

# THE FREIGHT

MAY & JUN 2026

BLUES

## RUTHIE FOSTER

FRI, JUN 26

BLUEGRASS

## 10TH ANNUAL BERKELEY BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

SAT & SUN, MAY 2-3

QUÉBÉCOIS/OLD TIME

## LE VENT DU NORD & FOGHORN STRINGBAND

THU, MAY 7

ROCK

## JIM MESSINA

FRI, MAY 8

PERSIAN CLASSICAL

## MARJAN VAHDAT & SAHBA MOTALLEBI

SUN, MAY 24

SOUL

## BOOKER T. JONES

SAT & SUN, JUN 6,7

SINGER-SONGWRITER

## IRIS DEMENT

SAT, JUN 27



<p>FRI</p> <p><b>1</b> VOCAL</p> <p><b>WINDBORNE</b> 8PM   \$39/44 Windborne's captivating harmonies draw on their vocalists' deep roots in traditions of polyphonic singing, while their artistic approach brings old songs into the present. With a repertoire of songs of social and environmental justice, their arrangements are bold and anything but predictable.</p>	<p>SAT &amp; SUN</p> <p>PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH KALW</p> <p><b>10TH ANNUAL BERKELEY BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL</b> 7PM   \$64/69   2-DAY PASS \$115 Celebrating our 10th year, this year's festival features concerts co-curated by Laurie Lewis and Leah Wollenberg, plus instructional workshops. The lineup includes Jason Carter, Tatiana Hargreaves Band with Michael Daves, Laurie Lewis &amp; The Right Hands, Caleb &amp; Reeb and The Cali Cutups, Chris Jones &amp; The Night Drivers, Tony Furtado Trio, and more!</p>	<p><b>2-3</b> BLUEGRASS</p> 
<p>THU</p> <p><b>7</b> OUBÉBOIS/OLD TIME</p> <p><b>LE VENT DU NORD &amp; FOGHORN STRINGBAND</b> 8PM   \$44/49 Join us for a special night showcasing two string bands that are leaders of their respective genre. Le Vent du Nord are ambassadors of Canada's Francophone culture — a driving force behind the progressive folk movement in Quebec, and Foghorn Stringband is the present day gold standard for real-deal hard-hitting genuine old-time American string band music.</p>		<p>FRI</p> <p><b>8</b> ROCK</p> <p><b>JIM MESSINA</b> 8PM   PREMIUM SOLD OUT   \$49/54 Jim Messina's legacy spans five decades, three super groups (Buffalo Springfield, Poco, Loggins &amp; Messina), a vibrant solo career, and scores of producing and engineering credits. His latest record, <i>In the Groove</i>, features a little bit of everything.</p>
<p>SAT</p> <p><b>9</b> SCOTTISH FOLK</p> <p><b>SAN FRANCISCO SCOTTISH FIDDLERS</b> 7PM   \$49/54 Caroline McCaskey and the San Francisco Scottish Fiddlers unleash the <i>Stravaig</i> Spring Concert Series which will feature 70+ musicians—fiddles, cellos, guitars, piano, and percussion—stirring nostalgia to dance-in-the-aisles energy.</p>	<p>SUN</p> <p><b>10</b> COUNTRY</p> <p><b>MARGARET BELTON'S TRIBUTE TO PATSY CLINE</b> 7PM   \$39/44 "Today, Tomorrow &amp; Forever" is a tribute to the life and legacy of Patsy Cline. This annual tribute by the amazing Margaret Belton showcases top hits, rare gems, and gathered stories from collected biographies.</p>	<p>FRI</p> <p><b>15</b> GENRE BENDING</p> <p>CO-PRESENTED WITH WORLD CLASS MUSIC LIVE</p> <p><b>DEREK GRIPPER, ALAM KHAN, GUY BUTTERY</b> 8PM This project unites sarod player Alam Khan, son of the late maestro Ali Akbar Khan, with celebrated South African guitarists Derek Gripper and Guy Buttery, building on a foundation of improvisational discovery.</p>
