TUES & WED, OCT 10 & 11, 7:30 pm
Hodgson Concert Hall

INDIGO GIRLS
AMY RAY
EMILY SALIERS

UGA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
MARK CEDEL, conductor

The program will be announced from the stage.

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Please silence all mobile phones and electronic devices. Photography, video and audio recording, and texting are prohibited during the performance.

#ugapresents
ABOUT THE ARTISTS

INDIGO GIRLS

Released in 1989, Indigo Girls’ eponymous major label debut sold more than two million copies under the power of singles “Closer to Fine” and “Kid Fears” and turned Indigo Girls into one of the most successful folk duos in history. Over a thirty-five-year career that began in clubs around their native Atlanta, Georgia, the multi-Grammy-winning duo of Emily Saliers and Amy Ray has recorded 16 studio albums, sold more than 15 million records, and built a dedicated, enduring following across the globe. Rolling Stone describes them as the “ideal duet partners.”

Beginning in 2012, Indigo Girls embarked on a bold new chapter, collaborating with musical arrangers Sean O’Loughlin (Chris Isaak, Feist, The Decemberists) and Stephen Barber (Rosanne Cash, Alejandro Escovedo, John Legend) to prepare larger-than-life arrangements of their songs to perform with symphonies around the country. The duo found an elusive sonic sweet spot with the project, creating a seamless blend of folk, rock, pop, and classical that elevated their songs to new heights without scarifying any of the emotional intimacy and honesty that have defined their music for decades.

In 2018, these arrangements became available as Indigo Girls Live with the University of Colorado Symphony Orchestra, a 2-CD set and 3-LP package through Rounder Records. Recorded in front of a sold-out audience in Boulder, CO, and mixed by Grammy-winner Trina Shoemaker (Sheryl Crow, Emmylou Harris), the record showcases Indigo Girls at their finest. Spanning material from throughout their over three-decade career, the 22-song set features a mix of reimagined classics and unexpected deep cuts.

Their latest record, Look Long, is a stirring and eclectic collection of songs that finds the duo reunited in the studio with their strongest backing band to date. “We joke about being old, but what is old when it comes to music? We’re still a bar band at heart,” Saliers says. “While our lyrics and writing approach may change, our passion for music feels the same as it did when we were 25 years old.”

“As time has gone on, our audience has become more expansive and diverse, giving me a sense of joy,” Saliers adds. To hear those collective voices raise into one, singing along and overpowering the band itself, one realizes the importance Indigo Girls’ music has in this moment. In our often-terrifying present, we are all in search of a daily refuge, a stolen hour or two, to engage with something that brings us joy, perspective, or maybe just calm. As one bar band once put it, “We go to the doctor, we go to the mountains . . . we go to the Bible, we go through the work out.” For millions, they go to the Indigo Girls. On Look Long they’ll find a creative partnership certain of its bearings, forging a way forward.

MARK CEDEL

Mark Cedel brings a wealth of professional experience to his position as director of orchestral activities. The 2023-24 academic year marks his 30th year at UGA. Prior to his appointment, he was associate conductor of the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra. In his four seasons with that orchestra, he conducted more than 200 performances, appearing on every series offered by the ensemble. Before joining the Charlotte Symphony, Cedel was principal viola and assistant conductor of the Charleston (SC) Symphony Orchestra for nine years. While in Charleston, he served for two seasons as that orchestra’s acting music director. From 1986-1990, he was a member of the artist faculty at the Brevard Music Center and was principal conductor of the Brevard Repertory Training Program.

In addition to directing orchestral activities at UGA, Cedel served as professor of viola from 1994-2002. During that period he performed, toured, and recorded regularly as an extra/substitute violist with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, including its northeast tour with concerts in Carnegie Hall. He returned to teaching viola for the 2009-2010 academic year, while a search was conducted to fill the position.

Cedel has been associated with many orchestras in the southeast. This includes serving as principal viola of the South Carolina Chamber Orchestra and the guest principal viola of the Savannah Symphony, and orchestras in Augusta, Macon, and Jacksonville.

Cedel earned a Bachelor of music degree in viola performance from the Curtis Institute of Music, where he was a student of Joseph de Pasquale, and studied chamber music with members of the Guarneri Quartet, Budapest Quartet, and Beaux Arts Trio. He holds a Masters of music degree in conducting from the North Carolina School of the Arts.

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The origins of the University of Georgia Symphony Orchestra can be traced back to 1941 when Hugh Hodgson conducted the University Little Symphony Orchestra. He led this ensemble until 1950. Records from 1950 until 1960 are still being searched. We do know that from 1960 to 1964, David W. Sweetkind conducted the Little Orchestra.
In 1964, J. Kimball (Kim) Harriman joined the faculty and was the conductor of what was then called the University Civic Symphony Orchestra. This was a true “town and gown” organization and rehearsed in the evenings. Harriman conducted that ensemble until 1973.

