



**BAM and Barclays Center present *Contemporary Color*,
Conceived by David Byrne**

**David Byrne, Nelly Furtado, How to Dress Well, Devonté Hynes, Kelis,
Nico Muhly + Ira Glass, St. Vincent, tUnE-yArDs and ten color guard
teams from North America all perform LIVE**

***Contemporary Color* marks BAM's first production partnership with
Barclays Center, a historic pairing of performing arts institution and
major arena**

**June 27 & 28 at Barclays Center for BAM 2015 Winter/Spring Season
June 22 & 23 at Toronto's Air Canada Centre for Luminato Festival**

Bloomberg Philanthropies is the 2014/2015 Season Sponsor

BAM and Barclays Center Present

***Contemporary Color*
Conceived by David Byrne**

Barclays Center (620 Atlantic Ave)

Jun 27 & 28 at 7:30PM

Tickets start at \$25

On sale Jan 28 to general public (Jan 21 to Friends of BAM)

Brooklyn, NY/Jan 21, 2015— BAM and Barclays Center present *Contemporary Color*, a performance event created by music icon David Byrne, co-commissioned by BAM and Toronto's Luminato Festival, and inspired by the high school phenomenon of color guard, known as "the sport of the arts."

Ten 20-40 person color guard teams from the US and Canada will perform at Brooklyn's Barclays Center and Toronto's Air Canada Centre, alongside an extraordinary array of musical talent performing live. *Contemporary Color* is the artistic culmination of Byrne's interest in color guard as a piece of Americana and a competitive art form.

When Byrne agreed to lend a composition to a high school performance team back in 2008, he knew little about the color guard phenomenon, which is wildly popular in high schools across the North American continent. Modern color guard has evolved out of military tradition, stepping outside of the marching band to become an independent competitive sport known as one of the "marching arts." Color guard can be found in most American high schools, colleges, and universities, and uses props like flags, rifles, and sabers, along with movement and dynamic music, to express a conceptual motif.

At the time, Byrne's only request was to see for himself how his music was used. Upon viewing an electrifying DVD of the Winter Guard International's World Championship, the creative seed for *Contemporary Color* was planted. "I was stunned at what I was seeing," Byrne recalls, "and being a musician I naturally wondered to myself: what if these performances had really great live music? Wouldn't that lift it to another level?"

With the support of BAM and Luminato Festival, Byrne began reaching out to some of his favorite artists—as well as an array of northeast regional color guard teams—and the epic, arena-scale artistry of *Contemporary Color* began to take shape. Byrne's directive to artists as diverse as Devonté Hynes and Nelly Furtado is to work alongside the creative heads of each team to produce a mind-blowing meld of original music and routine, promising New York and Toronto audiences "the biggest glitter cannon show of your life."

The engagement marks BAM's first production partnership with Barclays Center. Located just two blocks from each other, BAM and Barclays Center anchor one of the most vibrant and unique cultural districts in the US.

"*Contemporary Color* is a perfect example of the kind of artistic partnership that has emerged out of the Brooklyn cultural district, enabling us to deliver extraordinary programming to our audiences in a way that would not have been possible even several years ago," notes BAM Executive Producer Joseph V. Melillo.

Barclays Center owner Bruce Ratner adds: "Our goal when we opened Barclays Center was not only to bring world class sports and entertainment to Brooklyn, but to differentiate the building by tapping into BAM's expertise in the global arts scene," Barclays Center majority owner Bruce Ratner said. "We are delighted to join with BAM in bringing such an artistically driven event to Barclays Center and to continue to build on Brooklyn's dynamic cultural offerings."

Commissioned by Brooklyn Academy of Music and Luminato Festival (Toronto)

With support from WGI Sport of the Arts

For press information about the BAM engagement of *Contemporary Color*, please contact:
Sandy Sawotka at ssawotka@BAM.org or 718.636.4190
Adriana Leshko at aleshko@BAM.org or 718.724.8021

Carla Sacks at carla@sacksco.com / Krista Williams at krista@sacksco.com or 212.741.1000

For press information about Luminato Festival's engagement of *Contemporary Color*, please contact Ashley Ballantyne at aballantyne@luminato.com or 416.368.3100 x242.

