

EMELINE MICHEL

PHOTO BY GREGORY F. REED



Artist Partner Program presents

EMELINE MICHEL

Friday, November 6, 2015 . 8PM

Ina & Jack Kay Theatre

Emeline Michel, vocals

Yayoi Ikawa, piano

Calvin Jones, bass

Ben Nicholas, drums

Jean Guy Rene, conga

Community Partner: Fonkoze USA

Campus Partners: Caribbean Students Association, Global Communities Living/
Learning Program and the Alternative Breaks Program at Adele H. Stamp Student Union

This performance will last approximately **1 hour and 15 minutes, with no intermission.**

Video or audio recording of the production is strictly prohibited.

Join the artists for a conversation with the audience following the performance.

ARTIST STATEMENT

Being an artist from Haiti I inherited the precious gift to be in the moment.

Always remembering that only “Now” is truly ours.

The stage for me is a sacred place, a full circle, where the audience is half, the band and myself the other half. And our repertoire always leaves room for spontaneous moments.

Being one... in a chant... a dance, never the same at each show.

I cannot wait to experience and create this magic with Maryland.

Our full circle.

— *Emeline Michel*

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Vocalist, songwriter and performer **Emeline Michel** is internationally acclaimed for fusing pop, jazz, blues and traditional Haitian rhythms to create deeply moving and joyful music, delivered with a charismatic live show. A master entertainer, Michel has been sharing her message with audiences across Europe and the Americas for more than 20 years, including appearances at New York’s Carnegie Hall, the United Nations, Ontario’s Luminato Festival, Montreal International Jazz Festival, New Orleans Jazz Fest, Tasmania’s Ten Days On The Island, Zimbabwe’s Harare International Arts Festival, globalFEST at Lincoln Center, Out of Doors and on MTV’s *Hope for Haiti Now: A Global Benefit for Earthquake Relief* fundraiser. Hailed by the *New York Times* as a “diplomat of music” and “the dancing ambassador with a voice serene and warm like the breeze,” Michel first began singing with the gospel choir in the church of Gonaïves, Haiti. She later studied at the Detroit Jazz Center and returned to Haiti, where her career blossomed. Now based in New York City, she is currently touring in support of her long-awaited 10th album, *Quintessence*. A remarkable blend of spirited songs, the album captures the reverence and gratitude for the present moment and showcases Michel’s

virtuoso vocal, singing in Creole, French and English, with finger-picked guitars, soulful backing vocals, a children’s choir, Haitian percussion, lush strings, playful trumpet and accordion lines. Visit www.facebook.com/emelinemichelmusic for more information.

THE CLARICE AND THE COMMUNITY

The Clarice is building the future of the arts by training, mentoring and presenting the next generation of artists and creative innovators. As artists develop their craft as performers, they must become instigators of meaningful dialogue, creative research and audience connection. These skills are developed through engagement activities both on and off campus. Engagement at The Clarice is characterized by facilitated audience interactions with artists, scholars and community leaders that are focused on process and research rather than product and performance. The Clarice supports artists in their quest for a connection with audiences through its engagement work.

ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

- Emeline Michel shared a mini-performance and spoke to two Ethnomusicology classes on Wednesday afternoon at The Clarice. The 300 students asked her questions about her life, her music and her activism.
- The next day, Michel performed for 440 school students, from four elementary schools in the area, as part of The Clarice’s K-12 School Partner Program’s student matinee series.
- On Friday, Michel was interviewed by Bonnie Thornton Dill, Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities, at a family-style lunch for 30 students. The event was designed in partnership with UMD’s Global Communities and Alternative Breaks programs, and featured Haitian-inspired food and beverages.