

FROM: **AMERICAN BALLET THEATRE**
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JASON MORAN

Jazz pianist, composer, and artist Jason Moran was born in Houston in 1975 and earned a degree from the Manhattan School of Music, where he studied with Jaki Byard. Upon graduation, he studied with Andrew Hill and Muhal Richard Abrams. He began an 18-year relationship with Blue Note Records, producing nine highly acclaimed recordings. His groundbreaking trio, The Bandwagon (with Tarus Mateen and Nasheet Waits) is currently celebrating its 20th anniversary.

Moran's performances with Cassandra Wilson, Charles Lloyd, and the late Sam Rivers reveal the scope of his musical partnerships. His work with visual artists is extensive, including projects with Adrian Piper, Joan Jonas, Glenn Ligon, Adam Pendleton, Lorna Simpson, and Kara Walker. He has been awarded fellowships from the MacArthur Foundation, United States Artists, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, and Ford Foundation.

Moran frequently collaborates with his wife, Alicia Hall Moran, including their residency at the 2012 Whitney Biennial, where they together curated *BLEED*, a five-day series of live performances. They also premiered *Work Songs* at the 2015 Venice Biennial. They currently produce recordings on their own label, Yes Records. Since his first album, Moran has produced 14 additional albums, and composed scores for Ava DuVernay's films *Selma* and *13th*, and Ta-Nehisi Coates's stage version of *Between the World and Me*.

History is an ongoing theme for Moran, who has created monumental pieces about Thelonious Monk (*In My Mind: Monk at Town Hall, 1959*), Fats Waller (*Fats Waller Dance Party*), and James Reese Europe (*James Reese Europe and the Absence of Ruin*).

In 2018, Moran had his first solo museum exhibition at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis,

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which traveled to the Whitney Museum of American Art in September 2019. Moran is currently the artistic director of Jazz at the Kennedy Center, programs concerts for Park Avenue Armory, and teaches at New England Conservatory.

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