Barclays Center contacts:

Barry Baum at bbaum@brooklynnets.com or 718.942.9533

Mandy Gutmann at mgutmann@brooklynnets.com or 718.942.9587

Stuart Bryan at sbryan@brooklynnets.com 718.942.9574

Ticket on sale dates are listed below, and may be purchased online via Ticketmaster by visiting BAM.org, or by calling 800.745.3000. Tickets are also available at the American Express Box Office at Barclays Center.

BAM house and ticketing policies do not apply; for details, visit Barclayscenter.com.
Contemporary Color is not eligible for subscription.

On Sale Dates

Friends of BAM Jan 21

General Public Jan 28

How to Buy

Online: BAM.org

Phone: 800.745.3000

In Person:

The American Express Box Office at Barclays Center

620 Atlantic Ave, Brooklyn

Visit Barclayscenter.com for hours of operation

About the artists

WGI Sport of the Arts is the world's premier producer of indoor color guard competitions. WGI Sport of the Arts provides a venue for young people to achieve the extraordinary through performance and competition. It is called the Sport of the Arts because it brings music to life through performance in a competitive format. Entering its 38th year in 2015, the sport continues to evolve and grow internationally as well as being a part of regular activities in most high schools in the United States. There are more than 36,000 participants at the regional level, and more than 12,000 participants at the Sport of the Arts World Championships this past April. WGI has advised on the development of *Contemporary Color*, which is modeled on their World Championship event.

David Byrne is an esteemed musician, founding member of the Talking Heads, creator of the highly regarded record label Luaka Bop, and a writer, photographer, and filmmaker. More recent works include *Love This Giant*, Byrne's collaboration with St. Vincent, the non-fiction book *How Music Works*, and the theatrical production of *Here Lies Love*, which recently enjoyed successful runs at The Public Theater in New York, and a U.K. National Theatre production at the Dorfman Theatre in London. *Here Lies Love* will debut in Sydney in 2015. Byrne has

received Obie, Drama Desk, and Lortel awards for *Here Lies Love*, and an Academy Award for his contribution to the soundtrack for *The Last Emperor* in 1998.

Nelly Furtado is a Canadian singer and songwriter. Furtado first gained fame with her debut album *Whoa, Nelly!*, which earned her a Grammy Award for Best Female Pop Vocal Performance in 2002. Since then, she's released four studio albums and earned numerous awards and accolades, including a Latin Grammy Award, ten Juno Awards, three MuchMusic Video Awards and a star on Canada's Walk of Fame.

Since the release of his debut album *Love Remains* in 2010, Tom Krell—aka **How to Dress Well**—has crafted a reputation as one of America's most original, focused, and beguiling young songwriters. Merging ever surprising production choices and aesthetic detail with a sensual but sincere R&B influence and a deep, grounded emotionality, Krell has steadily established himself as one of the most influential figures in contemporary experimental pop music. His most recent album, *What Is This Heart?* was released in June 2014.

Devonté Hynes is a producer, songwriter, and artist currently based in New York City. He has written and produced songs for a wide range of artists including Solange Knowles, The Chemical Brothers, Florence and the Machine, and Sky Ferreira. Hynes also writes music under the moniker of Blood Orange, and has released two albums, *Coastal Grooves* and *Cupid Deluxe*, on Domino Recording Co. Most recently, he composed the score for the Gia Coppola the film *Palo Alto*, directed by Gia Coppola, and was a speaker at the 2014 TED conference held in Vancouver.

Kelis first came to prominence singing the hook of Ol' Dirty Bastard's hit *Got Your Money*. Years of chart-dominating songs and thrilling, boundary-pushing music followed, with millions of albums sold and numerous top ten hits. She has released six albums, won Brit, Q, and NME Awards, and been nominated for two Grammy Awards. Her latest album *Food*, made with a live band and horn section, mints a sound that is rootsy, raw, and soulful without ever being retro. Upon release the album was praised as one of her most adventurous works yet. Besides her career in music, Kelis is a Le Cordon Bleu trained chef with multiple television cooking specials, a cookbook on the way, and a burgeoning entrepreneurial streak with her Feast sauce line.

Nico Muhly and Ira Glass Muhly is a composer of chamber music, orchestral music, sacred music, opera, ballet, and music for collaborators across a variety of fields. The Metropolitan Opera commissioned his first opera, *Two Boys*, an English National Opera co-production. Muhly has scored ballets for choreographer Benjamin Millepied and films including *The Reader* and *Kill Your Darlings*, in addition to arranging music by Antony & the Johnsons, Grizzly Bear, and the National. Glass is the host and executive producer of *This American Life*, which premiered in 1995 and today is broadcast on more than 555 public radio stations and is also one of the most popular podcasts in America. Over three million people listen to the show every week.

