

SAVION GLOVER FEATURING MARCUS GILMORE

Saturday, January 26, 2019, at 7:30pm

Tryon Festival Theatre

PROGRAM

SAVION GLOVER FEATURING MARCUS GILMORE

The union of tap dance and percussion is an historical, sacred relationship that has century-old roots. The divine exchange of tap legend Savion Glover and American drummer Marcus Gilmore has a deep, significant, layered history as well. Marcus Gilmore used to spend time with legendary hooper Jimmy Slyde and his Grammy Award-winning grandfather Roy Haynes as a young child. Gilmore was inspired by the dance and percussion from the exchanges of these two elders. Savion Glover was mentored by Jimmy Slyde (one of many hoofers in Glover's lineage). The meeting of Glover and Gilmore would not happen until later in their lives. Yet, the history of this rooted synergy inspires an intergenerational, virtuosic performance of these two musicians, a decidedly widely acclaimed percussive programming gem.

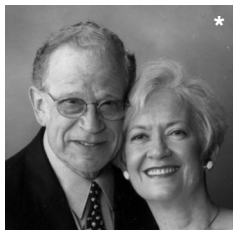
This program will be presented with no intermission.

*Savion Glover and Marcus Gilmore appear by arrangement with:
Savion Glover Productions
131 Brunswick Street
Newark, New Jersey 07114
973.732.3278*

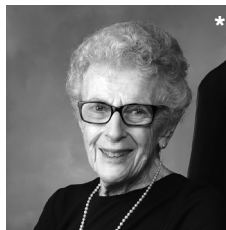
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PROGRAM NOTES

The following is an excerpt from an interview by Mercedes Salazar with Savion Glover regarding his performance with Marcus Gilmore in *Savion Glover Featuring Marcus Gilmore/The SG.MG Project*.

Salazar: How did you and Mr. Gilmore meet?

Glover: It feels like I've always known him. Like, we were never formally introduced.

Salazar: Did you know that Mr. Gilmore was of percussive royalty?

Glover: I knew, but again, Marcus is his own brilliant energy of support to the dance and is his own voice with percussion.

Salazar: What makes Marcus different?

Glover: I feel supported by his energy through percussion. It's a conversation. It's an exchange. It's joy. He understands deeply rhythmic discourse.

Salazar: What are your favorite moments of the exchange?

Glover: It's a listening session. It changes all the time. I do believe we time travel.

Salazar: Do you think about Mr. Slyde and Mr. Haynes during the performance?

Glover: All of the time—while acknowledging their contributions, it's always an intimate conversation with those who have come before me.

Salazar: How long do you plan to present this program?

Glover: As long the exchange lasts. It's a great space for the dance to breathe.

Salazar: What do you want the audience to get from this program?

Glover: I'm never really into defining what people get from listening to the dance of percussion. But, I do hope that listeners let their minds travel and receive what they need in the moment. Joy. Hopefully, the joy of the sound.

—Mercedes Salazar

PROFILE

SAVION GLOVER is a Tony Award-winning choreographer and legendary hooper whose career has spanned four decades. He began his Broadway stage career as *The Tap Dance Kid* and continued with *Black and Blue*, *Jelly's Last Jam*, and his unprecedented award-winning *Bring in 'da Noise, Bring in 'da Funk*, which garnered him a Tony Award for Best Choreography. In addition to his extensive Broadway career as a performer and choreographer, Glover has created many tap repertoires that tour worldwide, including *Bare Soundz*, *Classical Savion*, *OM*, *STePz*, *Solo in Time*, *Sole Sanctuary*, *Improvography*, *Footnotes*, and *Savion Glover's Holiday Spectacular*. In addition to creating his ongoing bodies of work, Savion has enjoyed performing worldwide with jazz legends such as McCoy Tyner, Roy Haynes, and Jack DeJohnette. Glover's film credits include *Tap*, starring Gregory Hines and Sammy Davis, Jr.; Spike Lee's *Bamboozled*, and George Miller's *Happy Feet and Happy Feet Two*. He has appeared on television in commercials, such as "Free Style Nike," as well as being a longstanding performer on *Sesame Street*. As a child, he was privileged to dance with and be guided by the great Bunny Briggs, Buster Brown, Lon Chaney, Gregory Hines, Sammy Davis, Jr., Jimmy Slyde, and Diane Walker, to name a few. Most recently, Glover was recognized for his award-winning choreography in the acclaimed Broadway musical *Shuffle Along*, directed by George C. Wolfe. He currently serves as the Ambassador of Dance at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center as well as serving on the Board of Directors. Savion Glover recently received the honorary degree of Doctor of Fine Arts from Montclair State University.

MARCUS GILMORE is an American drummer. In 2009, *The New York Times* critic Ben Ratliff included Gilmore in his list of drummers who are "finding new ways to look at the drum set, and at jazz itself," saying, "He created that pleasant, citywide buzz when someone new and special blows through New York clubs and jam sessions." While Gilmore plays often with such luminaries as Chick Corea, Pharoah Sanders, Savion Glover, Vijay Iyer, and Ravi Coltrane, Gilmore is also known for his own group Actions Speak and new special project, Silouhwave. In all of his playing, Gilmore integrates a unique style where he is musically expanding rhythm while supporting the great musicians with whom he plays. Gilmore achieves complicated, innovative, percussive rhythmic sounds and compositions that he plays effortlessly. He has performed with Nicholas Payton, Steve Coleman, Cassandra Wilson, Jill Scott, Talib Kweli, Black Thought, Zakir Hussain, Robert Glasper, and Taylor McFerrin. Marcus is currently a 2018 Protégé in the Annual Rolex Mentor and Protégé Art Project. Additional current projects include release of his first anticipated album on his own label and his innovative Marcus Gilmore solo and trio engagements, where he continues to explore percussion with new sound compositions and rhythms thrilling music audiences worldwide.