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THE HERMITAGE
artist retreat



**Hermitage Announces First Wave of Fall Programming,
Featuring Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award Winners, Emmy
Award Winners, Guggenheim Fellows, Hermitage Major
Theater Award Winners, and More!**

*New fall Hermitage events include programs with Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning Broadway composer **Tom Kitt** (*Next to Normal*), Emmy Award-nominated writer **Daniel Goldfarb** (“*The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*”), Hermitage Major Theater Award winners **Madeleine George** and **Imani Uzuri**, and Guggenheim Fellow **Kirstin Valdez Quade**, joining previously announced events with performers **Britton Smith** and **Claire Chase**.*

*The Hermitage’s multidisciplinary programming offers audiences a one-of-a-kind look into the creative process. New fall programs are presented in partnership with arts and cultural organizations throughout the Gulf Coast region, including **Marie Selby Botanical Gardens**, **Asolo Repertory Theatre**, **Sarasota Opera**, **Venice Theatre**, **Sarasota Contemporary Dance**, **Johann Fust Library**, and more.*

August 22, 2024 (Sarasota County, Florida) — **The Hermitage Artist Retreat** today announced the first wave of new programs for its upcoming fall season. Continuing its commitment to innovative year-round arts programming, these events will be presented throughout Sarasota County, from the Hermitage’s beautiful beachfront campus on Manasota Key to the heart of Sarasota’s vibrant downtown arts scene. Hermitage programs introduce world-renowned artists to Florida’s Gulf Coast community for musical performances, candid and engaging conversations, theatrical presentations, literary readings, dance performances, and more.

“This year’s dynamic fall lineup is bringing some truly incredible performers, writers, composers, and artists to our community, delivering more breadth and variety than ever before,” notes Hermitage Artistic Director and CEO **Andy Sandberg**. “With even more artists and events to be announced in the weeks ahead, this season speaks to the extraordinary diversity and expansive creative talents of our renowned Hermitage Fellows. I’ve known and followed the work of some of these brilliant artists

for over twenty years, and others are emerging voices in their respective fields whom we're excited to introduce to the Sarasota community.”

Each of these hour-long Hermitage programs offers a completely different experience, providing the Gulf Coast community a rare glimpse into innovative works and the creative process behind them. In recent years, the Hermitage has continued to expand the geographic reach and impact of these unique programs. “We look forward to introducing the work of these visionary and celebrated artists from all across the United States to the Gulf Coast region,” added Sandberg.

On Friday, October 4th at 6pm, 2022 **Hermitage Major Theater Award** (HMTA) winner **Imani Uzuri** will introduce an audience on the Hermitage Beach to an early exploration of her original commission-in-process with “Lighthouse of the Singing Birds: A Sound Meditation.” Hear more about this new commission from 2022 **Hermitage Major Theater Award** winner **Imani Uzuri**, the creator of this magical realist musical, and join her in a communal sound meditation, like the ones that permeate the world of *Lighthouse of the Singing Birds*, as the sun sets on our own Manasota Key Beach. The Hermitage Major Theater Award is made possible with generous support from Flora Major and the Kutya Major Foundation.

Later in October, Pulitzer Prize, two-time Tony Award, two-time Emmy Award, and Grammy Award-winning Broadway composer **Tom Kitt** (*Next to Normal*, *If/Then*) and Emmy Award-nominated writer **Daniel Goldfarb** (“The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel” and HBO Max’s “Julia”) join forces to create theatrical gold as the Hermitage presents “Tom and Daniel Make a Musical.” These multi award-winning artists work across stage and screen to tell some of the most lauded stories of our time. Hear from both of these extraordinary artists as they speak about their process and share some of their original work on Friday, October 25th at 5:30pm on the Hermitage Beach.

As we head into November, the Hermitage is partnering once again with **Sarasota County Libraries** and **Ringling College of Art and Design** for the second annual **Off the Page Festival**, featuring two Hermitage literary programs. Hermitage Fellow **Angie Cruz**'s work has been described as "lovely and compelling" (*The New York Times Book Review*), as well as "poignant" with "nimble prose" (*The New Yorker*). The author of four novels, her most recent work *How Not to Drown in a Glass of Water* was chosen for *The New York Times*' "100 Notable Books of 2022" and *The Washington Post*'s "50 Notable Works of Fiction." Audiences are invited to put their toes in the sand on the Hermitage Beach and hear from this gifted writer as she reads from her work and offers insight into what is next with “How Not to Drown in a Glass of Water: The Works of Angie Cruz” on Friday, November 1st at 5:30pm. Then on Monday, November 4th at 2pm, Hermitage Fellow **Elaine Romero** will present “Walking the World Within: A Hermitage Playwriting Workshop” at the Elsie Quirk Library Reading Garden. Romero will invite participants to dive deeper into their own self through a series of exercises designed to circumvent writing expectations and lead to finding their own

stories within. Writers of all levels are welcome and encouraged to participate; no experience is required.

Hermitage programs continue into December with **Hermitage Major Theater Award** winner and Pulitzer Prize finalist **Madeleine George** (Hulu's "Only Murders in the Building") at **Venice Theatre** on Monday, December 9th at 7:30pm. Following a successful presentation in New York, the Hermitage is excited to invite Gulf Coast audiences to experience "The Sore Loser: An Original Comedy," written by Madeleine George and directed by **Mack Brown**. A Faustian comedy set in a bowling alley, this story promises to bring the competitor (and the laughs) out of us all. *The Sore Loser* is a comedy about power, domination, and the death of the patriarchy... as told through a small-town bowling tournament.

