MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY • OCTOBER 2026

MUSIC



AMERICA

THE SOUNDS & SONGS THAT SHAPED US

CELEBRATING 250 YEARS OF AMERICAN MUSIC

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MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY KEY LOCATIONS

GUGGENHEIM LIBRARY

PARKING

WOODS THEATRE

CEDAR AVENUE

GREAT HALL

SPRINGSTEEN CENTER

PARKING

PLANGERE CENTER

POZYCKI HALL

BEY HALL

HACKENSACK MERIDIAN ATHLETIC CENTER

STAFFORD STUDENT CENTER

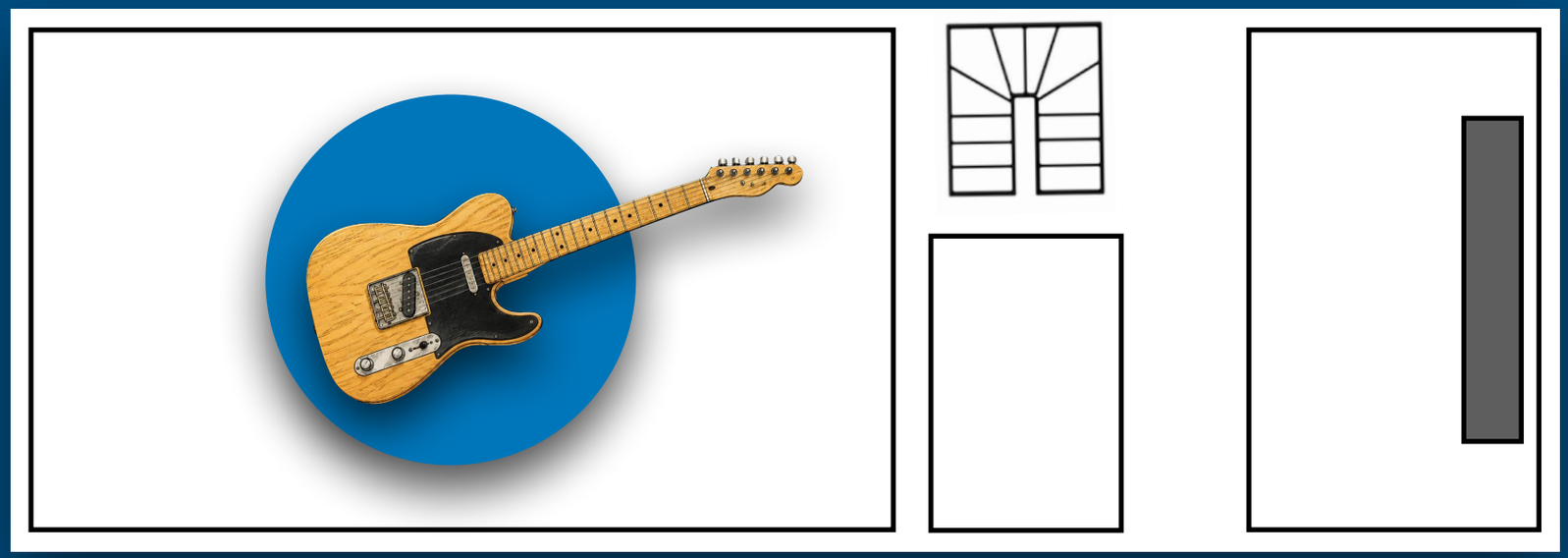
POLLAK THEATRE

PARKING

MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY MAPS:

BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN CENTER FOR AMERICAN MUSIC
FLOOR PLAN

FIRST FLOOR



EXHIBITION SPACES

GIFT SHOP

FOYER

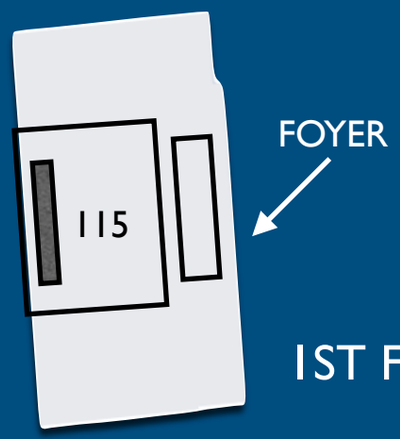
POWELL SOUNDSTAGE



MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY MAPS:

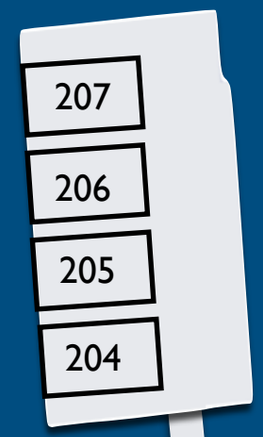
POZYCKI HALL & BEY HALL FLOOR PLANS

POZYCKI HALL

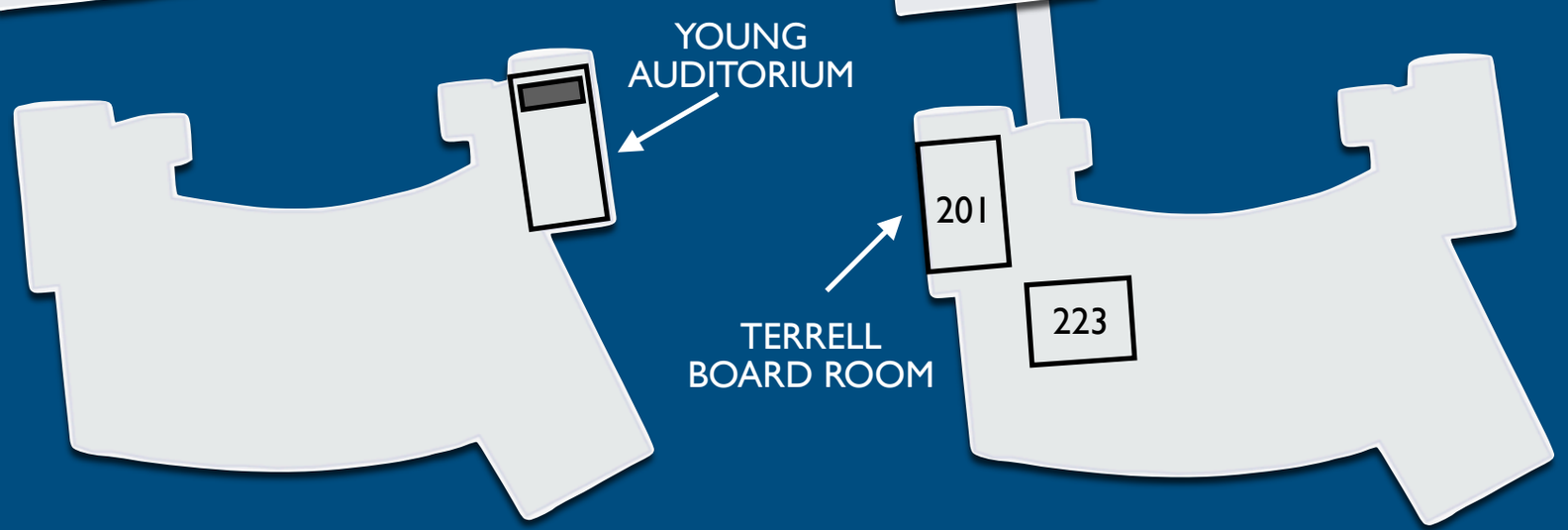


1ST FLOOR

POZYCKI HALL



2ND FLOOR



BEY HALL

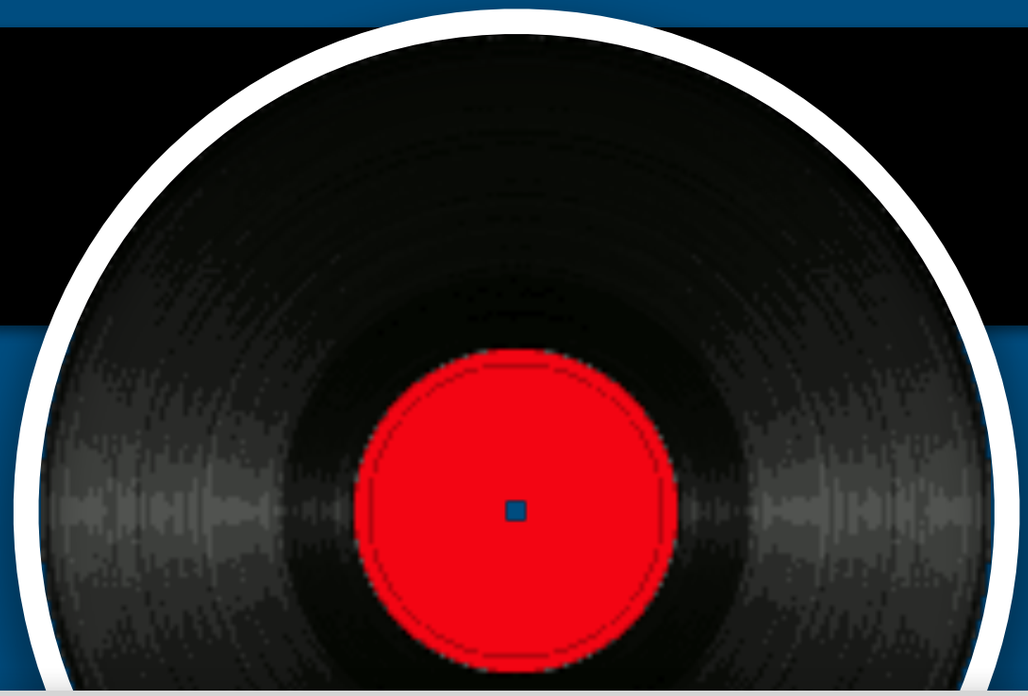
BEY HALL

MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY MAPS:



SPECIAL GUESTS

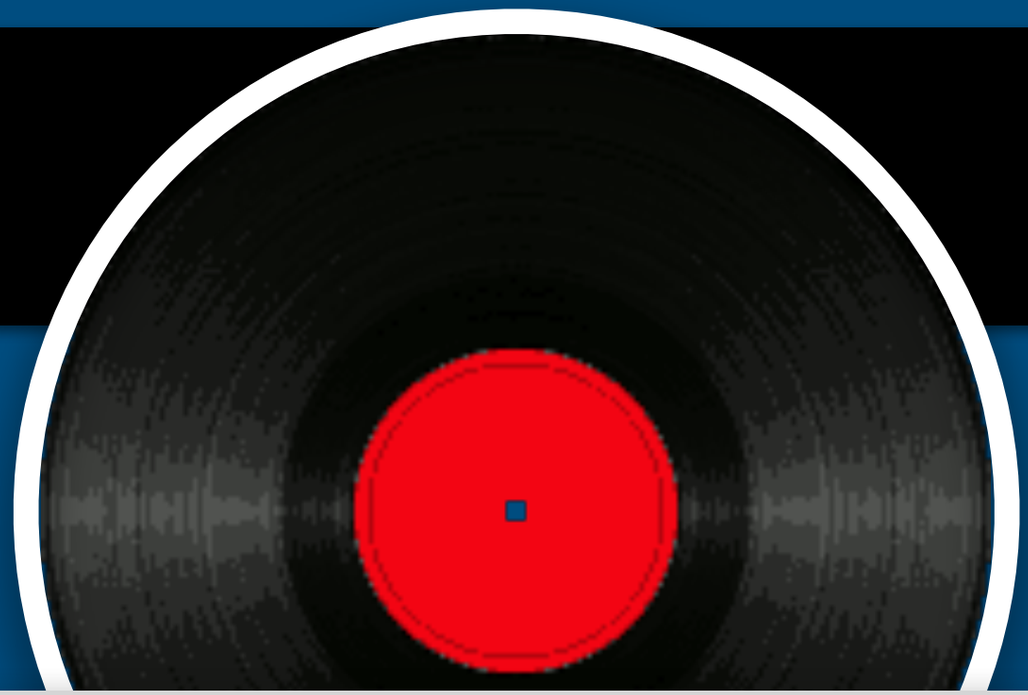
Holly George-Warren



George-Warren is a two-time Grammy nominee and the award-winning author or coauthor of 20 books, including the biographies *Janis: Her Life and Music* (2019), *A Man Called Destruction: The Life and Music of Alex Chilton, From Box Tops to Big Star to Backdoor Man* (2014), and *Public Cowboy No. 1: The Life and Times of Gene Autry* (2007). Her cowrite with Dolly Parton, 2023's *Behind the Seams: My Life in Rhinestones*, is a New York Times bestseller. Next year will see the publication of two books: *Moonshine in a Mason Jar: Jerry Jeff Walker, the Lost Gonzo Band, and the Making of ¡Viva Terlingua!* (March) and *Women in Country: Opry Pioneers, Trailblazers, and Superstars Who Define Country Music* (April). Formerly the editorial director of Rolling Stone Press and an adjunct professor at SUNY-New Paltz and NYU's Clive Davis Institute for Recorded Music, she is currently at work on a biography of Jack Kerouac.



SPECIAL GUESTS



Ashley Kahn

Kahn is a Grammy-winning American music historian, author, professor and producer. He teaches at New York University's Clive Davis Institute for Recorded Music, co-wrote Carlos Santana's award-winning autobiography *The Universal Tone: Bringing My Story to Light*, and is a producer of Carlos (2023), the documentary on Carlos Santana (Imagine Documentaries/Sony Pictures Classics. He has written books on two legendary recordings: *Kind of Blue* by Miles Davis and *A Love Supreme* by John Coltrane, and one on a legendary record label: *The House That Trane Built: The Story of Impulse Records*. His most recent book is *Days of Miracle and Wonder: Paul Simon and the Trials and Triumphs of Graceland* (2026).



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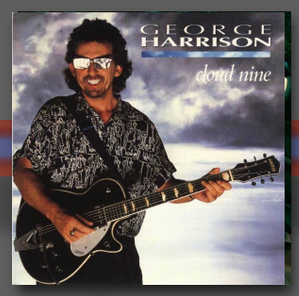
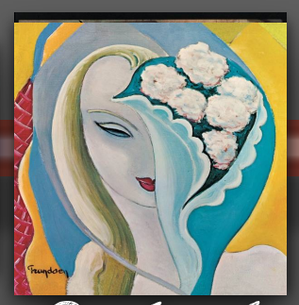
TUESDAY NIGHT RECORD CLUB

FREE

MONMOUTH

RSVP today

It's like book club, but with records.

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	George Harrison			Derek and The Dominos

Every first Tuesday at 7:30 PM.



BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN
CENTER FOR AMERICAN MUSIC

The Bruce Springsteen Center for American Music preserves the legacy of Bruce Springsteen and celebrates the history of American music and its diversity of artists and genres.

springsteencenter.org

FRIDAY OCTOBER 16

MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY · OCTOBER 2026
MUSIC AMERICA
THE SOUNDS & SONGS THAT SHAPED US
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2:00-5:00 PM — REGISTRATION — POZYCKI HALL FOYER

3:00 PM — OPENING REMARKS — 115 POZYCKI HALL

David Hamilton Golland, Dean
Melissa Kozlowski, Curator
Ken Womack

3:30-4:45 PM — CONCURRENT SESSIONS

SESSION 1 — RAVE ON! BUDDY HOLLY AS SONGWRITING JUGGERNAUT — 115 POZYCKI HALL

MODERATOR: Ken Womack
PANELISTS: Sam Popkin and Ken Womack

SESSION 2 — RECORDING I — 204 POZYCKI HALL

MODERATOR: Renee James
Renee James, Legends Playing Legends: American Singer-Songwriters and Martin Guitars
Chrissie Reilly, Music, Money, and Murder: Historiography of Death Row Records



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FRIDAY OCTOBER 16

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SESSION 3 — PROTEST MUSIC I — 205 POZYCKI HALL

MODERATOR: Shirley Good
Shirley Good, Strange Fruit: A Turning Point in Protest Music History
Jonathan Hafetz, Soundtracks of Resistance: Popular Music, Protest, and the First Amendment in an Age of Democratic Backsliding

SESSION 4 — AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN IN THE HISTORY OF AMERICAN MUSIC CULTURE — 206 POZYCKI HALL

MODERATOR: Hettie Williams
PANELISTS: Hettie Williams, Lacey Hunter, Rashida Scott-Cruz, and Melissa Kozlowski

SESSION 5 — ARTISTS SPOTLIGHT I — 201 BEY HALL

MODERATOR: Lauren Onkey
Kyle Wherrity, Margaritaville and the American State of Mind
Lauren Onkey, Songs in the Key of America: Stevie Wonder's Bicentennial Masterpiece



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FRIDAY OCTOBER 16

SESSION 6 — REGIONAL SPOTLIGHT I — 223 BEY HALL

MODERATOR: Charles J. Horner

Chris Reali, Music & Myth: Rebranding the “Hit Recording Capital of the World”

Charles J. Horner, Rockin' In the Cradle of Rhythm & Blues: The Birth of R&B Vocal Harmony on Baltimore’s Pennsylvania Avenue

6:00-8:00 PM — A NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM — SPRINGSTEEN CENTER



On Friday and Saturday nights during the conference, attendees are invited to join Curator Melissa Kozlowski for an exclusive guided tour of our new Bruce Springsteen Center for American Music.



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SATURDAY OCTOBER 17

MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY · OCTOBER 2026
MUSIC AMERICA
THE SOUNDS & SONGS THAT SHAPED US
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8:00 AM-5:00 PM REGISTRATION — POZYCKI HALL FOYER

9:00-10:15 AM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

SESSION 7 — "DOWN BY LAW": STORIES OF LEGAL RESISTANCE, REMEMBRANCE, AND EXPLOITATION IN AMERICAN MUSIC — 115 POZYCKI HALL

MODERATOR: Kristina Kersey
PANELISTS: Kristina Kersey, Eric Amarante, and William Mercer

SESSION 8 — TRACING MUSICAL IMPACT — 204 POZYCKI HALL

MODERATOR: Lisa Glassford
Lisa Glassford, Music and Human Behavior
Ian Zapcic, Emo Music as the Spiritual Successor to Teenage Tragedy Songs

SESSION 9 — ARTIST SPOTLIGHT II — 205 POZYCKI HALL

MODERATOR: Deanna Shoemaker
Deanna Shoemaker, Visceral Resonances: Circling Back to Joni Mitchell, Again & Again
Greg Giddings, Joe Ely: Transcendent Texan



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SATURDAY OCTOBER 17

SESSION 10 — ARTIST SPOTLIGHT II — 206 POZYCKI HALL

MODERATOR: Jeff Gulati

Toby Daspit, Springsteen as Soothsayer: *The Ghost of Tom Joad* as American Prophecy, as Betrayal of the American Dream

Jeff Gulati, Alienation and the American Dream in Bruce Springsteen's Music

SESSION 11 — THEATRE — 201 BEY HALL

MODERATOR: Stephanie DeLaat

Stephanie DeLaat, The American Sound on Broadway: Music, Memory, and Identity

Mena Nizam, The Music of Hamilton, by Lin Manuel Miranda, Culture History and Casting

SESSION 12 — AMERICAN MUSIC IN HISTORY — 223 BEY HALL

MODERATOR: Russell J. Houser

Christina Connor, Soundtracking History: The Use of Music in Social Studies Textbooks to Showcase the American Experience

Russell J. Houser, "We Also Served": The Bandsmen of the 91st Coast Artillery Regiment (PS)

SESSION 13 — SPIRIT OF '76: THE ROCK 'N' ROLL REVOLUTION OF THE BICENTENNIAL ERA — YOUNG AUDITORIUM

MODERATOR: Eric Salmonsen

PANELISTS: Eric Salmonsen, Jack Morales, and Lynn Reid





SATURDAY OCTOBER 17

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10:30-11:45 AM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

SESSION 14 BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN AND THE MUSIC OF WAR: A ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION — 115 POZYCKI HALL

MODERATOR: Melissa Kozlowski
PANELISTS: Melissa Kozlowski and Caroline Madden

SESSION 15 FOLK MUSIC — 204 POZYCKI HALL

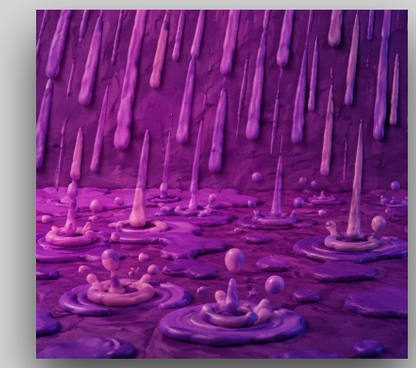
MODERATOR: Marianne Murawski
Marianne Murawski, American Folk Music's Role in American History
Carol King, Irish Roots in Folk Music

SESSION 16 JAZZ — 205 POZYCKI HALL

MODERATOR: Ashley Kahn
Diane Biunno and Vincent Pelote, Jazz From the Archives Radio Program: A Project to Preserve Jazz Legacy and Memory
David Kunian, Funky Butt Blues: The Development of Jazz as Rebellion in the time of Jim Crow

SESSION 17 SPRINGSTEEN: INEQUALITY & OPPORTUNITY — 206 POZYCKI HALL

MODERATOR: Cris Marchionne
Cris Marchionne, Born to Belong: Springsteen, Disability Justice, and the Search to Be Seen
Leah Matthews, From Promised Land to Streets of Minneapolis: Springsteen's America as a Land of Opportunity for Immigrants



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SATURDAY OCTOBER 17

SESSION 18 — SINNERS — 207 POZYCKI HALL

MODERATOR: MaryAnn Janosik

MaryAnn Janosik, "Last Time (I Seen the Sun)": *Sinners*, Springsteen, and Spirituality in American Roots Music

Christine Zemla, *Sinners*, the Blues, and Clarksdale, Mississippi, c. 1932

SESSION 19 — WOODY GUTHRIE — 223 BEY HALL

MODERATOR: Sue Kozel

Sue Kozel, "This Land is Your Land?" How do We Adapt Woody Guthrie to America 250 and Today's United States?

Michael Kramer, Our Flag Was Still There—Critical Patriotism in "The Star-Spangled Banner" and "This Land Is Your Land"

Barry Ollman, Paper Chase!: Collecting and Connecting Woody, Lead Belly, Pete Seeger, The Weavers, and Bob Dylan

SESSION 20 — MOTOWN — 201 BEY HALL

MODERATOR: J. Michael Butler

Chris Spinks, Beyond the Motown Myth: Rare Soul Imports and the Construction of Northern Soul Identity

J. Michael Butler, "America Is My Home": James Brown and Black Conservatism in the Post-Civil Rights Era

SESSION 21 — FIFTY YEARS OF MUSIC NIGHT: LEARNING TO LISTEN — YOUNG AUDITORIUM

MODERATOR: Joseph Albert

PANELISTS: Jacob Albert, Joseph Albert, Matthew Albert, Jim Bell, and Charles Bell





