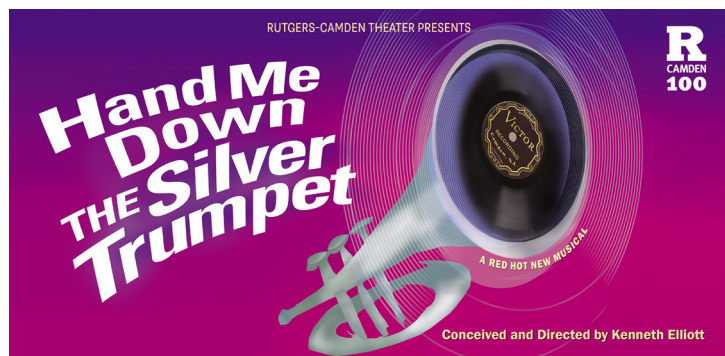


A new musical set in Camden pays tribute to African American artists who recorded for Victor Records



Logo Design: © B.T.Whitehill

Rutgers–Camden Theater kicks off its 2026 season with a new, original musical set right here in Camden, New Jersey. *Hand Me Down the Silver Trumpet* celebrates the legacy of great African American musical artists of the 1920s and 30s who recorded what were then called “race records” for the Victor Talking Machine Company (later RCA Victor). Directed by Prof. Kenneth Elliott, who also wrote the book, it features performances of classic blues, jazz, and spirituals performed by special guest artists, students, alumni, and a truly swinging band. Performances begin Friday, February 6 and continue through Sunday, February 15.

The cast of ten features guest artist Tiara Greene in a dual role as Mamie, a 20s blues singer, and Dionne, the mother of a contemporary Rutgers–Camden student. Caden Adams, a senior theater student, plays her son, James, who discovers a trove of old 78s in his great-grandmother’s attic and is magically transported back in time to a recording session at Victor Records circa 1928. Guest artist Brian Anthony Wilson plays the Rev. McGee, who arrives at the session to record one of his most popular three-minute sermons.

The cast also includes guest artists Dana Orange and Zero X as two jazz age singer/dancers. The cast is rounded out by theater students Alana Rivera-Mills, MyraCal West, Addy Adebo, and Kirsten Fair. Musical direction is by local Camden musician Daniel Spearman, and the extensive dance sequences are choreographed by Samuel Antonio Reyes.

Supported by a Year of the Arts grant, this event is part of the Rutgers University–Camden Centennial celebration.

February 6 – 15, 2025
Thursdays – Saturdays at 7:30 pm
Friday, February 13 at 10:00 am
Sundays at 2:00 pm
 Walter K. Gordon Theater



PURCHASE TICKETS

Stedman Gallery exhibit explores the essence of democracy

Of the People, the current exhibition in the Stedman Gallery features a selection of works on paper by contemporary artists from across the United States who responded to the question: what does American democracy mean to you? Through investigative research, consulting various formal and informal repositories of knowledge, and reflecting inwardly, this group of artists particularly consider the meaning of American democracy in the present moment.



Selina Lee (B. 1998, Texas), *Flat Views*, 2025, Charcoal on paper

The 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence has inspired people across the country to reflect on the meaning of American democracy. The ideas that the government’s authority comes from the people who elected them and that its purpose is to serve the values and overall welfare of its people, have been embedded in the American cultural psyche for some time. As too have repeated stories of democracy that teach the American public to trust in democratic process and the justice system.

This exhibition was juried by Visual Artist, Alex Da Corte; Senior Curator of the Institute of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, Amanda Sroka; and Curator of Prints and Drawings from the Princeton University Art Museum, Laura M. Giles. Together, they selected the work by artists Olga Alexander, Jamil G Baldwin, Kumasi Barnett, Megan Christiansen, Ben DuVall, Sharon Harper, Selina Lee, Huaqi Liu, Bo Kim, Meridith McNeal, Henry Rosenberg, and Kiko Thomas for this exhibition.