The **Hermitage Cross Arts Collaborative** is an annual residency program focused on supporting the incredibly talented artists frequently featured on Sarasota stages. Now in its third year, this program specifically created for artists representing our community partners is made possible with generous support from the Koski Family Foundation. On Friday, December 13th at 5pm, **Anthony Barrese (Sarasota Opera)** and **Raleigh Mosely II (Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe)** will present "Hermitage Cross Arts Collaborative: Opera and Theater" at the **Sarasota Opera House**. Barrese is a celebrated conductor who has worked at concert halls around the world. While in residence at the Hermitage, he is pursuing his passion to meticulously transcribe lost operas so they can be performed by today's leading companies with new life. He is joined by a frequent performer with WBTT, Raleigh Mosely II, a gifted singer and actor who is making a name for himself as a recording artist, writing and performing his own work. From very different angles, each of these unique and creative forces will share how they make music.

On Tuesday, December 17th at 4pm, Hermitage Fellow and 2024 Guggenheim Fellow **Kirstin Valdez Quade** will present "An Author Here and Now" at the **Johann Fust Community Library** in Boca Grande. With her novel *The Five Wounds*, Quade has created a "propulsive, immersive story that recons wisely with the real cost of redemption." (*The Guardian*) This debut novel, which won the Center for Fiction's First Novel Prize amongst a host of other honors, follows this author's story collection *Night at the Fiestas*, an equally praised work that spans decades without losing a very real sense of place. Also published in *The Best American Short Stories*, *The New Yorker*, and *The New York Times*, hear what is next from this rising star of the literary world whose work "marks a new and exciting chapter in Latinx literature — one that will redefine the term for readers, scholars, and writers." (*The Georgia Review*)

Hermitage programs are free and open to the public (with a \$5/person registration fee), offering Gulf Coast audiences a rare chance to engage and interact with some of the world's leading talent. Running time for most Hermitage programs is **60-70 minutes**

with no intermission. Due to capacity limitations, **registration is required at HermitageArtistRetreat.org.**

See below for complete program details and artist bios.

Additionally, the Hermitage is pleased to announce a special collaboration with **Sarasota Contemporary Dance** in September. “The Untethered Voice: A Voice-Movement Exploration” features past Hermitage / John Ringling Towers Fellow **Stephanie Heidemann**, who will ask audiences: “What happens when professional dancers perform authentic voicework with a professional singer?” This voice and movement collaboration explores the voice as an extension of the body moving as the voice echoes physical sensations and emotions that move through us, expressing the essence of the human condition. Hear from this Hermitage alumna on the power of sound and music, and witness a never-before-seen improvisation of music and movement on Friday, September 20th at 7pm at the Sarasota Contemporary Dance Studio. *Please note this program is not part of the Hermitage’s traditional free programming. This ticketed event is hosted by Sarasota Contemporary Dance as a part of their In-Studio series (\$10-\$25/person).*

Additional fall Hermitage programs will be announced in the coming weeks.

Many of the Hermitage’s frequent partners are also presenting the work of acclaimed Hermitage alumni artists this season. A few current and upcoming examples include: “The Truth of the Night Sky: A Hermitage Collaboration,” a visual art and music exhibition featuring the work Hermitage Fellows **Anne Patterson** and **Patrick Harlin**, on view at the **Sarasota Art Museum** now through September 29, 2024; **EnsembleNewSRQ**’s season features compositions from several accomplished Hermitage Fellows, including **Thea Lobo** in “Ives and Schoenberg at 150” on November 25, 2024, **Anna Clyne** and **Christopher Theofanidis** in “Visions and Miracles” on January 13, 2025, **Nico Muhly** in “Truth and Mayhem” on February 17, 2025, and Hermitage Fellow **Marcos Balter** in “Critical Moments” on March 17, 2025; and the hit Broadway play *Good Night, Oscar*, written by Tony and Pulitzer Prize-winning Hermitage Fellow **Doug Wright**, is coming to the Asolo Repertory Theatre in April of 2025.

Additionally, original commissions from two Hermitage Greenfield Prize winners will be premiering this April at the John & Mable Ringling Museum, just two years after these extraordinary artists were selected as the winners of this distinguished national arts prize. These two exhibits are visual artist **Sandy Rodriguez**’s work on mapping and documenting colonial resistance, and dancer-choreographer **Rennie Harris**’ “Losing My Religion.” Additional details about these world premiere commissions will be announced in the coming months. Prior to these commissions, Hermitage Fellow and acclaimed vocalist **Kavita Shah** will perform at the Ringling Museum’s Historic Asolo Theater on February 14, 2025, followed by a performance from Two Rivers Ensemble, featuring Hermitage Fellow and musician **Amir El Saffar** on February 15-16, 2025. Currently,

Hermitage Fellow and contemporary artist **Jess T. Dugan**'s exhibit "I Want You to Know My Story" is on view at the Ringling Museum of Art through February 22, 2025.

A leading national arts incubator, the Hermitage is the *only* major arts organization in Florida's Gulf Coast exclusively committed to supporting the development and creation of new work across all artistic disciplines. The Hermitage hosts artists on its Gulf Coast Manasota Key campus for multi-week residencies, where diverse and accomplished artists from around the world and across multiple disciplines create and develop new works of theater, music, visual art, literature, dance, film, and more. As part of their residencies, Hermitage Fellows participate in free year-round community programs, offering audiences in the region a unique opportunity to engage with some of the world's leading artists and to get an authentic "sneak peek" into extraordinary projects and artistic minds before their works go on to major galleries, concert halls, theaters, and museums around the world. These innovative programs include performances, conversations, readings, interactive experiences, open studios, school programs, teacher workshops, and more, serving thousands in our regional community each year.

For more information about the Hermitage and upcoming programs, visit: **HermitageArtistRetreat.org**.

