



# JAZZ NIGHT AT CARSON

**MARCH 28, 2022 • 7:00 PM • CARSON CENTER**

**AARÓN SERFATY • ENSEMBLE LEADER, ALAJE**

**MICHAEL STEVER • ENSEMBLE LEADER, STEVER COMBO**

**KATIE THIROUX • ENSEMBLE LEADER, THIROUX COMBO**

**USC Thornton**  
School of Music

# PROGRAM

## INDESTRUCTIBLE

Ray Barreto

Ray Barreto is one of the most important percussionists in the history of the music we know as Salsa. His contributions can't be overstated or underestimated. One of his most important albums is *Indestructible*. The name came about after a difficult break up with two of his most accomplished band mates. He recruited a new timbal player and a new singer and recorded this album. We are celebrating fifty years since its recording. All the transcriptions and arrangements have been done by former or current members of ALAJE, all students of various programs within the Contemporary Music Division at the USC Thornton School of Music.

Right before the lockdown, in March of 2020, we played another iconic Barreto album, *Rican-Struction*, then immediately went into isolation. Remote learning and Zoom became the norm. Now that “normal” is on its way, even if we're not there yet, we thought it would be a great idea to remind ourselves that we are indeed “indestructible.” No matter the circumstances, with perseverance, dedication and determination we can get through almost anything.

ALAJE (Afro Latin American Jazz Ensemble) is the brainchild of former student Roberto Miranda and founder of the jazz studies program, Dr. Thom Mason. The original idea of the ensemble was to play music from Latin America in a jazz context and also utilize jazz harmonies and apply them to Latin American music.

*Aarón Serfaty*



Album art courtesy of ViniloBlog

# ALAJE

**Kira Levin**

*vocals and clave*

**Hazle Thunes**

*vocals and maracas*

**Claire Velez**

*vocals*

**Isabella Morcote**

*vocals*

**Sophia Stroud**

*bongo, vocals*

**Dominic Melendez**

*bass, vocals*

**Graham Littlejohn**

*congas*

**Mark Valdes**

*timbales*

**Austen Mendoza**

*piano*

**Justin Gilmore-Gresham**

**Yaseen El Magharbel**

**Addison Tharp**

**Landon Grigsby**

*trumpet*

**Jordan De Tiege**

*baritone sax*

**Connor Monroe**

*tenor sax*

**Ethan Furman**

*alto sax*

**Ryan Kiernan**

**Daron Bedrossian**

**Kenton Luck**

*trombone*

**Aarón Serfaty**

*director, percussion*



# UPCOMING EVENTS

Apr. 1st at 7:00 p.m.

**USC Thornton Winds with the Yellowjackets**

Apr. 5th at 7:30 p.m.

**USC Percussion Group**

Apr. 8th at 8:00 p.m.

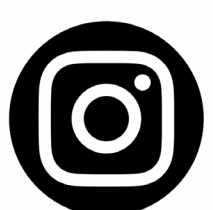
**USC Thornton Concert Choir**

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