



October 15

Wednesday

7:30PM

Soul Survivor

## Mavis Staples

Palace of Fine Arts Theatre

**"One of the great voices of soul and gospel"**  
—*Boston Globe*

As the voice of the legendary Staple Singers, soul belter Mavis Staples hardly qualifies as underappreciated. But this Rock and Roll Hall of Famer and Lifetime Achievement Grammy-winner is in the midst of a glorious resurgence, one of American culture's great, unsung stories. Starting with 2004's bracing *Have A Little Faith*, her first album of new material in a decade, she has delved deeply into the music that has spiritually sustained her. Staples' latest album, 2007's inspired *We'll Never Turn Back*, focuses on the gospel she first performed as a child, and the spiritually charged protest songs that turned the Staple Singers into a musical force for change.

Though the civil rights movement flowed out of the black church, gospel singers mostly stuck with spiritual concerns—at least until Mavis's father Pops Staples forged a close friendship with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The Staple Singers were already one of the most popular gospel ensembles when he decided that the group had to join the movement after listening to Dr. King deliver a mesmerizing sermon. "If he can preach it, we can sing it," Pops said. The family quickly crossed over onto the pop charts with politically charged songs such as "When Will We Be Paid?" and "Long Walk To D.C." When the group signed to Stax/Volt in 1968, it reached an even wider audience, scoring numerous Top 40 hits, including the 1972 chart-topper "I'll Take You There." One way or another, Staples' music has always been about transcendence.

### MAVIS STAPLES

Mavis Staples lead vocals  
Yvonne Staples background vocals  
Donny Gerrard background vocals  
Stephen Hodges drums  
Rick Holmstrom guitar  
Jeff Turmes bass

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Shirley Sasaki



October 16

Thursday

7:30PM

SFJAZZ Beacon Award

## Rebeca Mauleón w/Special Guests

Palace of Fine Arts Theatre

**"She refuses to limit herself in any way."**  
—*San Jose Mercury News*

Rebeca Mauleón is the ninth recipient of the SFJAZZ Beacon Award, presented annually to celebrate the master musicians and writers who have preserved the traditions and fostered the growth of jazz in the Bay Area. A ferociously gifted pianist, arranger, educator, producer and innovative bandleader, Mauleón cut her teeth on the Mission District's burgeoning 1970s Latin music scene. After helping found John Santos's innovative Machete Ensemble she became a highly sought-after free agent, serving as music director for Mickey Hart's Planet Drum, while supplying arrangements to a dazzling array of talent, including Stevie Winwood, Carlos "Patato" Valdez, Israel "Cachao" Lopez and Tito Puente.

Mauleón has played an equally essential role as an educator. Boston's Berklee College of Music has incorporated her books into their curriculum. As the co-editor of the "Latin Real Book" and author of "101 Montunos," the first and only bilingual Afro-Caribbean piano method book, Mauleón has played a leading role in documenting Latin music traditions long passed down by word of mouth.

Her latest album, *Descarga en California* (Universal/Pi-mienta), is an old-school Cuban style jam session with Latin jazz giants such as Giovanni Hidalgo (congas), Armando Peraza (bongos), and Orestes Vilató (timbales and bongos). Vilató will also be on hand for her talent-laden Beacon Award concert, which also features another long-time colleague, percussionist Karl Perazzo (of Santana fame), and special guests Bobi Céspedes, Cuban vocal sensation Adonis Puentes, and many surprise guests.

### REBECA MAULEÓN

Rebeca Mauleón piano  
Karl Perazzo timbales, percussion  
Adonis Puentes lead vocal  
Jimmy Branly drums  
Gary Brown bass  
Bill Ortiz trumpet  
Marty Wehner trombone

Jesus Diaz chorus, percussion

Vernon Black guitar  
Mike Olmos trumpet  
Erick Barberia vocal  
Raul Rekow congas

Special Guests:

Bobí Céspedes vocal  
Orestes Vilató timbales/bongos

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