

BAM YOURS THEIRS OURS A SEASON FOR EVERYONE

MAR—JUN 2020

BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC PETER JAY SHARP BUILDING 30 LAFAYETTE AVENUE BROOKLYN, NY 11217—1486

Riz Ahmed makes his BAM debut in the US premiere of *The Long Goodbye*, a bracing and emotional live music show—April 3 & 4

A close look at the breakup of a toxic relationship with the country you call home

Featuring music from Ahmed's recently announced album + short film

Bloomberg Philanthropies is the Season Sponsor

The Long Goodbye

Riz Ahmed

NY Presentation produced by Brooklyn Academy of Music and Manchester International Festival

Originally produced by Manchester International Festival

Commissioned by Brooklyn Academy of Music and Manchester International Festival

Secret location in Brooklyn

April 3 & 4 at 9pm

Tickets start at \$35

"...a compelling balance between hip-hop and agitprop, arriving at songs that are as enjoyable as they are thought-provoking"—Pitchfork

March 2, 2020/Brooklyn, NY— BAM presents the US premiere of *The Long Goodbye*, a bracing and emotional live music show from musician, storyteller, actor, and activist Riz Ahmed. The show will feature new music from Ahmed's recently announced new album of the same name, which uses eastern influences to meld rap, spoken word, and R&B. An electrifying journey into here and now, the live performance will take a close look at the end of a toxic relationship with the country you call home.

Ahmed, in his BAM debut, will perform *The Long Goodbye* for two nights only (April 3 and 4) at a secret location in Brooklyn as a part of *Yours Theirs Ours*—a season of engagements by artists sharing bold ideas and giving voice. Written and performed by Ahmed, the live performance redefines the traditional definition of music performance. It is directed by writer, director, and dramaturg Kirsty Housley with creative direction from Andrea Gelardin.

The Long Goodbye LP and its accompanying short film is set to release on March 6 via Ahmed's label, Mongrel Records. Produced by longtime collaborator Redinho and featuring Jay Sean.

Prior to the BAM performance, *The Long Goodbye* will have its world premiere as part of Manchester International Festival's series of pre-Factory events, from March 26—28.

Riz Ahmed has starred in *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*, *Venom*, *Four Lions*, *Nightcrawler*, and the final season of the hit HBO show *Girls* as Lena Dunham's love interest. He took the spotlight as the first South Asian actor to win an acting Emmy for his lead role in HBO's *The Night Of*.

As a musician, Ahmed came up in the London music scene as a rap battle champion, going on to write and perform both as a solo artist and with Swet Shop Boys. His provocative solo release, "Post 9/11 Blues," was banned before a viral groundswell forced it onto radio. The Swet Shop Boys album, *Cashmere*, toured to sold-out crowds from Coachella to NYC's Webster Hall. In a nod to their cultural impact, protestors against Trump's "muslim ban" at Los Angeles International Airport were heard chanting its lyrics. Also released in 2018 was "Mogambo," a swaggering survival anthem for our fraught times, followed by a series of incendiary, sold-out live shows in the US and UK.

For press information contact Cynthia Tate, ctate@bam.org or 718.724.8022

Credits

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Committee Chair Daniel Dromm, Cultural Affairs Committee Chair Jimmy Van Bramer, Council Member Laurie A. Cumbo, and the Brooklyn Delegation of the Council; and Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams. BAM would like to thank the Brooklyn Delegations of the New York State Assembly, Delegation Leader Joseph R. Lentol; and New York Senate Senator Velmanette Montgomery.

General Information

BAM Howard Gilman Opera House, BAM Rose Cinemas, and BAMcafé are located in the Peter Jay Sharp building at 30 Lafayette Avenue (between St Felix Street and Ashland Place) in the Fort Greene neighborhood of Brooklyn. Harvey Theater at BAM Strong is located two blocks from the main building at 651 Fulton Street (between Ashland and Rockwell Places). Both locations house Greenlight Bookstore at BAM kiosks. BAM Fisher, located at 321 Ashland Place, houses the Judith and Alan Fishman Space and Rita K. Hillman Studio. BAM Rose Cinemas features first-run independent and foreign film and repertory programming. BAMcafé, operated by Great Performances, offers varied light fare and bar service prior to BAM Howard Gilman Opera House evening performances.

Subway: 2, 3, 4, 5, Q, B to Atlantic Avenue – Barclays Center (2, 3, 4, 5 to Nevins St for Harvey Theater) D, N, R to Pacific Street; G to Fulton Street; C to Lafayette Avenue
Train: Long Island Railroad to Atlantic Terminal – Barclays Center
Bus: B25, B26, B41, B45, B52, B63, B67 all stop within three blocks of BAM

For ticket information, call BAM Ticket Services at 718.636.4100, or visit BAM.org.

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