<p>SAT</p> <p><b>16</b> INDIAN CLASSICAL</p> <p><b>RAKESH CHAURASIA &amp; AMIT KAVTHEKAR</b> 8PM   \$39/44 An evening with flautist Rakesh Chaurasia, nephew of Pt. Hariprasad Chaurasia and collaborator with Béla Fleck, Edgar Meyer and Zakir Hussain on the Grammy-winning album <i>As We Speak</i>, accompanied by Al Di Meola collaborator, Amit Kavthekar, on tabla.</p>		<p>SUN</p> <p><b>17</b> AVANT-GARDE</p> <p><b>TERRY RILEY 90TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION</b> WITH PERFORMANCES BY BANG ON A CAN ALL-STARS, HANK DUTT LONG-TIME FORMER VIOLIST OF KRONOS QUARTET, GEORGE BROOKS, MOLLY HOLM, JOEL DAVEL, AND SAMEER GUPTA 8PM   PREMIUM \$64/69   \$44/49 A celebration of Terry Riley's 90th birthday, featuring performances of his iconic pieces "In C" and "A Rainbow in Curved Air," the latter in a new transcription by Terry's son and frequent performance partner Gyan Riley.</p>
<p>MON</p> <p><b>18</b> VOCAL</p> <p><b>FREIGHT SINGERS COMMUNITY CHORUS</b> WITH SPECIAL GUEST TONY LINDSAY 7:30PM   \$0+ SLIDING SCALE Our own Freight community chorus hits the stage again under the direction of Bryan Dyer, with the longest-tenured lead singer of Santana, Tony Lindsay.</p>	<p>FRI</p> <p><b>22</b> FOLK</p> <p><b>RAMBLIN' JACK ELLIOTT &amp; FRIENDS</b> FEATURING JASON CROSBY, MARIA MULDAUR, ERIC &amp; SUZY THOMPSON, MIKE BECK LOWELL, 'BANANA' LEVINGER, JESSIE DENATALE &amp; KATHY KALLICK 8PM   \$44/49 A special evening of songs and stories with Ramblin' Jack Elliott, special guests, and backing band; Sean Allen, Paul Knight &amp; Kendrick Freeman.</p>	<p>SAT</p> <p><b>23</b> BLUEGRASS</p> <p>PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH KALW</p> <p><b>TONY TRISCHKA'S EARLJAM</b> A TRIBUTE TO EARL SCRUGGS FEATURING MICHAEL DAVES 8PM   \$44/49 Tony Trischka is considered the consummate banjo artist and perhaps the most influential player in the roots music world. For this show, he is joined by Michael Daves and his ace band to honor the music of Earl Scruggs.</p>
<p>SUN</p> <p><b>24</b> PERSIAN CLASSICAL</p> <p>PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH DIASPORA ARTS CONNECTION</p> <p><b>MARJAN VAHDAT &amp; SAHBA MOTALLEBI</b> 7PM   PREMIUM \$59/64   \$39/44 Tar and Sitar virtuoso Sahba Motallebi joins Iranian vocalist Marjan Vahdat for a night of songs from the heart and soul of Persian musical tradition.</p>	<p>TUE</p> <p><b>26</b> JAZZ</p> <p><b>JAZZSCHOOL STUDIO BAND AND DAVE ESHELMAN'S JAZZ GARDEN BIG BAND</b> 7:30PM   \$29/34 Join the Jazz Garden Big Band as they perform music of Brazil, the Beatles and a lot in between. Enjoy music of Africa (via the Caribbean), New York and California, from Duke Ellington to Chick Corea.</p>	<p>THU</p> <p><b>28</b> JAZZ</p> <p><b>OSCAR PEÑAS</b> 8PM   \$39/44 Barcelona-born guitarist, arranger, and composer Oscar Peñas' unique voice is reflected in his original creativity and his collaborations with jazz legends like Mike Stern, Greg Leisz, Ron Carter, and Paquito D'Rivera. His music creates an enthralling tapestry of intricate improvisation and organic compositions.</p>

