



#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# The Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County and Spoken Soul Festival Present

### Spoken Soul Showcase VOL 14: A Journey Through Joy

<u>Free immersive, multidisciplinary spoken word experience spotlights</u> multigenerational and multicultural female artists in South Florida

Celebrating National Poetry Month

## April 8, 2022 at 7 p.m. Peacock Foundation Studio – Ziff Ballet Opera House

Miami – Feb. 25, 2022 – The Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County (@arshtcenter) and Spoken Soul Festival are pleased to present SPOKEN SOUL SHOWCASE VOL.

14: A Journey Through Joy (@spokensoulfest), an immersive, multidisciplinary spoken word experience featuring women-centered narratives. The free event, curated and performed entirely by local female artists, will take place during National Poetry Month inside the Center's Peacock Foundation Studio on April 8, 2022 at 7 p.m.

In its 14th year, **SPOKEN SOUL SHOWCASE** celebrates the four stages of happiness with carefully curated performances that combine spoken word with dance, visual arts, music, film and other artistic expressions. The performance culminates with an all-girl rock band and dance party, encouraging audience members to find their own joy.

Admission to **SPOKEN SOUL SHOWCASE VOL. 14: A Journey Through Joy** is free. First-Access Passes, which give guests early access to general admission seating, can be reserved for the performance beginning February 25 at 12 p.m. Reserve passes online at arshtcenter.org or by calling the Adrienne Arsht Center box office at 305- 949-6722.

SPOKEN SOUL-SHOWCASE VOL. 14: A Journey Through Joy will include the following elements:

ANTICIPATE: A Journey to Perfection by Annette Gonzalez Silvera
 A Journey to Perfection delves into a new mother's journey to find hope after postpartum depression. The author shares her struggle with the pretense of social media in a spoken

word film capturing the silhouettes and shadows created by the moon. The piece also includes a live performance of contemporary dance.

#### • SAVOR: The Spirit of Play By Amy Baez

The Spirit of Play is the storytelling of a daughter's musician father serving as her master teacher of playfulness. It is about how his spirit has influenced and inspired her to move through life. The author uses spoken word to share her memories along with a live performance of a flutist playing along to salsa much like her self-taught father did when she was a child.

#### • EXPRESS: Life is a Carnival By Omilani

Life is a Carnival is a diasporic audio and visual journey featuring live original reggaeton, samba, salsa and rock songs by the author. The piece includes spoken word and visual arts segments on film where the author expresses moments of self-doubt and the transformation to unapologetic fiery self-love.

#### • REFLECT: A Celebration Of Joy By Veronica Barrios Garcia

A Celebration of Joy is inspired by how a song can take you back to the innocence and joy of childhood. This piece is a recorded spoken word performance about finding light in darkness and celebrating despite life's challenges. It s with a live performance from an all-girl rock band followed by a dance party.

"After the past couple of years, 2022's Spoken Soul Festival's program called for a realignment and refresh of the performance we would provide to the community. It was an opportunity for us to highlight aspects of happiness and joy while highlighting our founding members. We're excited to once again present this program at the Arsht Center, our partner since 2017, and welcome the entire community to join us as we amplify female voices from all walks of life," says Deborah Magdalena, director of this year's festival and founding member of the Spoken Soul Festival.

**Spoken Soul's** mission is to spotlight South Florida women artists and make them household names. Its diverse and multicultural team of women produce free events and community programs to collectively and creatively cultivate civic engagement. For more information, please visit www.spokensoulfestival.com.

#### **Arsht Center Commitment to Safety**

The Arsht Center remains deeply committed to the health and peace of mind of our guests, artists and staff. Based on guidance from national and local health officials, masks and proof of a recent negative COVID-19 test are required. Guests may volunteer proof of vaccination in lieu of a negative test. Learn more here. This event will be seated at full capacity. We will also maintain enhanced cleaning, sanitation and air filtration procedures. Any policy changes will be sent directly to ticketholders and updated regularly at <a href="mailto:arshtcenter.org/covid-19">arshtcenter.org/covid-19</a>.



Image of Spoken Soul Narrator Mori Taiye – Photo by WorldRedEye.com



Image of ANTICIPATE: A Journey to Perfection – Photo by Annette Gonzalez Silvera



Image of Amy Baez – Photo by Moments77



Image of EXPRESS: Life is a Carnival – Photo by Annette Gonzalez



Image of REFLECT: A Celebration of Joy – Photo by Veronica Barrios Garcia

To download high-resolutions versions of the photos above, click **here**.

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The Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County is made possible by the public support of the Miami-Dade County Mayor and the Board of County Commissioners, the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Tourist Development Council and the City of Miami Omni Community Redevelopment Agency, as well as the

<sup>\*</sup>All programs, artists, ticket prices, availability, dates and times are subject to change without notice. Visit arshtcenter.org for up-to-date information.

Florida Department of State, Division of Arts and Culture and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture. The Adrienne Arsht Center also receives generous support from individuals, corporations and local, state and national foundations.

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#### **About Us**

Set in the heart of downtown Miami, the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County is committed to welcoming and connecting ALL people to the arts, to the Arsht Center and to each other. Our stages are alive year-round with artists from around the world, innovative programming from our resident companies and local arts partners, free community events that reflect Miami's unique identity and arts education experiences for thousands of Miami children each year.

Since opening in 2006, the Arsht Center, a 501C3 non-profit organization, has been recognized as a catalyst for billions of dollars in new development in the downtown area, a leader in programming that mirrors South Florida's diversity, a host venue for historic events and Miami's hub for arts education.

Each year, we serve more than 60,000 young learners and offer more than 100 culturally diverse and inclusive education programs — many enhanced by the Arsht Center's relationship with Miami-Dade County Public Schools, local teaching artists and Miami-based arts organizations.

The Arsht Center is also a home stage for three resident companies — Florida Grand Opera, Miami City Ballet and New World Symphony — and a launch pad for local artists to make their mark on the international stage. Our 300+ events each year include the Center's Signature Series of classical, jazz, Broadway, local theater and much more. We present a robust series of touring Broadway musicals direct from New York, the largest jazz series in South Florida, a major annual Flamenco Festival and an award-winning Miami-based theater program. In addition, our Family Fest, Free Gospel Sundays, CommuniTEA LGBTQ+ celebration and Heritage Fest are among dozens of free events that bring together people from all corners of our community. For more information, visit arshtcenter.org.

#### ABOUT SPOKEN SOUL FESTIVAL

Spoken Soul Festival spotlights South Florida women artists. The vision of the Spoken Soul Festival is to make South Florida women artists household names. The diverse and multicultural production team of women produce free events and outreach programs that leverage the arts for civic engagement. The events feature a variety of literary, performing and visual women artists based in South Florida. Artists selected to join the sisterhood are commissioned to create new works and provided with free professional development, mentorship and marketing assistance. More information at: <a href="https://www.Spokensoulfestival.com">www.Spokensoulfestival.com</a> @spokensoulfest

This event is made possible with the support of the Miami Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners.