



The MultiCultural Center Presents

*Music Performance*



# BUILDING SOLIDARITY

# THROUGH ARTISTIC ACTIVISM

## A MULTIMEDIA CONCERT AND ARTIST TALK

*Gizelxanath Rodriguez  
and Benjamin Barson*

**TUESDAY MAY 27TH, 6:00PM  
MCC THEATER**



Join vocalist/guitarist Gizelxanath Rodriguez and saxophonist/composer Benjamin Barson for an evening of musical performance, social movement histories, and reflections on years of arts and activism. Barson and Rodriguez will be performing both original work and that of revolutionary composers from Latin America and New Orleans. From collaborations with water defenders in Kurdistan and Sonora, to multimedia projects that highlight suppressed histories and forgotten struggles, these two musicians will share some lessons on the importance of, and possibility afforded by, the arts in struggle for a world where many worlds fit.

Gizelxanath Rodriguez is an internationally renowned vocalist, cellist, guitarist, and educator. Her musical work spans a range of styles and cultures. Gizelxanath has led several bands with her partner, Benjamin Barson, including the Afro Yaqui Music Collective, Surrealistas, and Latin Sway. These projects have been presented at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C., by the ASCAP Jazz awards in Los Angeles, and many other leading national venues.

Benjamin Barson is a saxophonist, historian, radical educator, and organizer. He is an assistant professor of music at Bucknell University. He received his PhD in Music from the University of Pittsburgh and recently completed a Fulbright García Robles Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Universidad Autónoma de Baja California in Mexicali, Mexico, and a Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship at Cornell University's Africana Studies & Research Center.



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