**PBS DEBUTS SECOND SEASON OF NEXT AT THE KENNEDY CENTER, A PERFORMING ARTS SERIES AND MULTI-YEAR PARTNERSHIP IN OCTOBER**

**Two New Episodes, “Robert Glasper’s Black Radio” and “Embracing Duality: Modern Indigenous Cultures,” Premiere on PBS, PBS.org**

**and the PBS App, On Friday Oct. 13 and Friday, Oct. 20**

***Screeners and Images Available on*** [***PBS PressRoom***](https://pressroom.pbs.org/programs/n/next-at-the-kennedy-center)

**ARLINGTON, Va. – Sept. 21, 2023** – **PBS** continues to showcase the enduring influence of artistic changemakers with its second season of **NEXT AT THE KENNEDY CENTER,** a performing arts series and multi-year collaboration with the **John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.** Launching in October with two new installments – **“Robert Glasper’s Black Radio”** on **Friday, Oct. 13** at **9-10 p.m. ET** and **“Embracing Duality: Modern Indigenous Cultures”** on **Friday, Oct. 20** at **9-10 p.m. ET** on **PBS** (check local listings)**,** [**PBS.org**](http://www.pbs.org/)and the [**PBS app**](https://www.pbs.org/pbs-video-app/) **–** the one-hour specials will spotlight contemporary and diverse artists and their contributions across art forms, genres and backgrounds.

The first episode of the second season of **NEXT AT THE KENNEDY CENTER**, **“Robert Glasper’s Black Radio” (Oct. 13),** captures theever-curious, virtuosic, and playful mind of five-time Grammy Award-winning pianist, composer, and producer **Robert Glasper** and showcases how ***Black Radio*** crossed genres and gave emerging artists a chance to infuse their true personalities into the music, creating the album’s unmistakable sound. With the birth of ***Black Radio***, **Glasper** gave rise to a new attitude in the music industry: one where artists were allowed and encouraged to take risks, be unapologetically in the moment, and challenge their expectations of what popular music could be.

In celebration of ***Black Radio’s*** 10th Anniversary, the one-hour special documents the Kennedy Center’s homecoming for some of the album’s original collaborators. **Glasper** returns to the Concert Hall for a historic performance, with special guests **Lalah Hathaway, Meshell Ndegeocello, Bilal, Affion Crockett, Kyle Abraham** and **Amir Sulaiman**, and featuring **Derrick Hodge** leading the ***Black Radio*** Orchestra. Through the lens of music and storytelling, friends and collaborators of **Glasper**, including **Don Cheadle, Don Was** and **Esperanza Spalding** share how his exploration of new musical territory blended to create a musical collage from all reaches of contemporary black music and beyond.

**Glasper** and the creative legends behind ***Black Radio*** share with viewers their trials and tribulations as young musicians, chronicle the creation of ***Black Radio*,** discuss **Glasper’s** unique style of collaboration, and laugh, and cry recalling memories in the decade since the album’s conception. In a portrait of one visionary’s boundless and eternal pursuit for innovation, this story gives an intimate look into the mind behind the album that reshaped how black music is uplifted and celebrated.

On **Oct. 20**, the **NEXT AT THE KENNEDY CENTER** bridges traditions, connects cultures, and celebrates the human spirit, with the premiere of **“Embracing Duality: Modern Indigenous Cultures.”** In partnership with electronic music pioneers **The Halluci Nation**, R&B artist **Martha Redbone** and performance artist **Ty Defoe**, the Kennedy Center explores the impact and evolution of indigenous performing arts cultures.

In taking influence from a diversity of Nations, cultures, languages, philosophies, spiritual traditions, peoples, and practices rooted in indigenous cultures, contemporary artists across genres have infused indigenous elements, influences and rhythms into Indie Pop, Roots, R&B, Electronic, and beyond.

The special pays homage to the past with Grammy Award-winner and two-spirit artist **Defoe’s** celebration of life’s interconnectedness with his performance of hoop dancing, one of the oldest native dances**. Redbone** then welcomes viewers to explore the unique blend of folk, blues, and gospel as she pays tribute to her African American and indigenous roots. **The Halluci Nation**, formerly known as A Tribe Called Red, pays homage to the energy and momentum of Ottawa’s Electric Pow Wow gatherings while pointing to where the future is headed. The group also performs a dynamic live rendition of “Stadium Pow Wow,” their breakout song featured in the trailer for the Martin Scorsese movie “Killers of the Flower Moon.”

Featuring conversations and personal anecdotes, these artists delve into the subtle and complex representation of the contemporary Indigenous experience. Through the powerful and uplifting performances across the Kennedy Center campus, **NEXT AT THE KENNEDY CENTER** tells the story and offers a platform to those artists who continue to celebrate and carry forward their traditions in unique and distinct ways.

**NEXT AT THE KENNEDY CENTER**, a new series of primetime performance specials, shines a spotlight on the Kennedy Center’s contemporary culture program, bringing the best of the nation’s stage to viewers across the country. Captured to match the unique style of the artists, each episode weaves together performances filmed live at the Kennedy Center with intimate off-stage moments and first-person commentary.