The Hermitage Artist Retreat

Sarasota County, Florida
Andy Sandberg, Artistic Director and CEO

The Hermitage is a leading national arts incubator and multidisciplinary artist retreat located on Manasota Key, Florida. For more than two decades, the Hermitage has invited accomplished artists across multiple disciplines for residencies on its beachfront campus, which is on the National Register of Historic Places. Hermitage artists are invited to interact with the local community, reaching thousands of Gulf Coast residents and visitors each year with unique and inspiring programs. Hermitage Fellows have included 17 Pulitzer Prize winners, Poets Laureate, Guggenheim and MacArthur Fellows, and multiple Tony, Emmy, Grammy, Oscar winners and nominees. Works created at this beachside retreat by a diverse and accomplished group of Hermitage alumni have gone on to renowned theaters, concert halls, and galleries throughout the world. Each year, the Hermitage awards the Hermitage Greenfield Prize for a new work of art, the Hermitage Major Theater Award for an original theater commission, and the Aspen Music Festival's Hermitage Prize in Composition.

For more information, visit HermitageArtistRetreat.org.

The Hermitage is supported by:

Hermitage programs are supported, in part, by the National Endowment for the Arts; Sarasota County Tourist Development Tax revenues; the Welles Murphey Fund at Gulf Coast Community Foundation; Charles & Margery Barancik Foundation; and the Community Foundation of Sarasota County.

FULL PROGRAM DETAILS

Newly Announced Fall Program Descriptions:

- **“The Untethered Voice: A Voice-Movement Exploration” with Hermitage Fellow Stephanie Heidemann, Friday, September 20, 7pm:** Hermitage alumna and John Ringling Towers Award recipient **Stephanie Heidemann** asks audiences: “What happens when professional dancers perform authentic voicework with a professional singer?” This voice and movement collaboration explores the voice as an extension of the body moving. A profound extension of the body, the voice echoes physical sensations and emotions that move through us, expressing the essence of the human condition. Hear from this Hermitage artist on the power of sound and music and witness a never-before-seen improvisation of music and movement. *Presented in partnership with Sarasota Contemporary Dance. Please note this program is not part of the Hermitage’s traditional free programming. This ticketed event (\$10-\$25/person) is hosted by Sarasota Contemporary Dance as a part of the In-Studio series. A link for registration can be found at HermitageArtistRetreat.org. Sarasota Contemporary Dance Studio, 1400 Boulevard of the Arts Suite 30, Sarasota, FL 34236*
- **“Lighthouse of the Singing Birds: A Sound Meditation” featuring Hermitage Major Theater Award Winner Imani Uzuri, Friday, October 4, 6pm:** Somewhere in the Outer Banks of North Carolina, on a beach with purple sand, a bird sanctuary, a lighthouse, and wild horses, a young Black girl is on the precipice of her thirteenth birthday (a special one). Surrounded by her extended family of singers, healers, quilters, foragers, instrument makers, moonshiners, and more, along with their eclectic community, Jasmine lives where the mundane and mystical merge every day. Hear more about this new commission from 2022 **Hermitage Major Theater Award** winner **Imani Uzuri**, the creator of this magical realist musical, and join her in a communal sound meditation like the ones that permeate the world of *Lighthouse of the Singing Birds*, as the sun sets on our own Manasota Key Beach. *The Hermitage Major Theater Award is made possible with generous support from Flora Major and the Kutya Major Foundation. Registration is required at HermitageArtistRetreat.org (\$5/person registration fee). The Hermitage Beach, 6660 Manasota Key Road, Englewood, FL 34223*
- **“Tom and Daniel Make a Musical” featuring Pulitzer Prize-Winning and Emmy Award-Nominated Hermitage Fellows Tom Kitt and Daniel Goldfarb, Friday, October 25, 5:30pm:** Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning composer **Tom Kitt** (*Next to Normal, If/Then*) and Emmy Award-nominated writer **Daniel Goldfarb** (HBO Max’s “Julia” and “The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel”) are joining forces to create theatrical gold here at the Hermitage. These multi award-winning artists work across stage and screen to tell some of the most lauded stories of our time. Hear about the new project they are working on and get a taste of what that work has in store. *Presented in partnership with Asolo Repertory Theatre. Registration is required at HermitageArtistRetreat.org (\$5/person registration fee). The Hermitage Beach, 6660 Manasota Key Road, Englewood, FL 34223*
- **“How Not to Drown in a Glass of Water: The Works of Angie Cruz” with Hermitage Fellow Angie Cruz, Friday, November 1, 5:30pm:** Hermitage Fellow **Angie Cruz**'s work has been described as "lovely and compelling," (*The New York Times Book Review*) as well as "poignant" with "nimble prose" (*The New Yorker*). The author of four

novels, her most recent work *How Not to Drown in a Glass of Water* was chosen for *The New York Times*' "100 Notable Books of 2022" and *The Washington Post*'s "50 Notable Works of Fiction." Put your toes in the sand on the Hermitage Beach and hear from this gifted writer as she reads from her work, shares thoughts on the creative process, and opens insights into what is next for her. *Presented as a part of the Second Annual Off the Page Festival in partnership with Sarasota County Libraries and Ringling College of Art and Design. A link for registration (free) can be found at HermitageArtistRetreat.org. The Hermitage Beach, 6660 Manasota Key Road, Englewood, FL 34223*

