

SUN

6

AFROPOP

BAMBA WASSOULOU GROOVE

7PM | \$34/\$39

Bamba Wassoulou Groove is a dynamic Malian collective founded in 2013 by percussionist Bamba Dembélé, co-founder of the Super Djata Band. The group blends psychedelic bluesy guitars, trance vocals, and powerful rhythms.

FRI

VICKI PETERSON & JOHN COWSILL

8PM | \$34/\$39 Vicki Peterson of The Bangles fame and John Cowsill, former drummer/vocalist for The Beach Boys, promise an incredible night filled with music, love, and unforgettable moments.

11

AMERICAN

SUN

SYLVIE SIMMONS

7PM | \$29/\$34 Sylvie Simmons, renowned music journalist and Leonard Cohen biographer, released her debut album *Sylvie* in 2014. Praised for its haunting ukulele-driven melodies and poetic lyrics, the album showcases her evolution from writer to evocative singer-songwriter.

13

SINGER-SONGWRITER

THU & FRI

REGGAE NIGHTS AT THE FREIGHT

THE ABYSSINIANS AND THE MEDITATIONS

8PM \$34/39 | 2-DAY PASS: \$51 The Freight is bringing the good vibes to Berkeley, with two incredible nights of reggae with legendary groups The Abyssinians and The Meditations. Formed in 1969, The Abyssinians are known for their roots and spiritual trio harmonies. Their hit "Satta Massagana" is considered a quintessential anthem for reggae music. The Meditations are known as one of Jamaica's iconic harmony trios, capturing the hearts of reggae fans around the world.



17,18

REGGAE



SAT

19

FUNK

FRED WESLEY & THE NEW JB'S

8PM | \$49/54 Fred Wesley & The New JB's, led by funk pioneer Fred Wesley, continue the legacy of roots funk. Wesley, renowned for his work with James Brown and Parliament-Funkadelic, leads the band in performing timeless funk and jazz compositions.

SUN

20

HAWAIIAN

PAULA FUGA

7PM | \$39/44 A poet and accomplished ukulele player, Paula Fuga's songs combine storytelling with passion and intense emotion that endears her to audiences around the world. The "Queen of Hawaiian Soul" will be performing with her 3-piece band.



WED

23

OLD TIME

FOGHORN STRINGBAND

8PM | \$34/39 Foghorn Stringband draws from old-time, bluegrass, classic country, and Cajun music traditions. The band features Caleb Klauder, Reeb Willms, Nadine Landry, & Stephen 'Sammy' Lind.



FRI

MIREYA RAMOS AND THE POOR CHOICES

8PM | \$39/44 A Latin Grammy-winning mariachi vocalist teaming up with a country-western band? It sounds wild, right? But as Mireya Ramos and the Poor Choices prove the two genres share a lot in style, culture, and sound.

25

GENRE BENDING



SAT

KALA RAMNATH

8PM | \$34/39 Maestro Kala Ramnath, with her "Singing Violin," comfortably forges musical alliances with artists of renown from different genres around the globe incorporating elements of Western classical, jazz, flamenco and traditional African music into her rich and varied repertoire.

26

INDIAN CLASSICAL

WED

30

SCOTTISH FOLK

SKERRYVORE

8PM | \$39/44 With a mix of bagpipes, fiddles, accordions, and whistles, alongside guitar and vocals, underpinned by driving bass, drums and keys, Skerryvore represent the best in contemporary Scottish traditional music.



Shows with this icon indicate dance floor / standing room open.

ORDER YOUR TICKETS TODAY:

THEFREIGHT.ORG

All ticket sales are final.

Artists, programs, prices, dates, and times are subject to change without notice.