ORDER YOUR TICKETS TODAY: [THEFREIGHT.ORG](http://THEFREIGHT.ORG) All ticket sales are final. Artists, programs, prices, dates, and times are subject to change without notice.



<p>FRI</p> <p><b>5</b></p> <p><b>NATALIE &amp; BRITTANY HAAS</b> 8PM   \$39/44   LIVESTREAM \$25 Sisters Natalie (cello) and Brittany (fiddle) Haas began their musical lives by filling their home with Bach suites and old-time tunes. Following divergent paths through disparate musical traditions, countries, and cultures they both arrived as virtuosi and composers at the highest levels of contemporary string music.</p> <p>MODERN ACOUSTIC</p>		<p>SAT &amp; SUN</p> <p><b>6,7</b></p> <p><b>SOUL</b></p> <p><b>BOOKER T. JONES</b> 8PM, 7PM   PREMIUM \$69/74   \$49/54 Booker T. Jones is an American multi-instrumentalist, songwriter, record producer, and arranger. Best known as the frontman of the band Booker T. &amp; the M.G.'s, responsible for the 1962 hit "Green Onions," he's earned a Grammy Award for lifetime achievement.</p>
	<p>THU</p> <p><b>11</b></p> <p><b>THIRD WORLD</b> <b>A TRIBUTE TO CAT COORE</b> WITH SPECIAL GUEST KUMAR FYAH 8PM   \$44/49 The members of Third World pay tribute to Cat Coore, one of their founding members who passed away in January of this year. Third World is an institution in the reggae genre, having toured and recorded with late great Bob Marley.</p> <p>REGGAE</p>	
<p>FRI</p> <p><b>12</b></p> <p><b>GOSPEL</b></p> <p><b>OAKLAND INTERFAITH GOSPEL CHOIR</b> <b>JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION</b> 7:30PM   \$39/44 Celebrate Juneteenth with the Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir! The Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir inspires joy and unity among all people through Black gospel and spiritual music traditions.</p>		<p>THU</p> <p><b>18</b></p> <p><b>AMERICAN</b></p> <p><b>TRILLIAN WELCH</b> 8PM   \$39/44 Acclaimed Bay Area singers Margaret Belton, Meredith Edgar, and Jill Rogers join in a reimagining of the haunting, poetic songs of Gillian Welch, with rich three-part harmonies and full-band arrangements.</p>
	<p>SAT</p> <p><b>20</b></p> <p><b>SINGER-SONGWRITER</b></p> <p><b>TERESA TRULL AND BARBARA HIGBIE</b> <b>REUNION, ALBUM RELEASE, AND BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATION WITH SPECIAL GUESTS</b> 7PM   \$39/44 The reunion of Teresa Trull and Barbara Higbie is a long-awaited musical event! Teresa visits from her home in New Zealand to join Barbara as they kick off a national tour supporting the release of their new <i>Greatest Hits</i> CD.</p>	<p>FRI</p> <p><b>26</b></p> <p><b>BLUES</b></p> <p><b>RUTHIE FOSTER</b> 8PM   \$44/49 Ruthie Foster's, new album <i>Mileage</i>, released on the legendary Sun Records, won Best Contemporary Blues Album the Grammys in 2025 — a triumph not only for Foster with her first Grammy win, but also a historic first-ever win for Sun Records.</p>
	<p>SAT</p> <p><b>27</b></p> <p><b>SINGER-SONGWRITER</b></p> <p><b>IRIS DEMENT</b> 8PM   \$49/54 With a voice that John Prine described as, "like you've heard, but not really," and unforgettable melodies rooted in gospel, folk, and old-time country music, Iris DeMent is one of the finest singer-songwriters in America, and one of our fiercest advocates for human rights.</p>	
<p>SUN</p> <p><b>28</b></p> <p><b>SPECIAL EVENT</b></p> <p><b>PRIDE AT THE FREIGHT</b> <b>CURATED BY VICKI RANDLE</b> 7PM   \$39/44 A new tradition: local luminary Vicki Randle returns to curate her second pride concert at The Freight featuring favorites Skip the Needle as the backing band with a variety of musical voices joining in throughout the night. Guests include Linda Tillery, Tammy Hall, John Chase, B DeVeaux, Comrade Lover, Christelle Durandy, and Marina Crouse.</p>	<p>Shows with this icon indicate dance floor / standing area open. </p>	

