

# CENTER FOR THE ARTS

SUMMER AT THE CFA

WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY MIDDLETOWN, CT [www.wesleyan.edu/cfa](http://www.wesleyan.edu/cfa)



Toto Kisaku, July 10 & 12



Sammy Miller and The Congregation, July 5



Martha Redbone: *Bone Hill—The Concert*, July 19

## Sammy Miller and The Congregation

Thursday, July 5, 2018 at 7pm

CFA Courtyard, **FREE!**

Rain Location: Crowell Concert Hall

Connecticut Debut

“The band’s locked-in grooves and explosive, soulful solos kept the audience enthralled.” — *Jazz.org*

GRAMMY Award-nominated drummer, singer, and bandleader **Sammy Miller** and his sextet **The Congregation** will play joyful, feel-good jazz during their Connecticut debut at Wesleyan. Band members have performed and recorded with Wynton Marsalis, Iron and Wine, and Jason Mraz. The group features trombonist **Sam Crittenden**, tenor saxophonist **Ben Flocks**, trumpeter **Alphonso Horne**, pianist **David Linard**, and bassist **John Snow**.

## Toto Kisaku: *Requiem for an Electric Chair*

Staged Reading

Thursday, July 12, 2018 at 7:30pm

Crowell Concert Hall

Pay what you wish (suggested ticket price: \$10)

“The one-man play touches on the thoughts that raced through his mind during his imprisonment.” — *The Hartford Courant*

Middletown resident **Toto Kisaku** is originally from Kinshasa, the capital of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. His *Requiem for an Electric Chair* is the harrowing story of his imprisonment and near-execution there in 2015, before he was granted political asylum in the United States. The performance at Wesleyan will be a staged reading of the work that premieres in June 2018 at the International Festival of Arts & Ideas in New Haven. The reading will be followed by a 20-minute talkback with the artist.

## *This Is It!* The Complete Piano Works of Neely Bruce: Part XV

Performed by the composer

Sunday, July 15, 2018 at 3pm

Crowell Concert Hall, **FREE!**

World Premiere

John Spencer Camp Professor of Music **Neely Bruce** presents the fifteenth in a series of CD-length recitals of his piano music, featuring the world premiere of *Furniture Music in the Form of Mutilated Schubert Waltzes*; three new *Friendly Fugues*; and works for celeste and reed organ.

## Martha Redbone: *Bone Hill—The Concert*

Thursday, July 19, 2018 at 7:30pm

Crowell Concert Hall

\$28 general public; \$26 senior citizens, Wesleyan faculty/staff/alumni; \$12 students, youth under 18

“*[Bone Hill is]* evidence of her beautifully moving and distinctive music style: an amalgamation of influences from her upbringing in both Brooklyn and rural Kentucky (think R&B, soul, '70s groove crossed with folk and country).” — *The Day* (New London)

Featuring a cast of eight actors/musicians, *Bone Hill* is inspired by four generations of **Martha Redbone**'s family lineage (Cherokee/Shawnee and African American), and its historic and cultural connections to the land in the coal-mining Appalachian Mountains of Harlan County, Kentucky. This contemporary musical theater work was created and developed by librettist/composers Ms. Redbone and **Aaron Whitby**.

Funded in part by the New England Foundation for the Arts' National Theater Project, with lead funding from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and support from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation.

## FREE NOONTIME TALKS AND PERFORMANCES



### Toto Kisaku

Tuesday, July 10, 2018

12:10pm to 12:50pm

Ring Family Performing Arts Hall

**FREE!**

Middletown resident **Toto Kisaku** is originally from Kinshasa, the capital of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. At Wesleyan, he will talk about his artistic process. His most recent work is *Requiem for an Electric Chair*, the harrowing story of his imprisonment and near-execution in

2015 before he was granted political asylum in the United States. He will give a staged reading of the work on July 12 in Crowell Concert Hall.



### Zulynette

Tuesday, July 17, 2018

12:10pm to 12:50pm

Ring Family Performing Arts Hall

**FREE!**

Hartford-based poet and author **Zulynette** was a featured performer at Connecticut Arts Day earlier this year. Her memoir *Building a Powerhouse* is a meditation and social commentary about the beauty of fully owning one's identity and purpose. At Wesleyan, she will

discuss her work as a creative change agent that uses art as a tool to inspire others to heal and empower themselves.



### Bob Englehart

Tuesday, July 24, 2018

12:10pm to 12:50pm

Ring Family Performing Arts Hall

**FREE!**

**Bob Englehart** is an artist and editorial cartoonist who worked for *The Hartford Courant* for 35 years. His cartoons have appeared in many publications, including *The New York Times*, *USA Today*, *Time* magazine, *Newsweek*, and on ESPN. He will share some of his work and talk about his career as a cartoonist.

**TICKETS** may be purchased online now at [www.wesleyan.edu/boxoffice](http://www.wesleyan.edu/boxoffice).

The Wesleyan University Box Office opens for phone and in person sales on Monday, July 9, 2018.

Tickets will be also be available starting one hour prior to the performances, subject to availability. The Center for the Arts accepts cash, checks written to “Wesleyan University,” and all major credit cards. No refunds, cancellations, or exchanges. No ticket reservations will be accepted via e-mail. Ticket fees are \$1 online, \$2 by phone, and \$3 at the performance.

All programs, artists, and dates are subject to change. The outdoor concert will be moved indoors in the event of rain. All Center for the Arts facilities are air-conditioned.

Events are general admission, unless otherwise indicated as reserved seating.

IMAGE CREDITS: Photo of Neely Bruce by John Groo; photos of Sammy Miller and The Congregation by Bryon Gaynor; cover photo of Martha Redbone by Craig Bailey / Perspective Photo; photo of Toto Kisaku by Ray Kisaku.

Tickets On Sale Now Online! [www.wesleyan.edu/boxoffice](http://www.wesleyan.edu/boxoffice)

By Phone or In Person: 860-685-3355 starting Monday, July 9, 2018 (Monday–Friday, 1pm–4pm)

Wesleyan University Box Office: Usdan University Center, 45 Wyllys Avenue, Middletown, Connecticut