

# ALFREDO RODRÍGUEZ TRIO





Dear ArtPower Friends,

For two decades, ArtPower at UC San Diego has been a leader in arts and culture, enriching the lives of countless individuals through diverse and captivating programming. ArtPower's 20th anniversary season provides us with the opportunity to reflect on the organization's remarkable journey and its enduring commitment to bringing world-class performing arts to our community.

Founded in 2003, ArtPower was conceived with a simple yet profound mission: to engage, energize, and transform the diverse cultural life of UC San Diego and the greater region through the performing and media arts. Over the years, ArtPower has consistently delivered a diverse array of performances that span genres with the goal of developing more empathetic students and community members who are better prepared to engage in the world around them.


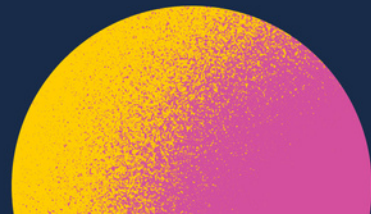
We're thrilled to welcome Alfredo Rodríguez back to ArtPower. We hope you will enjoy every moment of this evening as the trio embark on a musical journey weaving intricate melodies and rhythms in a performance that fuses tradition and innovation. It's this musicianship that aligns perfectly with ArtPower at UC San Diego's mission to present diverse and boundary-pushing artistic experiences that inspire and engage.

As we continue this milestone season, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to those who have invested their time, talent, and treasure into ArtPower at UC San Diego. Thank you for being part of the ArtPower legacy.

Cheers,

*Colleen*

Colleen Kollar Smith  
Executive Director  
Campus Performances and Events Office



Jazz/Cuba

## **Alfredo Rodríguez Trio**

March 21, 2024 at 8:00 pm

The Loft

## **About the Artists**

Alfredo Rodríguez + Piano & Lead Vocals

Armando Lopez + Drums

Han Beyli + Bass & Guitar

Born and raised in Havana, Cuba, Rodríguez's passion for music burned brightly despite the numerous restrictions imposed by his country.

At a tender age, he faced discouragement from his first teacher, who dismissed him as devoid of talent. Undeterred, Rodríguez's love for the piano persisted, even in the absence of an instrument at home. He resorted to painting piano keys on his parents' dinner table to practice his scales—a testament to his determination and resourcefulness. Eventually, Alfredo was invited to represent Cuba at the Montreux Jazz Festival, where he impressed Quincy Jones. Jones saw the immense talent in Rodríguez and extended an invitation to work together in the U.S.

However, pursuing this opportunity meant leaving his family behind and embarking on a journey that would require relinquishing his Cuban citizenship.

Since then, Rodríguez has achieved remarkable milestones. He has graced prestigious stages worldwide and earned a Grammy® nomination for his track "Guantanamera" from the album *The Invasion Parade*.

Additionally, he became the first non-Chinese artist to collaborate on the English version of the 2010 Shanghai World Expo theme song, working alongside esteemed musicians such as Tan Dun, Siedah Garrett, and Quincy Jones.

Beyond his accomplishments, Rodriguez's ability to "play stories" on the keys allows him to connect with his listeners on a deeply personal level. His albums, including *The Invasion Parade*, *Tocororo*, and *Duologue*, reflect his memories of Cuba, his experiences as an immigrant, and his journey of self-discovery through music. He's been featured by *All Things Considered*, *Downbeat*, *The New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, and *Wall Street Journal* among many others, and performed for NPR Music's Tiny Desk Concert.

Rodriguez continues to share his music along with his impactful message of perseverance and cross culturalization on an international tour, while sharing a variety of viral social media videos in which he plays well-known compositions in a Cuban timba style.

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David Dablo '26

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# EXPLORE OUR UPCOMING EVENTS

BECAUSE YOU'RE MINE:  
THE MUSIC OF JUNE CARTER  
AND JOHNNY CASH  
march 22 at 7:30 pm\*

RED BARAAT  
march 23 at 7:30 pm\*

SONIA DE LOS SANTOS  
march 29 at 6:30 pm<sup>∞</sup>

THE LITTLE MERMEN  
march 30 at 6:30 pm\*

BOARTE PIANO TRIO  
april 5 at 7:30 pm+

CONTRA-TIEMPO ACTIVIST  
DANCE THEATER  
april 11 at 7:30 pm\*

ANTONIO SÁNCHEZ  
BIRDMAN LIVE  
april 18 at 8 pm\*

ANIMANIACS LIVE  
april 20 at 7:30 pm\*

THE BEAT GOES ON: STARRING  
LISA MCCLOWRY AS CHER  
april 26 at 7:30 pm\*

MARK GUILIANA  
april 26 at 8 pm^

QUEEN NATION  
april 27 at 7:30 pm\*

JACK QUARTET + ART OF ELAN  
may 6 at 8 pm^

AN EVENING WITH  
DAVID SEDARIS  
may 9 at 8 pm<sup>°</sup>

AN EVENING WITH THE  
ST. LAWRENCE  
may 10 at 7:30 pm+

YÄCHTLEY CRËW  
may 31 at 8 pm\*

\* epstein family amphitheater  
+ dept. of music's conrad prebys concert hall ^  
the loft  
∞ new children's museum  
° balboa theatre

Visit our website for more  
info and tickets:  
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