- **“Walking the World Within: A Hermitage Playwriting Workshop” with Hermitage Fellow Elaine Romero, Monday, November 4, 2pm:** Join the Hermitage Artist Retreat for a creative playwriting workshop, where Hermitage Fellow, award-winning playwright, and highly regarded educator **Elaine Romero** will help you dive deeper into your own self. Romero will offer a series of exercises designed to circumvent your writing expectations and lead you to your own stories within. This interactive workshop is open to writers of all levels and interests. The only prerequisites are an open mind and a desire for creativity! Please wear comfortable clothes as the conversation is planned for outdoors with some seated stretching; please bring both pencils and pens. *Presented as a part of the Second Annual Off the Page Festival in partnership with Sarasota County Libraries and Ringling College of Art and Design. A link for registration (free) can be found at HermitageArtistRetreat.org. Elsie Quirk Library Reading Garden, 100 West Dearborn Street, Englewood, FL 34223*
- **“The Sore Loser” An Original Comedy by Hermitage Major Theater Award Winner Madeleine George, Monday, December 9, 7:30pm:** Following a successful presentation in New York, the Hermitage is excited to invite Gulf Coast audiences to experience the first regional showing of *The Sore Loser*, the new commission from **Madeleine George**, directed by **Mack Brown**. A Faustian comedy set in a bowling alley, this story promises to bring the competitor (and the laughs) out of us all. *The Sore Loser* is a comedy about power, domination, and the death of the patriarchy... as told through a small-town bowling tournament. *Presented in partnership with Venice Theatre. The Hermitage Major Theater Award is made possible with generous support from Flora Major and the Kutya Major Foundation. Registration is required at HermitageArtistRetreat.org (\$5/person registration fee). Venice Theatre, 140 Tampa Avenue West, Venice, FL 34285*
- **“Hermitage Cross Arts Collaborative: Opera and Theater” with 2024 Hermitage Cross Arts Collaborative Recipients Anthony Barrese and Raleigh Mosely II, Friday, December 13, 5pm:** The Hermitage Cross Arts Collaborative is an annual residency program focused on supporting the incredible talent of artists frequently featured on Sarasota stages. Now in its third year, we celebrate two artists who are injecting life into every note on the page. **Anthony Barrese** (Sarasota Opera) is a celebrated conductor who has worked at concert halls around the world. In his Cross Arts Residency at the Hermitage, he is pursuing his passion to meticulously transcribe lost operas so that they can be performed by today's leading companies with new life. He is joined by a star of the Sarasota theater scene, **Raleigh Mosely II** (WBTT), a gifted singer and actor who is making a name for himself as a recording artist, writing and performing his own work. From very different angles, each of these artists makes music with a unique creative force. Hear selections and perceptions from these two talented musical artists. *Presented in partnership with Sarasota Opera and Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe. The Hermitage Cross Arts Collaborative is made possible with*

generous support from **The Koski Family Foundation**. **Registration is required at HermitageArtistRetreat.org** (\$5/person registration fee). **Sarasota Opera House, 61 N. Pineapple Ave., Sarasota, FL 34236**

- **“An Author Here and Now” with Hermitage Fellow Kirstin Valdez Quade, Tuesday, December 17, 4pm:** In *The Five Wounds*, Hermitage Fellow **Kirstin Valdez Quade** has created a “propulsive, immersive story that reckons wisely with the real cost of redemption.” (*The Guardian*) This debut novel, which won the Center for Fiction’s First Novel Prize amongst a host of other honors, follows this author’s story collection *Night at the Fiestas*, an equally praised work that spans decades without losing a very real sense of place. Also published in *The Best American Short Stories*, *The New Yorker*, and *The New York Times*, hear what is next from this 2024 Guggenheim Fellow whose work “marks a new and exciting chapter in Latinx literature — one that will redefine the term for readers, scholars, and writers.” (*The Georgia Review*) Presented in partnership with *Johann Fust Library Foundation*. **Registration information can be found at HermitageArtistRetreat.org. Johann Fust Community Library, 1040 10th Street West, Boca Grande, FL 33921**

Previously Announced Hermitage Programs:

- **“The Lazour Brothers: A Lifelong Collaboration” with 2024 Hermitage Greenfield Prize Finalists Daniel & Patrick Lazour, Friday, August 23, 6:30pm:** Musical theater has a long history of storied collaborators: Rodgers & Hammerstein, Kander & Ebb, Ahrens & Flaherty, Pasek & Paul, and now **Daniel & Patrick Lazour**. Finalists for the 2024 Hermitage Greenfield Prize, the Lazour Brothers are already Jonathan Larson Grant and Richard Rodgers Award recipients, and their works have been recognized by such prestigious institutions as American Repertory Theater and Lincoln Center. Blending cultures and weaving stories as eloquently as they meld musical styles, the Lazour Brothers are two of the most innovative and evocative musical storytellers working in the American theater today. Join them to hear selections of past and upcoming works, and to learn what’s next for this energetic duo. *Daniel & Patrick Lazour’s Hermitage Residency generously sponsored by Jaclyn Brunckhorst*. **Registration is required at HermitageArtistRetreat.org** (\$5/person registration fee). **The Hermitage Beach, 6660 Manasota Key Road, Englewood, FL 34223**
- **Hermitage Sunsets @ Selby Gardens: “Let the Music Set You Free” with Hermitage Greenfield Prize finalist Britton Smith, Thursday October 17, 2024 @ 5:30pm:** Launching the fifth season of “Hermitage Sunsets @ Selby Gardens” is Broadway veteran, Tony Award winner, and Hermitage Greenfield Prize finalist **Britton Smith**. The bandleader for the alternative soul band Britton and the Sting, this visionary artist and advocate is a force of nature determined to unite the world through a passion for music and theater. Britton’s vibrant work bears witness to the inspiration that can be found within and around us all. Catch this dynamic performer like never before in a stripped-down presentation surrounded by the beautiful sanctuary of Selby Gardens as the sun sets over Sarasota Bay. Presented in Partnership with *Marie Selby Botanical Gardens*. **Registration is required at HermitageArtistRetreat.org** (\$5/person registration fee). **Marie Selby Botanical Gardens – Downtown Sarasota Campus, 1534 Mound Street, Sarasota, FL 34236**

