

Cyrille Aimée

Vocals Cyrille Aimée Guitar Michael Valeanu **Guitar Adrien Moignard** Bass Dylan Shamat Drums **Dani Danor**

PROGRAM

There will be an intermission.

Friday, February 19 @ 8 PM

Prince Theatre

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Cyrille Aimeé is a winner of the Montreux Jazz Festival's International Vocal Competition. the Sarah Vaughan International Vocal Competition and the 2015 DownBeat Critic's Poll ("Rising Star—Female Vocalist").

Aimée was raised primarily in France by her French father and Dominican mother. As a curious child in Samois-sur-Seine, she would sneak out of her bedroom window to wander into the nearby gypsy encampments filled with those attending the annual Django Reinhardt Festival. Aimée quickly fell in love with gypsy music and way of life; years later she would sing on street corners with friends, busking across Europe. While in the midst of one such odyssey, she found herself at the Montreux Jazz Festival, where she won first prize, which provided the financing of her first album.

Aimée was a finalist in Star Academy (the French American Idol). Informed she would have to sing only what she was told, her gypsy spirit rebelled, and in what was a cause célèbre, she left the competition. She now happily tours the world with her band as well as in a duo setting with Brazilian guitarist Diego Figueiredo. Aimée's talents recently caught the attention of Stephen Sondheim, who cast her in an Encores! Special Presentation at New York City's City Center.

The New York Times referred to Aimée's major label debut in August 2014, as "a bravura turn."