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12:15-1:30 PM BUFFET LUNCH — 115 POZYCKI HALL

PLENARY SESSION — PAUL SIMON AND GRACELAND — 115 POZYCKI HALL

MODERATOR: David Hamilton Golland
Ashley Kahn

1:45-3:00 PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

SESSION 22 — THE MARINO PERSECHINI BARREL PIANO: ORGAN GRINDING AND EARLY 20TH-CENTURY IMMIGRATION — 115 POZYCKI HALL

MODERATOR: Tony Gangi
Tony Gangi

SESSION 23 — SPRINGSTEEN & TRADITIONS — 204 POZYCKI HALL

MODERATOR: Kevin Dooley
Kevin Dooley, Springsteen and the Alternative Tradition
James Kelly, Springsteen and the Tradition of American Protest Songs



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SATURDAY OCTOBER 17

SESSION 24 — KEROUAC'S ABIDING INFLUENCE — 205 POZYCKI HALL

MODERATOR: Kenneth Womack

Holly George-Warren, *On the Road*: How a 75-year-old Novel Inspired Multitudes of Singer-Songwriters, from Bob Dylan to Tom Waits, Mary Gauthier to Zach Bryan

3:15-4:30 PM — CONCURRENT SESSIONS

SESSION 25 — COMPARING SPRINGSTEEN I — 115 POZYCKI HALL

MODERATOR: Marina Vujnovic

Ryan Hilligoss, The Power of Music: Pete Seeger and Bruce Springsteen

Paul Carter The Kings of American Pop Music From the '80s: Examining the Parallels Between 1980s Kings Springsteen and Jackson, and the 1880s King Stephen Foster

Marina Vujnovic, Bruce Springsteen's Working-Class Poeticism and Influence on the Yugoslav Rock Scene of the 1980s

SESSION 26 — ARTIST SPOTLIGHT IV — 204 POZYCKI HALL

MODERATOR: Matthew Truax

Ricky Riccardi, Pops is Tops: How Louis Armstrong Shaped the 20th Century

Matthew Truax, Piano Man in a No Man's Land: Billy Joel and Suburban Disaffection



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SATURDAY OCTOBER 17

SESSION 27 — REGIONAL SPOTLIGHTS II — 205 POZYCKI HALL

MODERATOR: Lorraine Mangione

Tom Chapman, So You Wanna Be a Rock 'n' Roll Star: North Central Florida's Music Scene and the Birth of Rock Bands

Lorraine Mangione, Italian American Performers Changing Music, Culture, Acceptance, and Community in the United States

SESSION 28 — COMPARING SPRINGSTEEN II — 206 POZYCKI HALL

MODERATOR: Christine Lutz

Scott Wagar, Miss Americana and the (Hungry) Heartbreak Prince: Bruce Springsteen and Taylor Swift as American Musical Phenomena

Mariannę Murawski, Mighty Sparrow, the Kind of Calypso and Bruce Springsteen, the "Boss" of Rock and Roll

SESSION 29 — THE VIEW FROM ACROSS THE POND I — 201 BEY HALL

MODERATOR: Chris Spinks

Donna Luff, America Across the Pond: A Transatlantic View of American Music in the 1970s and 1980s

Erin Kalbarczyk, Meet the Beatles, America's First Pop-Rock Band

6:00-8:00 PM — A NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM — SPRINGSTEEN CENTER



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SUNDAY OCTOBER 18

8:00 AM-12:00 PM REGISTRATION — POZYCKI HALL FOYER

9:00-10:15 AM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

SESSION 30 — BORN TO RUN AT 50: COLLABORATION, COMMUNITY, AND CURATING SPRINGSTEEN'S LEGACY IN NEW JERSEY — 115 POZYCKI HALL