Thomas Weaver, a Juilliard-trained violinist, was hired in 1973 to teach violin, play second violin in the Franklin String Quartet, conduct the Georgia Singers and the Women’s Glee Club — and conduct the University Civic Symphony Orchestra. In November 1981, he conducted the last concert of the University Civic Symphony Orchestra. Rehearsals were moved to daytime to promote the growth of an all-student orchestra. For a brief period, the orchestra was known as the University Chamber Symphony. In the fall of 1982, the orchestra was renamed again and was called the University of Georgia Symphony Orchestra. Its first concert was on December 2, 1982, in a program that included the Academic Festival Overture by Brahms and the Symphonie fantastique by Berlioz. Weaver died suddenly from a heart attack on December 8, 1982.

Dr. John H. Corina became the next conductor of the UGASO. A member of the faculty since 1966, he taught oboe, theory, composition and played in the Georgia Woodwind Quintet. He completed the transition to an all-student orchestra. His training of that ensemble earned an invitation for the UGASO to perform at the Music Educators National Conference (MENC) annual meeting that was held in Los Angeles in spring 1988. He remained as conductor until 1990.

From 1990 until 1994, Dr. Thomas Joiner led the orchestra. With degrees from Florida State University and professional experience as a violinist with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, he brought the orchestra to a new level of performance. Special highlights of his tenure include performances in Spivey Hall and a Mother’s Day concert in Atlanta’s Symphony Hall with former Atlanta Symphony Orchestra concertmaster William Preucil as soloist. His final concert with the UGASO was an all-Gershwin concert in the Spring of 1994. Joiner returned to his undergraduate alma mater, Furman University, to conduct their orchestra and teach violin.

The present conductor, Mark Cedel, joined the faculty in September 1994. In addition to conducting the orchestra, he taught viola. After 8 years the school had grown so much that he decided to stop teaching viola and focus on building the orchestra and teaching conducting. During his tenure the orchestra played the inaugural concert in Hodgson Hall in November 1995. In April 1996 the orchestra participated in the UGA Performing Arts Center’s inaugural gala week with a performance of the finale of Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony under the baton of Yoel Levi, music director of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra.

The University of Georgia Symphony Orchestra has performed more than 200 times on the stage of Hodgson Concert Hall.

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University of Georgia Symphony Orchestra
Mark Cedel, conductor
Nicholas Han, assistant conductor

VIOLIN I
Jhonni Campos, concertmaster
Lyu Lian, assistant concertmaster
André Araujo De Souza
Molly Schneider
Alexis Boglan
Brian Roach
Sean Smith
Clarissa Tamara
Lucas Nyman
Adelmo Gimenez
Carlos Breno
Ranjani Vasudevan
Zeyu Yuan
Simms Murray
Ellis Kim
Rea Ayer
Sarah Ling
Alicia Li

VIOLIN II
Sarah Nienhisel, principal
Sage Codispoli, assistant principal
Surya Blassiole
Jen Edwards
Shazan Samnari
Lauren McClary
Garry Fulcher
Andrea Barca
Frances Prager
Zarragorta
Chelsea Afful
Nicholas Olimstead
Kiera Johnson
Yaewon Cho
Atthiri Moreno-Martinez
Chloe James
Lleyton Aguilar
Eileen Cheng
Emma Hu

VIOLA
Bryan Johnson, principal
Nina Nagarajan, assistant principal
Kailey Ford
Jodie Stone
Anna Murphy
Daniel Bocan
Mason Minutella
Clintan Stempen
Jensi Perig
Ashley Belcher
Libby Zavadil
Loxi Simmons

CELLO
Gabriella McClellan, principal
Thomas LaMon, assistant principal
Zach Helms
Ian Koontz
William Slater
Tristan Dempsey
Joshua Aderhold
Olivia Durrence
Charlton Hills
Kemp McArthur
Ocean Liu

BASS
Wuetion Dal Pont, principal
Leonardo Lopes, associate principal
Daniel Pina, assistant principal
Austin Carter
Ricardo Karelisky
Jordan Askew
Madeleine Bower
Kenia Garcia

VIOLA
Emily Elmore, principal
Shana Stone
Isabel Brock

OBOE
Amanda Withrow, principal
Carter Reed, assistant principal
Emma Gordon
Marcus Lewis

CLARINET
Bailey Hume, principal
Aaron Guthrie
Jaden Skelton
Emily Johnston

BASSOON
Ethan Surles, co-principal
Natsia Pizarro, co-principal
Daniel Johnson

HORN
Joshua Wood, principal
Marianna Schaark, assistant principal
Cal Hughes
Jake Wadsworth
Jordan Chase

TRUMPET
Marco Cubillas Bolado, principal
Will Tomaszewski
Andrew Morris
Michael Mank

TROMBONE
David Cain, principal
Trey Heaton
Jonas Ventresca, bass trombone