- **Hermitage Sunsets @ Selby Gardens: “Solo Flute — Destiny of Density” with Hermitage Fellow Claire Chase, Thursday, December 5, 2024 @ 5:30pm:** Hermitage Fellow **Claire Chase** helped launch the inaugural season of “Hermitage Sunsets @ Selby Gardens.” Now as the series celebrates its fifth anniversary, Chase returns to share new work in this immensely popular series. An internationally acclaimed composer and performer, Claire Chase has been described by *The New York Times* as “the most important flutist of our time.” She is a pioneer in the world of contemporary music with projects such as “Density 2036,” a 24-year commissioning project that aims to reimagine the literature of the modern flute. A MacArthur Fellow and the first ever flutist to receive the Avery Fisher Award from Lincoln Center, Chase also served on the Hermitage’s Curatorial Council. Surrounded by the idyllic beauty of Selby Gardens, don’t miss hearing the latest from this iconic performer in this popular Hermitage’s series. *Claire Chase’s Hermitage Residency generously sponsored by Ellen Berman and Roy Cohen. Presented in partnership with Marie Selby Botanical Gardens. **Registration is required at HermitageArtistRetreat.org** (\$5/person registration fee). Marie Selby Botanical Gardens – Historic Spanish Point Campus, 401 North Tamiami Trail, Osprey, FL 34229*
- **“Hermitage Sunsets @ Selby Gardens” Thursday January 30, 2025 @ 5:30pm.** (Hermitage Artist TBA). *Presented in Partnership with Marie Selby Botanical Gardens. **Registration is required at HermitageArtistRetreat.org** (\$5/person registration fee). Marie Selby Botanical Gardens – Downtown Sarasota Campus, 1534 Mound Street, Sarasota, FL 34236*
- **“Hermitage Sunsets @ Selby Gardens” Thursday February 20, 2025 @ 5:30pm.** (Hermitage Artist TBA). *Presented in Partnership with Marie Selby Botanical Gardens. **Registration is required at HermitageArtistRetreat.org** (\$5/person registration fee). Marie Selby Botanical Gardens – Historic Spanish Point Campus, 401 North Tamiami Trail, Osprey, FL 34229*
- **“Hermitage Sunsets @ Selby Gardens” Thursday March 6, 2025 @5:30pm.** (Hermitage Artist TBA). *Presented in Partnership with Marie Selby Botanical Gardens. **Registration is required at HermitageArtistRetreat.org** (\$5/person registration fee). Marie Selby Botanical Gardens – Downtown Sarasota Campus, 1534 Mound Street, Sarasota, FL 34236*
- **“Hermitage Sunsets @ Selby Gardens” Thursday May 1, 2025 @ 6:30pm.** (Hermitage Artist TBA). *Presented in Partnership with Marie Selby Botanical Gardens. **Registration is required at HermitageArtistRetreat.org** (\$5/person registration fee). Marie Selby Botanical Gardens – Historic Spanish Point Campus, 401 North Tamiami Trail, Osprey, FL 34229*

ALL ANNOUNCED HERMITAGE PROGRAMS:

FINAL WEEKS OF THIS SPECIAL EXHIBITION! – Now through September 29, “The Truth of the Night Sky:” A Hermitage Collaboration featuring Hermitage Fellows Anne Patterson and Patrick Harlin, at Sarasota Art Museum (Sarasota)
Presented in partnership with Sarasota Art Museum

FINAL CHANCE TO REGISTER! – Friday, August 23 @ 6:30pm, “The Lazour Brothers: A Lifelong Collaboration,” featuring 2024 Hermitage Greenfield Prize Finalists Daniel Lazour & Patrick Lazour, on the Hermitage Beach (Manasota Key)

Friday, September 20 @ 7pm, “The Untethered Voice: A Voice-Movement Exploration,” featuring Hermitage Fellow Stephanie Heidemann, at Sarasota Contemporary Dance Studio (Sarasota) *Presented in partnership with Sarasota Contemporary Dance*

Friday, October 4 @ 6pm, “Lighthouse of the Singing Birds: A Sound Meditation,” featuring Hermitage Major Theater Award Winner Imani Uzuri, on the Hermitage Beach (Manasota Key) *The Hermitage Major Theater Award and Imani Uzuri’s Hermitage residency are made possible with generous support from Flora Major and the Kutya Major Foundation.*

Thursday, October 17 @ 5:30pm, Hermitage Sunsets @ Selby Gardens: “Let the Music Set You Free,” featuring 2024 Hermitage Greenfield Prize Finalist Britton Smith, at Marie Selby Botanical Gardens (Downtown Sarasota)
Presented in partnership with Marie Selby Botanical Gardens

Friday, October 25 @ 5:30pm, “Tom and Daniel Make a Musical,” featuring Pulitzer Prize-Winning and Emmy Award-Nominated Hermitage Fellows Daniel Goldfarb and Tom Kitt, on the Hermitage Beach (Manasota Key)
Presented in partnership with Asolo Repertory Theatre

Friday, November 1 @ 5:30pm, “How Not to Drown in a Glass of Water: The Works of Angie Cruz,” featuring Hermitage Fellow Angie Cruz, on the Hermitage Beach (Manasota Key) *Presented as a part of the Second Annual Off the Page Festival in partnership with Sarasota County Libraries and Ringling College of Art and Design*

Monday, November 4 @ 2pm, “Walking the World Within: A Hermitage Playwriting Workshop,” featuring Hermitage Fellow Elaine Romero, at Elsie Quirk Library Reading Garden (Englewood) *Presented as a part of the Second Annual Off the Page Festival in partnership with Sarasota County Libraries and Ringling College of Art and Design*

Thursday, December 5 @ 5:30pm, Hermitage Sunsets @ Selby Gardens: “Solo Flute — The Destiny of Density,” featuring Hermitage Fellow Claire Chase, at Selby Gardens’ Historic Spanish Point (Osprey) *Presented in partnership with Marie Selby Botanical Gardens*

Monday, December 9 @ 7:30pm, “The Sore Loser,” featuring Hermitage Major Theater Award Winner Madeleine George, at Venice Theatre (Venice)
Presented in partnership with Venice Theatre
The Hermitage Major Theater Award and Madeleine George’s Hermitage residency are made possible with generous support from Flora Major and the Kutya Major Foundation.

Friday, December 13 @ 5pm, “Hermitage Cross Arts Collaborative: Opera and Theater,” featuring 2024 Hermitage Cross Arts Collaborative Recipients Anthony Barrese and Raleigh Mosely II, at the Sarasota Opera House (Downtown Sarasota)
Presented in partnership with Sarasota Opera and Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe
The Hermitage Cross Arts Collaborative is made possible with generous support from The Koski Family Foundation.