FRI		2		REGGAE				THU		7		INDIE FOLK													
THIRD WORLD		8PM \$44/49		Celebrating 49 years, Third World are one of the longest-lived reggae bands of all time, and one of Jamaica's most consistently popular crossover acts mixing elements of R&B, funk, pop, rock and, more recently, dancehall and rap.				SHANNON LAY		8PM \$29/34		Shannon Lay's music is characterized by radical empathy and a deep commitment to supporting those in emotional and spiritual need. Her introspective folk songs serve as a comforting presence, reflecting her belief in transformation and healing through intentional artistry.													
FRI		8		JAZZ				SAT		9		AMERICANA													
ZOHAR & ADAM		8PM \$34/39		Brothers Zohar and Adam Cabo are becoming one of the most talked about new acts in jazz. With keyboards and drums, these rising young stars weave the diverse strands of their musical upbringing into a blend of progressive jazz, Latin rhythms, and hip-hop sensibilities, bringing to mind Chick Corea and Weather Report.				T SISTERS		8PM \$39/44		The T Sisters are a genuine sister group based in Oakland. The group is distinguished by close harmonies, catchy melodies and potent lyricism, representing a continuum of music from roots to pop influences, moments of stunning a cappella to swells of groovy indie folk.													
SAT		9		AFROBEAT				SAT		16		INDIAN CLASSICAL													
PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE UC THEATRE & KALW								ALAM KHAN		8PM \$34/39		Alam Khan, son of the legendary late Sarod maestro, Ali Akbar Khan, is a sarodist, composer, and producer based in the Bay Area. Alam has performed alongside some of the finest Indian musicians of our time. His innovative approach has earned him recognition as a visionary and progressive artist.													
SHOW AT UC THEATER 2036 University Ave, Berkeley																									
FEMI KUTI & THE POSITIVE FORCE																									
Tickets & info at theucetheatre.org																									
Join us for an unforgettable night of Afrobeat magic as the legendary Femi Kuti lights up The UC Theatre! Femi Kuti continues the legacy of his father, Fela Kuti, while carving his own path as a global icon.																									
SUN		17		MBIRA				THU		21		SPECIAL EVENT		FRI		22		NORTH AFRICAN							
ANCIENT MBIRA MUSIC OF ZIMBABWE: 'SAMAITA' VITALIS BOTSA		7PM \$29/34		'Samaita' Vitalis Botsa creates gorgeous waves of sound with his mbira to connect the living with the ancestors. Visiting from his home village in Zimbabwe he will be playing mbira duets with Erica Azim.				ANNUAL FREIGHT FIDDLE SUMMIT		8PM \$39/44		Alasdair Fraser & Friends are hosting The Freight's annual fiddle summit this year, featuring Hot Club of San Francisco, Pine Tree Flyers, and Nic Gareiss.		INNOV GNAWA		8PM \$39/44		Innov Gnawa is a Grammy-nominated music group led by Ma'alem Hassan Ben Jaafer. Often referred to as "Sufi blues," Gnawa is rooted in Morocco's ancient history.							
SUN		24		SINGER-SONGWRITER				TUE		26		GENRE BENDING		THU		28		IRAQI CLASSICAL							
ELIZA GILKYSON		7PM \$39/44		Eliza Gilkyson is a twice Grammy-nominated singer-songwriter and activist who is one of the most respected musicians in folk, roots, and Americana circles. Her songs have been covered by Joan Baez, Rosanne Cash, Bob Geldof, and many others.				PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE UC THEATRE		SHOW AT UC THEATER 2036 University Ave, Berkeley		BÉLA FLECK AND THE FLECKTONES		Tickets & info at theucetheatre.org		RAHIM ALHAJ DUO		8PM \$34/39		Active in the revolutionary movement in Baghdad, AlHaj wrote protest songs opposing Saddam Hussein's regime and was imprisoned twice. He composes for solo oud, orchestras & has collaborated with Kronos Quartet and R.E.M.					
Groundbreaking banjoist, composer and bandleader, Béla Fleck has reconvened the original line-up of his Grammy-winning quartet.																									
FRI		29		NEW AGE				SAT		30		HIP-HOP													
LARAAJI PERFORMS DAY OF RADIANCE: BRIAN ENO'S AMBIENT 3		8PM \$39/44		In 1979, Brian Eno discovered Laraaji, then known as Edward Larry Gordon, busking with an autoharp in Washington Square Park. Eno invited him to record, resulting in the album Ambient 3: Day of Radiance. This collaboration introduced Laraaji's meditative music to a global audience.				THE PHARCYDE		8PM \$44/49		The Pharcyde is a groundbreaking hip-hop group from South Central LA known for their playful, madcap aesthetic and clever wordplay. Their singular sound blends lyrical surrealism, soul, and head-bobbing beats — a truly unique hip-hop unit.													
ONGOING:		BOBBY MCFERRIN & MOTION: CIRCLESONGS		MON JUL 7, 14, 21, 28 AUG 4, 11, 18, 25		NOON \$40		A CAPELLA		OPEN MIC		MON JUL 7 & AUG 4		7:30PM FREE		OPEN MIC		THE MOTH STORYSLAM		WED JUL 2, WED AUG 6, 20		7PM \$20		STORYTELLING	

