

CENTER FOR THE ARTS



SUMMER 2019

Phat A\$tronaut

Wednesday, July 3, 2019 at 7pm
CFA Courtyard, **FREE!**

Rain Location: Fayerweather Beckham Hall, 55 Wyllys Avenue

“Deftly weaving together a tapestry of hip-hop, funk, jazz, R&B, and classic soul, Phat A\$tronaut creates music that is experimental in nature and yet downright danceable and party-friendly at its core.”

— *The Hartford Courant*

New Haven’s experimental soul ensemble **Phat A\$tronaut** has created meticulously crafted arrangements with pop-sensible songwriting since 2016. The group’s influences include D’Angelo, Snarky Puppy, Erykah Badu, Prince, Fela Kuti, and Knower. The band features singer/songwriter **Chad Browne-Springer**, guitarist/musical director **Mark Lyon**, vocalist **Ruth Onyirimba**, bassist **Mike Russo**, keyboardist **Stephen Gritz King**, drummer **Travis Hall**, and **Dylan McDonnell** on woodwinds.



Bread and Puppet Theater: *The Diagonal Life Circus*

Thursday, July 18, 2019 at 7pm
Foss Hill/Andrus Field, **FREE!**

Rain Location: Fayerweather Beckham Hall, 55 Wyllys Avenue

“Bread and Puppet has become an icon of our times.”

— *The New York Times*

Bread and Puppet Theater was founded in New York City in 1963 before moving to Vermont in 1970. The company champions a visually rich street-theater brand of performance art filled with music, dance, and slapstick, and their shows are political and spectacular, with huge puppets made of paper maché and cardboard. *The Diagonal Life Circus* is funny and moving—a colorful, tonally and formally diverse tumult of short acts on the urgent themes of the day, powered by a riotous brass band. Before the evening performance, there will be a free conversation with the company at 12:10pm in Ring Family Performing Arts Hall.

Creative Connections

Thursday, July 11, 2019 at 7pm
Fayerweather Beckham Hall, 55 Wyllys Avenue, **FREE!**

Please visit www.wesleyan.edu/cfa/creativeconnections for reservations.

Join the Center for Creative Youth and the Center for the Arts for an evening of “Creative Connections,” a gathering of students and local creatives. This festive and informal event is designed to foster connections with our local arts community, exchange knowledge, and engage in conversation. The evening will feature a short performance by Hartford-based dancer/choreographer **Arien Wilkerson** of multidisciplinary art collective **Tnnot Aztro**. Light refreshments and dessert will be served.

FREE NOONTIME TALKS



Douglas Lyons

Tuesday, July 2, 2019 at 12:10pm
Ring Family Performing Arts Hall
FREE!

Actor, writer, and songwriter **Douglas Lyons** has appeared on Broadway in *Beautiful* and *The Book of Mormon*, as well as national tours of *Rent* and *Dreamgirls*. His writing credits include *Polkadots: The Cool Kids Musical*, and he has written lyrics with composer Ethan Pakchar that have been heard at Lincoln Center, Goodspeed Musicals, and Joe’s Pub at The Public Theater. Mr. Lyons studied musical theater at The Hartt School.



Christopher Chenier

Tuesday, July 9, 2019 at 12:10pm
Ring Family Performing Arts Hall
FREE!

Adjunct Assistant Professor of Art and the College of Integrative Sciences **Christopher Chenier** teaches art and design and directs Wesleyan’s multidisciplinary Digital Design Studio, where students work with digital fabrication tools and creative software. As a maker, researcher, and educator, his interests range from parametric design to critical theory and electronic media. He cares most about using computation and the arts to help people develop creative confidence and critical thinking skills.

A Conversation with Bread and Puppet Theater

Thursday, July 18, 2019 at 12:10pm
Ring Family Performing Arts Hall, **FREE!**

Bread and Puppet Theater was founded in New York City in 1963 before moving to Vermont in 1970. The company champions a visually rich street-theater brand of performance art filled with music, dance, and slapstick, and their shows are political and spectacular, with huge puppets made of paper maché and cardboard. Following the afternoon conversation, the group will perform *The Diagonal Life Circus* at 7pm.



Susan Russell

Tuesday, July 23, 2019 at 12:10pm
Ring Family Performing Arts Hall
FREE!

Dr. **Susan Russell** is an Associate Professor in the School of Theatre at Penn State, where she teaches literature/criticism, musical theater history, and playwriting. For 25 years she was a professional actor on and off-Broadway. In 2007, she created “Cultural Conversations,” which uses music, theater, dance, storytelling, and visual arts to help young people talk about social issues. She is the author of *Stop the Violence*, *Start the Conversation* and *Body Language: Cultural Conversations—Reaching Out and Reaching In*.

All programs, artists, and dates are subject to change. The outdoor events 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.