Exhibition: January 20, 2026 – March 28, 2026

Artist Talk: Meridith McNeal: February 26, 12:45 – 1:45 pm

Artist Talk: Kumasi Barnett: March 27, 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Highlights Tour: February 25, 12:30 – 1:30 pm
 March 25, 12:30 – 1:30 pm

Gallery Hours: Tuesdays – Saturdays
 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Dr. Julianne Baird to perform a leading role at opera *Comus*

Distinguished Professor of Music Dr. Julianne Baird will be performing a leading role in the opera *Comus* by Thomas Augustine Arne at Brandywine Baroque at Flintwoods, Wilmington, DE and repeated in Rehoboth Beach, DE. This captivating chamber opera tells the story of a young lady lost in a forest who is enchanted by Comus. Taken to his palace, she is tempted with food, wine, and pleasure, but with the aid of a helpful Spirit, her brothers come to her rescue, illustrating the victory of virtue over vice.

Friday, March 13, 2026 at 7:30 pm

The Barn at Flintwoods, Wilmington, DE

Saturday, March 14, 2026 at 2:30 pm

The Lutheran Church of Our Savior, Rehoboth Beach, DE

Sunday, March 15, 2026 at 3:00 pm

The Barn at Flintwoods, Wilmington, DE

To purchase tickets and more details, please see www.brandywinebaroque.org

Visiting Artists Program explores patterns with artist Jesse Harrod



Artwork by Jesse Harrod

The Visiting Artist Program brings nationally and internationally acclaimed visual artists and art collectives to the Rutgers–Camden campus to discuss their work and professional practices. The theme of this spring series is *Patterns*.

All lectures are free and open to the public, and will be held from 12:45 pm to 1:45 pm in the Fine Arts Building, Room 110.

Thursday, March 5 – Jesse Harrod

Harrod is a multidisciplinary artist living and working between Philadelphia, PA, and New York, NY. Their visual art practice encompasses sculpture, painting, stop-motion animation, and other media to reimagine forms of gendered, sexual, and disabled embodiment.

Music melts the winter blues with the Mallery Series and Symphony in C

Mallery Concert Series

The spring Mallery Concert Series kicks off on February 4. Under the direction of Prof. Joseph C. Schiavo, the series brings professional musicians to campus for free concerts each Wednesday during free period, 11:20 am - 12:20 pm in the Mallery Room on the second floor of the Fine Arts Building.

Anastasia Seifetdinova, piano
February 4

Katarzyna Marzec-Salwinski, piano
March 4

Ronald Campbell, voice
Joseph Kruppa, piano
February 11

Talukder/Trenk Duo, oboe and piano
March 11

Alexander Cox Trio
February 18

Pyxis Piano Trio
March 25

Melody Fader, piano
February 25

Melody Fader, piano
Emilie-Anne Gendron, violin
April 1

Symphony in C

Founded in 1952, the Mid-Atlantic region's young professionals orchestra performs at Walter K. Gordon Theater.

Strauss & Poulenc
February 21
7:30 pm

ZoomOnArt to meet the artists

The Rutgers–Camden Department of Visual, Media, and Performing Arts becomes a central hub for interactive, online conversations with nationally and internationally renowned artists during its ZoomOnArt program. All lectures are scheduled during free period on Zoom between 11:30 am and 12:20 pm. The theme for this semester's series is *Material, Materials: Art, Design and Suitability by Choice*.

February 4 – Jon Compton

February 9 – Jinean Robinson

February 23 – Billy Dufala

March 30 – Dan Ostrov

April 8 – Allan Espiritu

April 22 – Richard Shaw

All talks and/or workshops occur in FA 103/FA 105 Sculpture studios. Bring your lunch and prepare to be impressed. For more information about upcoming lectures and the link to join the discussions online, please visit our website at vmpa.rutgers.edu.