Tuesday, December 17 @ 4pm, “An Author Here and Now,” featuring Hermitage Fellow Kirstin Valdez Quade, at Johann Fust Community Library (Boca Grande)
Presented in partnership with Johann Fust Library Foundation

NEW ARTIST BIOS

(in chronological order of newly announced programs)

Stephanie Heidemann

Originally from Detroit, Michigan, Hermitage alumna **Stephanie Heidemann** was raised in Venezuela, Australia, and Germany. Heidemann studied classical piano through childhood, and voice with Brenda Boozer of the Metropolitan Opera. She toured nationally with the world music a cappella quartet *VIDA* from 1994-2001, and she performed as lead vocalist in *The Resonance Project*. Heidemann has also recorded and collaborated with many artists spanning world, folk, R&B, and new age music. Her first solo album, *The Cantiga Project*, was highlighted on NPR's "All Songs Considered." She is currently working on her second album *Starseed* in Indiana. Heidemann is the pioneer of an expressive arts therapy modality called "Authentic Voicework: Yoga of the Voice" and teaches workshops and retreats regularly. She has led workshops as wide-reaching as Sweden and Peru, and she is currently working towards her MA in Clinical Mental Health Counseling with a specialization in Music Therapy from Lesley University.

Imani Uzuri

Imani Uzuri is the 2022 recipient of the **Hermitage Major Theater Award**. Raised in rural North Carolina, Uzuri is an award-winning composer, vocalist, experimental librettist, improviser, and lyricist. She composes, performs, and creates interdisciplinary works including concerts, ritual performances, albums, sound art installations, and compositions for chamber ensembles, film, voice, and theater (including experimental and musical theater), often dealing with themes of ancestral memory, magical realism, liminality, haunting, Black American vernacular culture, spirituality, and landscape. As a Jerome Foundation Composer/Sound Artist Fellow and a Camargo Foundation (Cassis, France) Composer-in-Residence, Uzuri made international sojourns to over 30 shrines in support of her forthcoming ritual opera celebrating the holy iconography of the Black Madonna. Uzuri has been commissioned by Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, The Ford Foundation, Harvard Fromm Players, The Flea Theater, and her recent Chamber Music America New Jazz Works commission *She Knows Suite* premiered at Lincoln Center Atrium. Uzuri's work has been featured at international venues/festivals including Performa Biennial, France's Festival Sons d'hiver, London's ICA, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Joe's Pub, LA Phil, MoMA, Carnegie Hall, NY Phil, and Lincoln Center. Her work has been called "stunning" by *Vulture*, and her ritual performance *Wild Cotton* was cited as one "with subtlety and vision" by *The New York Times*. Uzuri received her MFA from Goddard College Vermont and her M.A. in African American Studies from Columbia University. Uzuri was a 2019-2020 Harvard University W. E. B. DuBois Hutchins Center Fellow in support of her forthcoming chamber opera *Hush Arbor (The Opera)*. Uzuri is composer and co-lyricist for the new musical *GIRL Shakes Loose* (book and co-lyrics by Zakiyyah Alexander, featuring the poetry of the legendary Sonia Sanchez). Uzuri's theater work has received support from O'Neill National Music Theater Conference, NAMT, Goodspeed Musicals Writer's Grove, New Dramatist, and The Lark. Her theater credits include The Public Theater: (composer) Public Works *Troy*, Mobile Unit's *Hamlet*, O'Neill Center NMTI (National Musical Theater Institute) LAB: (Guest Director) *RENT*. Uzuri is the 2022 Lillys Composer Awardee.

Daniel Goldfarb

Hermitage Fellow **Daniel Goldfarb** is a television writer/producer, screenwriter, playwright, librettist, and educator. He is the creator of HBO Max's "Julia." Other television work includes three seasons as a writer/producer on Amazon's Emmy Award-winning "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel." Film work includes the screenplay for the upcoming adaptation of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. Daniel's most recent play, *Men's Health*, was released on

Audible and was an 'Audible Best of 2021.' His other plays include *Legacy* (Williamstown); *Cradle and All* and *Sarah, Sarah* (both MTC); *The Retributionists* (Playwrights Horizons); *Modern Orthodox* (Dodger Stages); and *Adam Baum and The Jew Movie* (Blue Light). Musicals include *Martin Short: Fame Becomes Me* (Broadway); *Piece of My Heart* (Signature); *Radio Girl* (Goodspeed); and *Party Come Here* (Williamstown). He has been nominated for two Emmy Awards, three Writer's Guild Awards (winning once), and a Producer's Guild Award. He has also won an Oppenheimer Award for best NY debut, a Canadian Author's Association Award for Best Play, and was a finalist for the Dramatist's Guild Hull Warriner Award. He is a graduate of The Juilliard School and NYU's Department of Dramatic Writing at Tisch, where he is an Associate Arts Professor.