THEMES & VARIATIONS

AFROPOP

Bamba Wassoulou Groove July 6

AMERICANA

Vicki Peterson & John Cowsill July 11

T Sisters August 9

FUNK

Fred Wesley & The New JB's July 19

GENRE-BENDING

Mireya Ramos and the Poor Choices July 25

HAWAIIAN

Paula Fuga July 20

HIP-HOP

The Pharcyde August 30

INDIAN CLASSICAL

Kala Ramnath July 26

Alam Khan August 16

INDIE FOLK

Shannon Lay August 7

IRAQI CLASSICAL

Rahim Alhaj Duo August 28

JAZZ

Zohar & Adam August 8

MBIRA

Ancient Mbira August 17

Music of Zimbabwe

NEW AGE

Laraaji August 29

NORTH AFRICAN

Innov Gnawa August 22

OLD TIME

Foghorn Stringband July 23

REGGAE

The Abyssinians July 17

The Meditations July 18

Third World August 2

SCOTTISH FOLK

Skerryvore July 30

SINGER-SONGWRITER

Sylvie Simmons July 13

Eliza Gilkyson August 24

SPECIAL EVENT

Annual Freight August 21

Fiddle Summit

FEATURED GENRE: INDIAN CLASSICAL

Indian classical music has two major traditions: North Indian music known as Hindustani and South Indian music, known as Carnatic. This music became largely popularized in the West by two prominent 20th century figures: Ravi Shankar and Ali Akbar Khan. The Bay Area has unique ties to this lineage as home to the Ali Akbar College of Music, founded by Ali Akbar Khan, now run by his son Alam Khan.

THE FREIGHT

2020 Addison Street
Berkeley, CA 94704

LEARN TO PLAY AT THE FREIGHT

**FALL I CLASS REGISTRATION
BEGINS JUL 22 – Join our email
list to get a reminder!**

WORKSHOPS

JUL 19, 11AM
Summer Singalong Series:
Old School Soul with Bryan Dyer

JUL 24, 5:30PM
Exploring Indian Rhythm
with Rohan Krishnamurthy

SEP 6, 11AM
Summer Singalong Series:
Protest Songs with Tamsen Fynn

JAMS

SUN, AUG 10, 3-5PM
Poetry Jam

SUN, AUG 24, 3-5PM
Hip-Hop Cypher



Rohan Krishnamurthy teaches Indian rhythm at The Freight.

SAVE THE DATE!

**A celebration of global
music benefiting
The Freight
Friday, October 9, 2025
LOCATION:
Downtown Berkeley**

We're thrilled to announce the return of The Freight's Annual Benefit after a pandemic pause. This year features a world-renowned artist to be revealed this August.

Mark your calendars for an unforgettable evening celebrating global musical traditions while supporting The Freight's vital community initiatives. Your presence helps our educational outreach and artistic offerings continue to thrive.

More details to follow

THE FREIGHT BOX OFFICE

Open Friday and Saturday from 4pm-9pm, 2 hours before shows, and 1 hour before Bobby McFerrin & MOTION: Circlesongs. Tickets are available for purchase in person at our box office, via the phone, online, and by mail order. For complete ticket information visit: thefreight.org

ACCESSIBILITY

The Freight is an accessible venue. For info about accommodations, talk to our box office staff or visit thefreight.org/access

GETTING HERE

The Freight is [bartable](https://bart.com). We recommend taking BART to the Downtown Berkeley station. For other public transit, bicycle parking, driving directions and parking, go to thefreight.org/visit
2020 Addison Street
Berkeley, CA 94704
(510) 644-2020
info@thefreight.org
thefreight.org

THE FREIGHT IS SUPPORTED BY:

Alameda County ARTSFUND, Berkeley Civic Arts Commission, Creative West, Hellman & Friedman LLC, Bill Graham Memorial Foundation, Hellman Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, The Bernard Osher Foundation, The Friendship Fund, The Performing Arts Global Exchange program of Mid Atlantic Arts and National Endowment for the Arts, The State of California administered by the California State Library, and Wood Foundation of Chambersburg, PA.

LIVE MUSIC. GLOBAL ROOTS.

THE FREIGHT

JUL & AUG 2025

INDIAN CLASSICAL

ALAM KHAN

SAT AUG 16

AMERICAN

**VICKI PETERSON
& JOHN COWSILL**

FRI JUL 11

FUNK

**FRED WESLEY
& THE NEW JB'S**

SAT JUL 19

REGGAE

THIRD WORLD

FRI AUG 2

JAZZ

ZOHAR & ADAM

FRI AUG 8

SPECIAL EVENT

**ANNUAL FREIGHT
FIDDLE SUMMIT:
HOSTED BY ALASDAIR FRASER
& FRIENDS**

THU AUG 21



Illustration by Pancho Pescador

LIVE MUSIC. GLOBAL ROOTS.