



October 22

Wednesday

7:30PM

Vocal Vanguard

Jimmy Scott Melody Gardot

Herbst Theatre

“Like his old friend Billie Holiday, Scott has a gift for communicating the essence of a lyric few other ensembles could match.” —*Boston Globe*

Jimmy Scott is the ultimate soul survivor, a haunting jazz crooner whose influence filtered through American music long before he attained late-career recognition as a jazz treasure. At 83, he is a master storyteller who turns each song into a harrowing emotional journey. His sense of time remains impeccable, and his ethereal tenor still floats above the rhythm section, each word unfurling at its own deliberate pace.

While Scott only flirted with fame during the prime of his career, his sound has influenced a diverse roster of artists, from Nancy Wilson and Ruth Brown to Marvin Gaye and Michael Jackson. He got his big break in 1949 when he joined Lionel Hampton’s orchestra and scored his only hit, “Everybody’s Somebody’s Fool.” While jazz masters like Charlie Parker, Milt Jackson and Billie Holiday adored him, Scott didn’t seem to fit in a jazz scene increasingly oriented toward hard bop. It wasn’t until his 1992 comeback album *All the Way* that Scott’s career revived, and he’s been singing for appreciative audiences ever since.

Melody Gardot’s career was born following a traumatic injury that led her to take up songwriting, revealing a substantial talent. A sultry 22-year-old singer with a knack for insinuating melodies, she released a staggering debut album, *Worrisome Heart*, which was hailed as “a soulful and seductive mix of jazz and blues” (*JazzTimes*).

JIMMY SCOTT

Jimmy Scott vocals
T.K. Blue alto saxophone, flute
Hillard Greene bass
Dwayne Cook Broadnax drums
Piano TBD

MELODY GARDOT

Melody Gardot vocals
Patrick Hughes trumpet
Ken Pendergast bass
Charles Staab drums

MADE POSSIBLE IN PART BY
H. Marcia Smolens



SPONSORED BY



October 22

Wednesday

7:30PM

Jazz Master

Dave Brubeck Quartet

Davies Symphony Hall

“The reigning elder statesman of jazz”
—*The Washington Post*

In the '50s, the Dave Brubeck Quartet redefined jazz, making odd time signatures swing, and putting jazz atop the pop charts with the single “Take Five.” At 87, the legendary pianist is a lion in winter, a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award recipient who refuses to rest on his laurels. Brubeck continues to compose and perform at a daunting pace, creating new works and revisiting significant pieces from his vast catalog, which includes standards such as “The Duke,” and “In Your Own Sweet Way.”

While he has composed ambitious works for symphony orchestras, Brubeck is at his most vivid and engaging as a percussive-minded pianist driving his superlative quartet. Though Bobby Militello is more rhythmically assertive on alto, he clearly follows in the litesome footsteps of Paul Desmond, Brubeck’s invaluable foil in the original quartet. The British-born drummer Randy Jones has performed with Brubeck for three decades, while the band’s latest addition is Michael Moore, a bass virtuoso equally skilled at bowed solos as propulsive walking lines.

Brubeck has maintained his astounding creative output by remaining open to the sounds and people around him. Born and raised on a ranch in rural Concord, CA, he has always found inspiration in nature. These days, Brubeck does most of his writing from the rural Connecticut home he shares with his wife of more than 60 years, Iola, a creative partner who has contributed lyrics to many of the pianist’s compositions. His latest album is a gorgeous, elegiac solo session *Indian Summer* for his long-time label Telarc.

DAVE BRUBECK QUARTET

Dave Brubeck piano
Bobby Militello alto saxophone, flute
Michael Moore bass
Randy Jones drums

SPONSORED BY



MADE POSSIBLE IN PART BY
Jeanne and Sandy Robertson

San Francisco Chronicle