**ONGOING:** **BOBBY MCFERRIN & MOTION: CIRCLESONGS**  
MON MAY 4, 11, 18, JUN 1, 8, 15, 22, 29  
NOON \$40

**A CAPPILLA** **THE MOTH STORYSLAM**  
WED MAY 4 JUN 3  
7PM \$22

**STORYTELLING**

# THE FREIGHT

2020 Addison Street  
Berkeley, CA 94704

<b>AMERICANA</b> Trillian Welch	Jun 18	<b>PERSIAN CLASSICAL</b> Marjan Vahdat & Sahba Motallebi	May 24
<b>AVANT-GARDE</b> Terry Riley 90th Birthday Celebration	May 17	<b>REGGAE</b> Third World	Jun 11
<b>BLUEGRASS</b> 10th Annual Berkeley Bluegrass Festival Tony Trischka's EarlJam	May 2,3 May 23	<b>ROCK</b> Jim Messina	May 8
<b>BLUES</b> Ruthie Foster	Jun 26	<b>SINGER-SONGWRITER</b> Teresa Trull and Barbara Higbie Iris DeMent	Jun 20 Jun 27
<b>CELTIC</b> SF Scottish Fiddlers	May 9	<b>SOUL</b> Booker T. Jones	Jun 6, 7
<b>COUNTRY</b> Margaret Belton's Tribute to Patsy Cline	May 10	<b>SPECIAL EVENT</b> Pride at The Freight	Jun 28
<b>FOLK</b> Ramblin' Jack Elliott & Friends	May 22	<b>VOCAL</b> Windborne Freight Singers Community Chorus	May 1 May 18
<b>FRANCOPHONE</b> Le Vent du Nord & Foghorn Stringband	May 7	Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir	Jun 12
<b>INDIAN CLASSICAL</b> Rakesh Chaurasia and Amit Kavthekar	May 16		
<b>JAZZ</b> Jazzschool Studio Band & Dave Eshelman's Jazz Garden Big Band Oscar Peñas	May 26 May 28		
<b>MODERN ACOUSTIC</b> Natalie & Brittany Haas	Jun 5		

## LEARN TO PLAY AT THE FREIGHT SPRING II CLASSES MAY 5 – JUN 12

All classes are \$157-185 for a 6-week series of seventy-five minute classes.

### ONLINE CLASSES

ZOOM LINKS for online classes are sent to registrants after payment.

#### TUESDAYS STARTING MAY 5

6:30PM French Cafe Songs  
7:00PM Grow Your Jamming Repertoire

#### WEDNESDAYS STARTING MAY 6

5:30PM Introduction to Mountain Dulcimer  
7:00PM Intermediate Ukulele

#### THURSDAYS STARTING MAY 7

5:30PM Advanced Ukulele  
7:00PM Beginning Ukulele

### IN PERSON CLASSES

#### WEDNESDAYS STARTING MAY 6

5:30PM The Joy of Singing  
7:00PM Strum & Sing  
7:00PM Expanding Your Song Repertoire

#### THURSDAYS STARTING MAY 7

4:00PM Rounds Singing for Joy  
5:30PM Intermediate Guitar  
7:00PM Advanced Beginning Guitar  
7:00PM Using the Boomchuck – Flatpicked Rhythm Guitar  
8:30PM The Pleasures of Jamming!

#### FRIDAYS STARTING MAY 8

5:30PM Harmonize It!

### WORKSHOPS

#### MAY 2 & 3

Berkeley Bluegrass Festival — 8 curated workshops!

For details about festival workshops visit: [thefreight.org/bluegrass](http://thefreight.org/bluegrass)

### COMMUNITY MONDAYS

Freight Lobby | 7:30PM

MAY 4 Open Mic w/ Jamey Williams  
MAY 11 Country/Bluegrass Jam w/ Richard Brandenburgh

### EDUCATION FESTIVAL

#### FRI, JUN 6

The Freight's Education Festival, made possible by the Berkeley Civic Arts Program, will showcase various aspects of our robust Education program, with free performances and workshops throughout the building!

### YOUTH MUSIC CAMP

#### JUN 29–JUL 3

The Freight x Lark Summer Music Camp is designed to strengthen foundational music and is anchored by daily harmonica lessons with the Bay Area's King of Bollywood Blues, Aki Kumar. In addition to daily harmonica and basic music theory lessons, students will receive global percussion instruction from a rotating cast of percussionists. Register at: [thefreight.org/education/2026-summer-camp](http://thefreight.org/education/2026-summer-camp)

### THE FREIGHT BOX OFFICE

Open Friday and Saturday from 4pm-9pm.  
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](http://thefreight.org)

### ACCESSIBILITY

The Freight is an accessible venue. For info about accommodations, talk to our box office staff or visit [thefreight.org/access](http://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](http://thefreight.org/visit)  
2020 Addison Street  
Berkeley, CA 94704  
(510) 644-2020  
[info@thefreight.org](mailto:info@thefreight.org)  
[thefreight.org](http://thefreight.org)

### THE FREIGHT IS SUPPORTED BY:

Alameda County ARTSFUND, Ava Community Energy, Berkeley Civic Arts Commission, Creative West, Hellman & Friedman LLC, Bill Graham Memorial Foundation, Hellman Foundation, Jonathan Logan Family Foundation, The Friendship Fund, The Performing Arts Global Exchange program of Mid Atlantic Arts and National Endowment for the Arts, Sam Mazza Foundation, and Wood Foundation of Chambersburg, PA.