Previous installments of **NEXT AT THE KENNEDY CENTER** are currently available for streaming on **PBS Passport:** [“Let My Children Hear Mingus”](https://www.pbs.org/video/let-my-children-hear-mingus-fa6l40/), “[A Joni Mitchell Songbook”,](https://www.pbs.org/video/a-joni-mitchell-songbook-rls3er/) [“The Roots Residency,”](https://www.pbs.org/video/the-roots-fpjj6i/) [“Ballet Hispánico’s Doña Perón](https://www.pbs.org/video/ballet-hispanicos-dona-peron-xfrmhs/)” and [“Continuum: Jason Moran & Christian McBride.”](http://pbs.org/video/continuum-jason-moran-christian-mcbride-2eivfl/)

For more information on **NEXT AT THE KENNEDY CENTER**, including clips and episode previews, visit www.[pbs](https://www.pbs.org/show/next-kennedy-center/).org. Viewers are also encouraged to engage in online conversation about the series by tagging **@PBS** and using **#KenCenNextPBS** on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/pbs/), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/pbs) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/pbs/?hl=en).

**NEXT AT THE KENNEDY CENTER is** a production of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Matthew Winer is the showrunner and executive producer for the Kennedy Center. Kristin Fosdick directs the series with her team in the Kennedy Center’s multimedia department. Christopher Farley is the executive in charge for PBS.

**NEXT AT THE KENNEDY CENTER** was made possible, in part, by The Rosalind P. Walter Foundation and by contributions from public television viewers.

**About the Kennedy Center**

[The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts](http://www.kennedy-center.org/) is America’s living memorial to President John F. Kennedy, attracting millions of visitors each year to more than 2,000 performances, events, and exhibits. With its artistic affiliates, the National Symphony Orchestra and Washington National Opera, the Center is one of the nation’s busiest performing arts centers dedicated to providing world-class art, powerful education, and outstanding memorial experiences to the broadest possible constituency. Across all its offerings, the Kennedy Center is committed to increasing accessible, inclusive opportunities for all people to participate in, and learn through the arts, including more than 400 free performances each year and a variety of specially priced ticket programs for students, seniors, persons with disabilities, and others. On Sept. 7, 2019, the Kennedy Center inaugurated the REACH, its first-ever major expansion. Designed by Steven Holl Associates, the REACH provides visitors with new opportunities to interact and engage with the Center as the nation’s premier nexus of arts, learning, and culture. On Sept. 8, 2022, the Kennedy Center unveiled Art and Ideals: President John F. Kennedy, a new 7,500-square-foot permanent exhibit exploring Kennedy’s presidency and his commitment to the arts.

**About PBS**

[PBS](http://www.pbs.org/), with more than 330 member stations, offers all Americans the opportunity to explore new ideas and new worlds through television and digital content. Each month, PBS reaches over 42 million adults on linear primetime television, more than 15 million users on PBS-owned streaming platforms, and 56 million people view PBS content on social media, inviting them to experience the worlds of science, history, nature, and public affairs; to hear diverse viewpoints; and to take front-row seats to world-class drama and performances. PBS’s broad array of programs has been consistently honored by the industry’s most coveted award competitions. Teachers of children from pre-K through 12th grade turn to [PBS LearningMedia](http://pbslearningmedia.org/) for digital content and services that help bring classroom lessons to life. As the number one educational media brand, [PBS KIDS](http://pbskids.org/) helps children 2-8 build critical skills, enabling them to find success in school and life. Delivered through member stations, PBS KIDS offers high-quality content on TV — including a PBS KIDS channel — and streaming free on [pbskids.org](http://pbskids.org/) and the [PBS KIDS Video app](https://pbskids.org/apps/pbs-kids-video.html), games on the [PBS KIDS Games app](https://pbskids.org/apps/pbs-kids-games.html), and in communities across America.

More information about PBS is available at [PBS.org](https://www.pbs.org/), one of the leading dot-org websites on the internet, [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/pbs), [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/pbs/?hl=en), or through our [apps for mobile and connected devices](http://www.pbs.org/anywhere/home/).  Specific program information and updates for press are available at [pbs.org/pressroom](http://pbs.org/pressroom) or by following [PBS Communications on Twitter](https://twitter.com/PBS_PR).

**– PBS –**

**EDITORIAL NOTE:** *For images and additional up-to-date information about the* [*NEXT AT KENNEDY CENTER*](https://www.pbs.org/show/next-kennedy-center/) *and other PBS programs, visit PBS PressRoom at* [*pressroom.pbs.org*](https://pressroom.pbs.org/)*. Executives and talent from PBS and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts are also available for interviews upon request.*

**MEDIA CONTACTS:**

**PBS**

Meredith Wohl, mawohl@pbs.org

Brandii Toby-Leon, brandii.leon@bullseyecomm.com

**The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts**

Campbell Slavin, CJSlavin@kennedy-center.org