

Jha D Amazi

Tuesday, March 18
Luth Concert Hall
Prior Presents 2024–25

PRIOR
Performing Arts Center

Biography

Jha D Amazi

Jha D Amazi believes that the narratives upheld in our public realm should be expanded to represent, honor, and celebrate the experiences, histories, and cultures of people who have been historically denied representation in our memorial landscape.

As a Principal at MASS Design Group, Jha D leads the Public Memory and Memorials Lab, engaging communities to design projects such as the Franklin Park Action Plan (Boston, MA), the Emmett Till & Mamie Till-Mobley National Monument Project (MS and Chicago, IL), the Gun Violence Memorial Project (Chicago, IL, and Washington D.C.), and the Sugar Land 95 Cemetery Revitalization Project (Sugar Land, TX).

Beyond her contributions at MASS, Jha D is a spoken word artist, event producer, and SpaceMaker for the LGBTQ+ communities of color. In 2023, she was appointed to the Governor's Advisory Council on Black Empowerment by Massachusetts Governor Maura Healey.

Jha D graduated with honors from Northeastern University (B.S. Arch) and the University of Pennsylvania (M. Arch I). Prior to joining MASS, she worked as a Designer at Sasaki and taught studio at the Boston Architectural College.

The Prior Performing Arts Center

An uncommon commons for transformative experiences with the arts

2024–25 Prior Presents Season

Prior Presents is the keystone of the Prior Performing Arts Center's public-facing programming, merging thrilling live events by visiting artists with robust educational and outreach activities. Defined by exceptional artistic quality, interdisciplinary impulses, and the potential to spark both wonder and reflection, this annual series celebrates artistic risk-taking and the exchange of ideas and perspectives from around the globe. Short- and long-term visiting artist residencies include performances, artist talks, installations, workshops, and experiential learning opportunities for Holy Cross students and the greater Worcester community.

The internationally acclaimed artists of the 2024–25 season embody our vision for artist residencies at the Prior Performing Arts Center. Their performances and lectures offer an exhilarating complement to the creativity and innovation of emerging student artists and Holy Cross faculty and staff also featured in our season this year.



Coming Soon to Prior Presents:

Sphinx Virtuosi *American Form/s*

"With a burst of new attention to phrases like diversity, equity and inclusion over the past two years, Sphinx's steady, patient work has come to seem prescient."
—*The New York Times*

A journey through classically-framed infusions of soul, bluegrass, jazz, blues, and rag from the dynamic and inspiring chamber orchestra Sphinx Virtuosi, *American Form/s* is a co-production with Music Worcester.

Sun Mar 30 @ 4:00 PM

Use Code SPHINX20 for 20% off your order!



Scan to purchase tickets and learn more about our schedule of upcoming presentations.

Currently at the Iris & B. Gerald Cantor Art Gallery

Michael Beatty: Fabrications

Associate Professor Emeritus Michael Beatty's exhibition celebrates his sculpture practice, which investigates a hierarchy of focus and support through a dialogue between digital and handmade forms.

Open now through Apr 5

Upcoming Events from Academic Arts

Working Writers Series: Michelle Ephraim & Alizah Holstein

CREATIVE WRITING PROGRAM. Co-sponsored by the Jenks Chair of Contemporary American Letters and the Creative Writing Program, this Working Writers Series presentation features authors & scholars Michelle Ephraim (*GREEN WORLD: A Tragicomic Memoir of Love & Shakespeare*, 2024) and Alizah Holstein (*My Roman History*, 2024).

Thu Mar 20 @ 4:30 PM

Irish Music Hour

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC. Diarmuid Ó Meachair (button accordion & melodeon) and Nathan Gourley (guitar) perform the music of the Dwyer family from The Beara Peninsula in West Cork, Ireland.

Tue Mar 25 @ 3:00 PM

Holy Cross Chapel Artist Series | Gavin Klein '26, Holy Cross Organ Scholar

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC. Holy Cross Organ Scholar Gavin Klein '26 will perform works by Buxtehude, Bach, Mendelssohn, and Reger for the Holy Cross Chapel Artist Series at the St. Joseph Memorial Chapel.

Tue Mar 25 @ 7:00 PM

Sonya Ovrutsky Fensome Piano Recital

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC. In this one-hour recital, pianist Sonya Ovrutsky Fensome invites you on a captivating journey through time and sound, exploring the evolution of The Prelude.

Fri Mar 28 @ 8:00 PM

Lucy Prebble's *Enron*

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE & DANCE. How much is an idea worth? Based on real-life events, Lucy Prebble's darkly comic *Enron* shows how ambition, delusion and boy's-club insiderism caused one of the biggest financial scandals of the new millennium. Scott Malia directs.