Annie Clark, better known by her stage name **St. Vincent**, is an American musician, singer-songwriter, and multi-instrumentalist. She began her music career as a member of The Polyphonic Spree and was also part of Sufjan Stevens' touring band before forming her own band in 2006. Her debut album was *Marry Me* (2007), followed by *Actor* (2009), and *Strange Mercy* (2011). She released a collaborative album with David Byrne in 2012 titled *Love This Giant*. Her fourth solo album, self-titled St. Vincent, was released in February 2014 and was named album of the year by *NME*, *Entertainment Weekly*, *The Guardian*, and *The Sunday Times*. It has also received a Grammy Award nomination for Best Alternative Album.

Merrill Garbus has performed as **tUnE-yArDs** since 2009, first gaining notice with the debut *BiRd-BrAiNs*, which *The New York Times* called “a confident do-it-yourselfer's opening salvo: a staticky, low-fi, abrasive attention-getter.” In 2011, tUnE-yArDs released its second album, *w h o k i l l*, a startling and sonically adventurous statement that led to a whirlwind period where Garbus and bassist Nate Brenner accrued accolades from critics (including the #1 spot on the *Village Voice* 2011 Pazz and Jop poll), performed in front of increasing numbers of rapturous crowds around the world, and collaborated with the likes of Yoko Ono and Questlove. tUnE-y-ArDs third full-length release, *Nikki Nack*, came out in May 2014.

Credits

Bloomberg Philanthropies is the 2014-2015 Season Sponsor

Viacom is the BAM 2015 Music Sponsor

Major support for music at BAM provided by Frances Bermanzohn & Alan Roseman; and Pablo J. Salame

BAM 2015 Winter/Spring Season supporters: Bank of America; Frances Bermanzohn & Alan Roseman; Booth Ferris Foundation; Brooklyn Community Foundation; Jessica E. Smith & Kevin R. Brine; William I. Campbell & Christine Wächter-Campbell; Betsy and Ed Cohen/Areté Foundation; Doris Duke Charitable Foundation; Estate of Richard B. Fisher; Judith R. & Alan H. Fishman; Ford Foundation; The Howard Gilman Foundation; The Harkness Foundation for Dance; Stephanie & Timothy Ingrassia; Frederick Iseman; Suzie & Bruce Kovner; Leon Levy Foundation; Diane & Adam E. Max; James I. McLaren & Lawton W. Fitt; MetLife Foundation; Donald R. Mullen Jr.; Stavros Niarchos Foundation; The Jerome Robbins Foundation, Inc.; Rolex SA; The Fan Fox & Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, Inc.; Target; Viacom; The Winston Foundation, Inc.

Delta is the Official Airline of BAM. Pepsi is the official beverage of BAM. Santander is the BAM Marquee sponsor. Yamaha is the official piano for BAM. New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge is the official hotel for BAM.

Your tax dollars make BAM programs possible through funding from the City of New York Department of Cultural Affairs and the New York State Council on the Arts. The BAM facilities are owned by the City of New York and benefit from public funds provided through the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs with support from Mayor Bill de Blasio; the New York City Council including Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito, Finance Committee Chair Julissa Ferreras, Cultural Affairs Committee Chair Jimmy Van Bramer, the Brooklyn Delegation of the Council, and Councilwoman Laurie Cumbo; and Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams. BAM would like to thank the Brooklyn Delegations of the New York State Assembly, Joseph R. Lentol, Delegation Leader; and New York Senate, Senator Velmanette Montgomery, Delegation Leader.

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. BAM Harvey Theater 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, is the newest addition to the BAM campus and houses the Judith and Alan Fishman Space and Rita K. Hillman Studio. BAM Rose Cinemas is Brooklyn's only movie house dedicated to first-run independent and foreign film and repertory programming. BAMcafé, operated by Great Performances, offers a dinner menu prior to BAM Howard Gilman Opera House evening performances. BAMcafé also features an eclectic mix of live music for BAMcafé Live on Friday and Saturday nights with a bar menu available starting at 6pm.

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
Car: Commercial parking lots are located adjacent to BAM

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

###