



THE KIMMEL CENTER
ACADEMY OF MUSIC
MERRIAM THEATER

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Grammy & Latin Grammy Award-winning singer @LilaDowns performs on the @KimmelCenter stage 10/22. More info @ Kimmelcenter.org

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**GRAMMY® AND LATIN GRAMMY® AWARD-WINNING SINGER
LILA DOWNS PERFORMS AT THE
KIMMEL CENTER'S MERRIAM THEATER
OCTOBER 22, 2017**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Philadelphia, PA. August 31, 2017) — Grammy® and Latin Grammy® Award-winning singer and activist **Lila Downs** will take to the **Merriam Theater** stage on **Sunday, October 22, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.** following the release of her latest album *Salón Lágrimas y Deseo*. Downs' performance bridges a variety of musical genres as she blends sounds learned during her dual upbringing in the American Midwest and Mexico. Her music mixes jazz, hip-hop, blues, and folk with South American and Mexican roots. Focusing her lyrics on the human condition and the fight of many for civil liberties, Downs is known as "Beyoncé as Sasha Fierce" (*SF Weekly*), producing music that "is a true original." (*NPR*).

"Lila is both a musical virtuoso and a passionate political activist, inspiring change through her voice and music," said Anne Ewers, President and CEO of the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts. "Her album is a reflection of both current political times and her will to continue to empower herself and her community."

A global superstar in her own right, Lila Downs' particular music and lyrics break down borders and differences in language. Downs' cross-cultural success and human rights work has made her a voice for people everywhere, often urging fans to take a step towards bettering the world. Her latest album's song "Peligrosa," described as "an anthem for female empowerment," is a call to all "dangerous" or smart, feisty women to join her in standing up for transformation and revolution.

Downs has been granted invitations to sing at the White House, as well as on the Academy Awards® and Latin Grammy® Awards broadcasts. She has performed at internationally-renowned festivals and institutions including Carnegie Hall, Jazz at Lincoln Center, and the Festival of Sacred Music – Hollywood Bowl. Making the jump to the big screen, Downs' voice can be heard in a variety of films including *Tortilla Soup*, *The Counselor*, *The Three Burials of Melquiades Estrada*, *Real Women Have Curves*, *Carlos Saura's Fados*, *Hecho en Mexico*, and *Mariachi Gringo*.

Other featured upcoming performances at the Kimmel Center Campus include: **Herbie Hancock** (October 4, 2017, Verizon Hall), **Songs You Left Behind** (October 7, 2017, SEI Innovation Studio), and **Courtnee Roze** (October 26-28, 2017, SEI Innovation Studio).

LILA DOWNS
Merriam Theater

October 22, 2017, 7:00 p.m.

TICKETS:

Tickets are on sale now and start at \$31.50. Tickets can be purchased by calling 215-893-1999, online at kimmelcenter.org, or at the Kimmel Center Box Office. Group sales are available for groups of 10 or more and can be purchased by calling 215-790-5883. See kimmelcenter.org for more information.

The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Located in the heart of Center City, Philadelphia, the Kimmel Center's mission is to operate a world-class performing arts center that engages and serves a broad audience through diverse programming, arts education, and community outreach. The Kimmel Center Campus is comprised of the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts (Verizon Hall, Perelman Theater, SEI Innovation Studio, and the Merck Arts Education Center), the Academy of Music (owned by the Philadelphia Orchestra Association), and the Merriam Theater. The Kimmel Center is also home to eight Resident Companies: The Philadelphia Orchestra, Opera Philadelphia, The Pennsylvania Ballet, The Philly POPS, PHILADANCO, The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, The Philadelphia Chamber Music Society and Curtis Institute of Music. With nearly 9,000 seats per night, The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts is the region's most impactful performing arts center, and the second largest in the country. TD Bank, America's Most Convenient Bank, is the season sponsor of the Kimmel Center's 2017-2018 Season. American Airlines is the official airline of Broadway Philadelphia. For additional information, visit kimmelcenter.org.

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