting. The writing is fresh, and the way they integrate it with improvising is unique.”

HAPPY APPLE
Dave King, drums, cymbals, toys
Michael Lewis, saxophones, keyboards, upright bass
Erik Fratzke, bass, guitar

KNEEBODY
Adam Benjamin, Fender Rhodes, piano, keyboard
Shane Endsley, trumpet, pedals
Kaveh Rastegar, electric/acoustic bass, pedals
Ben Wendel, saxophone, bassoon, piano, melodica
Nate Wood, drums

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