

# 3.10.20: EVENT POSTPONED

The Fromm Players at Harvard present  
BLACK SPECULATIVE MUSICALITIES  
Two Concerts & a Symposium curated by Vijay Iyer

## CONCERTS

Friday April 3 and Saturday April 4, 2020

Doors at 8:30, shows at 9pm

Oberon, 2 Arrow Street, Cambridge

FREE TIX AVAILABLE BEGINNING MARCH 6 AT NOON  
ONLINE OR IN PERSON AT THE LOEB DRAMA CENTER BOX OFFICE

*“The title Black Speculative Musicalities is meant to celebrate African American artists who, through their powerful imaginations, have challenged and expanded our notions of what music is, what it can be, and what it can do. These events shine a bright light on the radical sonic imaginings of the African diaspora,”* says Vijay Iyer, curator of this year’s Fromm Players concerts.

### Friday, April 3

Visionary singer/songwriter/bassist **Meshell Ndegeocello** presents her ensemble with Chris Bruce, Jebin Bruni, and Abraham Rounds. Also part of this evening is Harvard composer and sound artist **Yvette Janine Jackson’s Radio Opera Workshop** featuring Esperanza Spalding, Tia Fuller, Rajna Swaminathan, Davindar Singh, Taiga Ultan, and Judith Hamann.

### Saturday, April 4

Fusing electronics and African Vodou rhythms, **Val Jeanty’s NiteBjuti** (Jeanty, Candice Hoyes, Mimi Jones); vocalist, composer and librettist Imani Uzuri’s solo cantata, **Conjure Woman**; and a set by NEA 2020 Jazz Master **Roscoe Mitchell** w/ his Quartet (Roscoe Mitchell, saxophones, flutes, percussion; Ambrose Akinmusire, trumpet; Junius Paul, bass; Vincent Davis, drums)

### April 4 Symposium

In conjunction with the concerts, there will be a public symposium on Black Speculative Musicalities bringing together scholars, artists, and students in a series of talks from 10:30am to 4:00 in the Thompson Room of the Barker Center, 12 Quincy Street, Cambridge. Confirmed speakers include 2019 MacArthur Fellow **Saidiya Hartman**, scholar and activist **Shana Redmond**, prolific cultural critic **Greg Tate**, innovative gospel scholar and practitioner **Braxton Shelley**, **Vijay Iyer**, and others.



### Yvette Janine Jackson: Radio Opera Workshop

Radio Opera Workshop is an electronics and instrumental chamber ensemble established to perform the radio operas of Yvette Janine Jackson. The sextet features Esperanza Spalding (double bass), Rajna Swaminathan (mrudangam) Davindar Singh (bass clarinet, bari sax), Taiga Ultan (flute, bass flute), Tia Fuller (alto sax) Judith Hamann (cello). Building on her experience as a theatrical sound designer, Jackson blends various forms into her own aesthetic of narrative soundscape composition, radio opera, and improvisation. Her works often draw from history to examine relevant social issues.