April 3 - 13

2025 Senior Studio Concentration Seminar Exhibition

DEPARTMENT OF VISUAL ARTS. Join us for the 31st annual exhibition of artwork by senior art majors in the Iris & B. Gerald Cantor Art Gallery.

Apr 23 - May 23



Scan to purchase tickets and learn more about our schedule of upcoming presentations.

Prior Performing Arts Center Staff

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Marta Beyer, Manager of Artistic and Engagement Initiatives
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NEW! Refreshments at the O'Connor Family Café

We're delighted to share that patrons may now **visit the O'Connor Family Café** on the ground floor (the Beehive) of The Prior to purchase **coffee, tea, Italian sodas, alcoholic beverages, and snacks**. The Café will be open until show time before all Prior Presents events and on select other occasions.

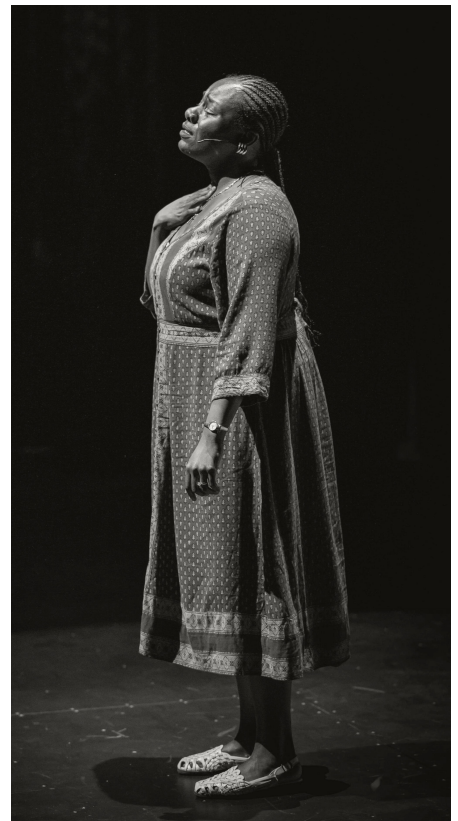
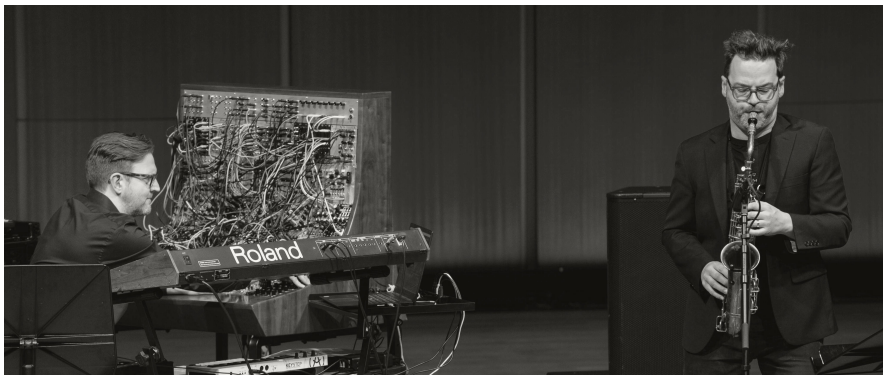
priorperformingartscenter.org



Academic Arts 2024–25

Clockwise from top left: 1) Department of Theatre & Dance: Stephen Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd* | February 6-16, 2025; 2) Cantor Art Gallery: *Michael Beatty Fabrications* Opening Reception | January 30, 2025; 3) Spring Break Immersive: Film Scoring with Osvaldo Golijov, Composer-In-Residence at The Prior | March 3-7, 2025; 4) Creative Writing Program: Working Writers Series with Leah Hager Cohen | January 30, 2025.

Photography by Mike McMath (Image 1), Troy B. Thompson (Images 2, 4) and Michael Ivins (Image 3).



Prior Presents 2024–25

Clockwise from top left: 1) Camille A. Brown & Dancers | September 12, 2024; 2) Johnny Gandelsman, violin | September 26, 2024; 3) Aimee Nezhukumatathil | October 3, 2024; 4) Mfoniso Udofia's *Sojourners* | November 19, 2024; 5) Julia Keefe Indigenous Big Band | November 22, 2024; 6) The Acting Company (Burncoat Middle School visit) | February 10, 2025; 7) Jeremy Flower with Jeremy Udden | February 27, 2025.

Photography by Troy B. Thompson (Images 1-6). Photography by Mike McMath (Image 7).