MODERATOR: Melissa Kozlowski
PANELISTS: Melissa Kozlowski, Kelly C. Ruffel, and Michal DiMiceli

SESSION 31 — PROTEST MUSIC II — 205 POZYCKI HALL

MODERATOR: TBA
Melissa Cavaliere, Soundtracking War Powers: Music, Conflict, and the Evolution of Executive Authority in Modern America
Jessie Rack, "We Were Not Only Latchkey Kids": Generation X and the Globalization of American Protest Music

SESSION 32 — NEW JERSEY MUSIC HISTORY — 201 BEY HALL

MODERATOR: Christie Lutz
Michael Gabriele, New Jersey Folk Revival Music, History and Tradition
Christie Lutz, "This Is Larkin Barkin'": Deejay Don Larkin and New Jersey's Place in Country Music History





SUNDAY OCTOBER 18

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10:30-11:45 AM

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

SESSION 33

TRYING TO RECOVER AMERICA: BOB DYLAN'S ROLLING THUNDER REVUE

115 POZYCKI HALL

MODERATOR: Graley Herren
Rebecca Slaman, American Myths Re-Animated in Rolling Thunder Revue
Graley Herren, Joni Mitchell's "Coyote": The Road Trip Within

SESSION 34

LITERATURE II

204 POZYCKI HALL

MODERATOR: Christine Berg
Christine Berg, James Weldon Johnson, James Baldwin, and the Art of Music in Literature: "In my heart there swells a song"
Cristina Chevereșan and Dariana Sârca, African American Orature, Cultural Identity, and Resistance: Music as Supernatural Force in Toni Morrison's *Beloved* and *Song of Solomon*

SESSION 35

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT III

205 POZYCKI HALL

MODERATOR: David Hamilton Golland
Matthew Hild, Olivia Newton-John: How an English/Australian Immigrant Helped Shape Late-Twentieth-Century American Popular Music
David Hamilton Golland, The Santana Blues Band: Interracial Popular Music at the Dawn of Rock



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SUNDAY OCTOBER 18

SESSION 36 EDUCATION THROUGH SPRINGSTEEN 206 POZYCKI HALL

MODERATOR: Chris Spinks

Kathleen Scaler Scott and Erik X. Raj, Springsteen and Education: Generational Differences in the American Dream

Steve Feffer, "Who'll Stop the Rain": Bruce Springsteen and the Vietnam War in 10 Songs (A Playlist as Pedagogy)

Caroline Madden, "I Want an Eye for an Eye": The Politics of Revenge in Bruce Springsteen's *The Rising*

SESSION 37 ARTIST SPOTLIGHT V 201 BEY HALL

MODERATOR: Jennifer Rivera

Jennifer Rivera, A Postmodern Map of American Musical Identity: The Catalog of Ween

Franklin Bridges, The Velvet Underground and Nico Through Andy Warhol's Uptight Lens: How Two College Gigs in 1966 Launched the Exploding Plastic Inevitable Series

12:00-1:15 PM BUFFET LUNCH & CLOSING REMARKS 115 POZYCKI HALL

David Hamilton Golland, Dean

Melissa Kozlowski, Curator

Ken Womack





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The GREAT AMERICAN SONGBOOK

NAME THAT TUNE!

The icons in our program represent key songs from American music history. How many can you decipher without using any external sources or prompts?

NAME THAT TUNE!

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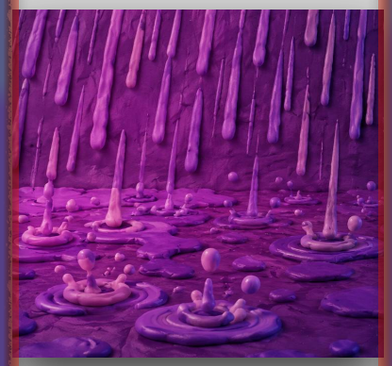
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The GREAT AMERICAN SONGBOOK

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