Tom Kitt

Tom Kitt is a two-time Tony Award, two-time Emmy Award, Pulitzer Prize, and Grammy Award winner. As a musical theater composer, he has written the music for six Broadway shows: *Next to Normal* (Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award), *If/Then* (Tony Award nomination), *Flying Over Sunset* (Tony Award nomination), *High Fidelity*, *Bring It On: The Musical*, and *Almost Famous*. His work for the stage has also been seen Off-Broadway at 2nd Stage (*Next to Normal*, *Superhero*), The Public Theater (*The Visitor*, *Shakespeare in the Park*), and he has worked at some of the most prestigious regional theaters including The Old Globe, Arena Stage, Berkeley Rep, The Signature Theater, and ART. In addition, Kitt's Broadway credits as an orchestrator include: *Next to Normal* (Tony Award), *Hell's Kitchen* (Tony Award nomination), *The SpongeBob Musical* (Tony Award nomination), *Jagged Little Pill* (Tony Award nomination), *Almost Famous*, *Head Over Heels*, *Everyday Rapture*, and *American Idiot*. He has also been active in the world of film and TV. As one of the vocal arrangers working on the *Pitch Perfect* films, Tom most notably helped create the classic "Riff-Off." He also served as music supervisor/arranger/orchestrator for "Grease Live" and contributed songs for "Royal Pains" and "Penny Dreadful." He also provided music supervision for the NBC series "Rise" and has written numerous songs for "Sesame Street." Kitt is also proud that his musical adaptation of *Freaky Friday*, co-written with Bridget Carpenter and Brian Yorkey, was turned into an original movie musical for Disney Channel. Tom also served as a Supervising Music Producer on the new Bobby Lopez/Kristen Anderson-Lopez/Steven Levenson/Thomas Kail musical television series "Up Here."

Angie Cruz

Hermitage Fellow **Angie Cruz** is a novelist and editor. Her most recent novel *How Not To Drown in A Glass of Water* is a finalist for the 2024 Neustadt International Prize for Literature, shortlisted for the Aspen Words Literary Prize, winner of the Gold Medal, Latino Book Award/The Isabel Allende Most Inspirational Book Award, longlisted for the Joyce Carol Oates Literary Prize, and chosen for *The New York Times*' "100 Notable Books of 2022" and *The Washington Post*'s "50 Notable Works of Fiction." Her novel *Dominicana* was the inaugural book pick for GMA Book club and shortlisted for The Women's Prize, longlisted for the Andrew Carnegie Medals for Excellence in Fiction, a RUSA Notable Book and the winner of the ALA/YALSA Alex Award in Fiction. It was named "Most Anticipated / Best Book" by *Time*, *Newsweek*, *People*, *Oprah Magazine*, *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, and *Esquire*. Cruz is the author of two other novels, *Soledad* and *Let It Rain Coffee*, and the recipient of numerous fellowships and residencies including a Hermitage Fellowship, Lighthouse Fellowship, Siena Art Institute, and MacDowell. She's published shorter works in *The Paris Review*, *VQR*, *Callaloo*, *Gulf Coast*, and other journals. She's the founder and Editor-in-Chief of the award-winning literary journal *Aster(ix)* and is currently an Associate Professor at University of Pittsburgh. She divides her time between Pittsburgh, New York, and Turin.

Elaine Romero

Hermitage Fellow **Elaine Romero's** *Secret Things* received a critically acclaimed production at 1st Stage (DC). "RomeroFest" has featured her work at theaters nationally and internationally with over seventeen separate projects with Arizona Theatre Company, with Artists Repertory Theatre, InterAct Theatre Company, Seven Devils New Play Foundry, Teatro Travieso/Troublemaker Theater, Justice Theatre Project, and Foro Shakespeare in Mexico. Romero's work has been published by Dramatists Play Service, Samuel French, Simon & Schuster, and Vintage Books. Her film *A Sentiment* was produced by Justice Theater Project. She is the winner of the 2024 Professor Alberto "Tito" Rios Outstanding Literary Award from the Pete C. Garcia Victoria Foundation. Recent and upcoming publications include *Swastika*, *Permission*, *Harriet & Irene*, and a first volume of her collected works. She is Playwright-in-Residence / National Latine Playwrights Award & Festival Director at ATC and an Associate Professor in the School of Theater, Film, & Television at the University of Arizona.

Madeleine George

Madeleine George is the first recipient of the **Hermitage Major Theater Award**. Her plays include *Hurricane Diane* (Obie Award), *The (curious case of the) Watson Intelligence* (Pulitzer Prize finalist; Outer Critics Circle John Gassner Award), *Seven Homeless Mammoths Wander New England* (Susan Smith Blackburn finalist), *Precious Little*, and *The Zero Hour* (Jane Chambers Award, Lambda Literary Award finalist). Honors include the Hermitage Major Theater Award, the Lilly Award, the Princess Grace Award, and a Whiting Award. Madeleine's translation of Chekhov's *Three Sisters* premiered at Two River Theater in 2022, and her audio adaptation of Alison Bechdel's comic strip *Dykes to Watch Out For* was released by Audible Originals in 2023. Madeleine has written on shows for FX and HBO, and she's been a writer/producer on all four seasons of the Emmy and Golden Globe-nominated mystery-comedy *Only Murders in the Building*, starring Steve Martin, Martin Short, and Selena Gomez. Since 2006, she has worked with the Bard Prison Initiative at Bard College, where she currently serves as Director of Admissions.

Anthony Barrese

Hermitage Cross Arts Collaborative recipient **Anthony Barrese** has earned accolades as both a composer and a conductor in North America and Italy. Mr. Barrese is the recipient of numerous composition awards including a N.E.C. Contemporary Ensemble Composition Competition Award for his madrigale "a 3 voci femminili," and two B.M.I. Student Composers Awards. As a musicologist, Mr. Barrese rediscovered, prepared, and edited the critical edition of Franco Faccio's opera *Amleto*, in conjunction with Casa Ricordi. As Artistic Director and Principal Conductor of Opera Southwest, he has performed Rossini's *Otello* with the American staged premiere of the finale lieto, and in 2014 he led the new world premiere of *Amleto*, not heard anywhere since 1871. He also notably led productions of Wagner's *Lohengrin* (2019), a new world premiere of Bottesini's *Ali Babà* (2019), and a company premiere of Debussy's *Pelléas et Mélisande* (2021). As Music Director of Opera Delaware, he conducted the West Coast premiere of *Amleto* and the company premiere of Rossini's *Semiramide*. Recently, he conducted new productions of *Il barbiere di Siviglia* and *Le nozze di Figaro*. In the 2023-24 season he will conduct new productions of *Il barbiere di Siviglia* (Florida Grand Opera) *L'occasione fa il ladro* and *Bluebeard's Castle* (OSW), Haydn's *L'infedeltà delusa* (Sarasota), *Turandot* (Opera Delaware), and make a company debut with Opera Santa Barbara (Armienta's *Zorro*).

