

# EMPAC

# VIJAY IYER AND CRAIG TABORN

**SATURDAY  
OCT 29  
8:00 PM**

**TWO OF THE MOST PROGRESSIVE VOICES IN  
AMERICAN JAZZ PIANO JOIN FORCES FOR A  
PERFORMANCE THAT BLURS THE LINE BETWEEN  
COMPOSITION AND IMPROVISATION.**



# Vijay Iyer and Craig Taborn

Two of the most progressive voices in American jazz piano join forces for a performance that blurs the line between composition and improvisation. Vijay Iyer and Craig Taborn have each risen to prominence within the jazz scene by expanding the boundaries of the genre and establishing a highly personalized approach to improvisation. Together, the two will draw on an evolving sketch-book of compositional ideas, developed through earlier iterations of the project, to continue a musical conversation that defies the notion of completion.

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**VIJAY IYER**, PIANO  
**CRAIG TABORN**, PIANO

*All selections will be announced from the stage*

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**Vijay Iyer** was born in Albany, NY and has become “one of the most interesting and vital young pianists in jazz today,” according to Pitchfork. A Grammy-nominated recording artist on the ECM label, Iyer has a PhD in Technology and the Arts and undertook pioneering scholarship on the “embodied cognition” of musical performance. Interested in what happens to a listener “from the shoulders down,” Iyer approaches jazz from this level of direct vibrational experience. As a leader and sideman, he’s collaborated with artists as diverse as Roscoe Mitchell, Dave Douglas, Amiri Baraka, Das Racist, and most recently Wadada Leo Smith.

Detroit native **Craig Taborn** is one of the most sought-after sidemen and sessioners working today, having recorded more than 100 albums with artists such as Evan Parker, Tim Berne, and Steve Coleman, and touring with the likes of Dave Holland, Bill Frisell, Ches Smith, and Paul Motian. Known for his work on electric piano and organ as well as acoustic piano, he has topped critics’ and readers’ polls in jazz publications such as *Downbeat* and *JazzTimes*. In addition to recording with his own ensembles for ECM and Tzadik, Taborn regularly performs solo.

# STAFF

**Geoff Abbas** / Director for Stage Technologies  
**Eric Ameres** / Senior Research Engineer  
**Argeo Ascani** / Curator, Music  
**Eileen Baumgartner** / Graphic Designer  
**David Bebb** / Senior Network Administrator  
**Peter Bellamy** / Senior Systems Administrator  
**Michael Bello** / Video Engineer  
**Victoria Brooks** / Curator, Time-Based Visual Arts  
**Eric Brucker** / Lead Video Engineer  
**Michele Cassaro** / Guest Services Coordinator  
**John Cook** / Box Office Manager  
**David DeLaRosa** / Desktop Support Analyst  
**Zhenelle Falk** / Artist Services Administrator  
**Ashley Ferro-Murray** / Associate Curator, Theater & Dance  
**Kimberly Gardner** / Manager, Administrative Operations  
**Johannes Goebel** / Director  
**Ian Hamelin** / Project Manager  
**Ryan Jenkins** / Senior Event Technician  
**Shannon Johnson** / Design Director  
**Carl Lewandowski** / Production Technician  
**Eric Chi-Yeh Lin** / Lead Stage Technician  
**Stephen McLaughlin** / Senior Event Technician  
**Josh Potter** / Marketing and Communications Manager  
**Alena Samoray** / Event Technician  
**Candice Sherman** / Senior Business Administrator  
**Avery Stempel** / Front of House Manager  
**Kim Strosahl** / Production Coordinator  
**Jeffrey Svatek** / Audio Engineer  
**Dan Swalec** / Master Electrician  
**Todd Vos** / Lead Audio Engineer  
**Michael Wells** / Production Technician

