



ARTIVISM:

INTERCULTURAL SOLIDARITY & DECOLONIZING PERFORMANCE

Spring 2020 Interdisciplinary Arts Residency Course with **BEN BARSON & GIZELXANATH RODRIGUEZ**

About the Artists

Ben Barson is an award-winning composer, educator, baritone saxophonist, historian, and political activist. Barson cares deeply about the environment along with racial and social justice and inequities. Like his mentor Fred Ho, he composes music to impact change inspired by the jazz tradition.

Gizelxanath Rodriguez is a Mexican Indigenous (Yaqui) renowned vocalist, cellist, educator, and activist (art and activism) at the intersection of Indigenous rights, ecosocialism, and migrant justice. She is fluent in five languages (Spanish, Portuguese, English, French, and Italian) and her vocal work spans a range of styles and cultures.

Together, Barson and Rodriguez co-founded the Afro Yaqui Music Collective, an ensemble that combines Afro-Asian musical and political affinities with inspiration from the struggles of the Yaqui of northern Mexico. Barson and Rodriguez work to incorporate voices of regional and Indigenous communities in the creation of their boundary-pushing interdisciplinary works.

Course #: Integrated Arts 310 & 610 / Music 497 / Asian American Studies 240

Day/Time: Spring 2020 | Mon & Wed | 3:30-5:10 pm

Location: 510 Lathrop Hall

Credits: 3 | Prereq: None

Limit: 20 students from any discipline

About the Course

Students will investigate the theory, practice, multidisciplinary, and intercultural concepts connected with the recent jazz opera, *Mirror Butterfly: The Migrant Liberation Movement Suite*. Exploring and utilizing local knowledge and creativity, the class will produce and perform a new module of *Mirror Butterfly* at the end of semester. Participants will leave with an expanded vision of how art can bring marginalized communities together to articulate a concrete and actionable plan for change. The class is open to students of all disciplines.

MORE INFORMATION: (608) 890-2718 | GO.WISC.EDU/BARSONRODRIGUEZ

The Spring 2020 Interdisciplinary Arts Residency Program is presented by the UW–Madison Division of the Arts and hosted by the Asian American Studies Program with Associate Professor Peggy Choy as lead faculty. Co-sponsors include the Dance Department, the Mead Witter School of Music, and the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies.



Division of the Arts
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