Raleigh Mosely II

Hermitage Cross Arts Collaborative artist **Raleigh Mosely II** has performed at various Hermitage programs and benefits. He made his Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe debut in the Summer 2017 production of *Broadway in Black*. Originally from Miami, he earned his BFA in musical theater from the University of Central Florida. His theater credits include *Dreamgirls*, *In the Heights*, *HAIR*, *Ragtime*, *Broadbend*, *Arkansas*, and *The 25th Annual...Spelling Bee*.

Kirstin Valdez Quade

Hermitage Fellow **Kirstin Valdez Quade** is the author of *The Five Wounds*, winner of the Center for Fiction's First Novel Prize and the Rosenthal Family Foundation Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and finalist for the PEN/Hemingway Award, the Carnegie Medal for Excellence, the Aspen Words Literary Prize, and the Lambda Literary Award. Her story collection, *Night at the Fiestas*, won the John Leonard Prize from the National Book Critics Circle, the Sue Kaufman Prize for First Fiction from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, a "5 Under 35" award from the National Book Foundation, and was a finalist for the New York Public Library Young Lions Award. Kirstin is the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship, Hermitage Fellowship, a Lannan Fellowship, the Rome Prize from the American Academy in Rome, a Rona Jaffe Foundation Writer's Award, a grant from the Elizabeth George Foundation, and a Stegner Fellowship at Stanford. Her work has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The Best American Short Stories*, *The O. Henry Prize Stories*, *The New York Times*, and elsewhere. She is an associate professor at Princeton University.

ADDITIONAL ARTIST BIOS

(in chronological order of previously announced programs)

Daniel Lazour & Patrick Lazour

Daniel Lazour & Patrick Lazour, brothers and musical theater writers, were finalists for the **2024 Hermitage Greenfield Prize**. Their musical *We Live in Cairo* premiered at the American Repertory Theater in 2019. Projects in development include a musical adaptation of Ritesh Batra's film *The Lunchbox* (Lincoln Center Theater commission) and their sing-along theater experiment about patients and caregivers, *Night Side Songs* (A.R.T./Philadelphia Theater Company co-production). Their movie musical *Challenger: An American Dream* is being developed with Bruce Cohen Productions. Original songs by the Lazours can be heard on their independently released albums: *Freres*, *Flap My Wings (Songs from We Live in Cairo)*, *Beth's Homemade Cowboy Breakfast*, and *Lullabies*. They are Jonathan Larson Grant and Richard Rodgers Award recipients; Hermitage Artist Retreat, MacDowell, and Yaddo Fellows; and New York Theatre Workshop Usual Suspects. Patrick holds a B.A. from Boston College, and Daniel holds a B.A. from Columbia University.

Britton Smith

Britton Smith is an artist, activist, and Co-Founder/President of Broadway Advocacy Coalition. Founded in 2016, BAC has grown into a Tony Award-winning organization uniting artists with legal experts and community leaders to have lasting impact on policy issues including criminal justice reform, education equality, and liberation within the theatrical landscape. Smith is a proud co-creator of the organization's staple methodology, Theater of Change, and was invited into Columbia Law School as an adjunct professor. Smith is also the front man and songwriter of the funk liberation band "Britton and The Sting," which has been fueling the NYC music scene for years. Their shows feel like church in all of the best ways. Recent sold-out performances include

the Apollo Music Cafe, Rockwood Music Hall, and Joe's Pub. Britton has been featured in *Vanity Fair*, *Vogue*, *Fault Magazine*, and *The New Yorker*; Britton & The Sting was also featured in *Paper Magazine*'s "Bops Only: 10 Songs You Need to Start Your Weekend Right" list, as well as a featured 2020 NPR Tiny Desk Submission Top Pick. Acting credits include the STARZ comedy series "Run the World" (Gotham Awards Nominee) as Zane, and the Broadway musical *Be More Chill*, *Shuffle Along!*, and *After Midnight*. He was a featured soloist in PBS' 50th Anniversary of Great Performances (2023). BrittonAndTheSting.com / @BrittonSmithWorld

Claire Chase

Hermitage Fellow **Claire Chase** has been described by *The New York Times* as "the most important flutist of our time" and as "the North Star of her instrument's ever-expanding universe." An internationally renowned musician, interdisciplinary artist, and educator, Chase recently concluded her third year as a member of the Hermitage Artist Retreat's distinguished National Curatorial Council. Passionately dedicated to the creation of new ecosystems for the music of our time, Chase has presented the world premieres of hundreds of new works by a new generation of artists. She was the first flutist to be awarded a MacArthur Fellowship in 2012, and in 2017 was the first flutist to be awarded the Avery Fisher Prize for Classical Music from Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts. Chase was the Richard and Barbara Debs Creative Chair at Carnegie Hall in the 2022-23 season, only the second time in that organization's history that the position has been given to a performing artist. Chase has performed recently as a soloist with the New York Philharmonic, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Helsinki Philharmonic, BBC Scottish Symphony, Munich Chamber Orchestra, London Philharmonia, and San Francisco Symphony, where she is a Collaborative Partner with Esa-Pekka Salonen. In the 2022-23 season, Chase debuted a new double concerto by Felipe Lara with the vocalist and bassist Esperanza Spalding and the conductor Susanna Mälkki; this premiere was named one of the "Best Classical Music Performances of the Year" by *The New York Times*. Chase's impressive discography includes eight solo albums of world premiere recordings and dozens of collaborative recordings with ensembles, composers, and sound artists from a wide range of musical genres. In 2013, Chase launched the 24-year commissioning project "Density 2036." Now in its eleventh year, Density reimagines the solo flute literature over a quarter-century through commissions, performances, recordings, education, and a community-focused approach to cultural production.

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