



## NEWS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 1, 2015

**WHAT:** Dianne Reeves | Beautiful Life

**WHEN:** Friday, October 30, 8 p.m.

**WHERE:** Fine Arts Center Concert Hall  
University of Massachusetts Amherst

**TICKETS:** Call 1-800-999-UMAS or 545-2511 for tickets or go online to  
[www.fineartscenter.com/](http://www.fineartscenter.com/)

**IMAGES:** To download images relating to this press release please go online to  
<https://fac.umass.edu/Online/PressRoom>

### GRAMMY AWARD-WINNING VOCALIST DIANNE REEVES SINGS JAZZ & SOUL AT THE FAC

“The most admired jazz diva since the heyday of Sarah Vaughan, Ella Fitzgerald and Billie Holiday.”  
– *The New York Times*

Five-time Grammy Award-winner Dianne Reeves brings her lush vocals and unparalleled improvisational style to the UMass Fine Arts Center, performing with an all-star band including Peter Martin, Romero Lubambo, Reginald Veal and Terreon Gully. The night’s program is *Beautiful Life*, a rich and diverse mix of jazz and soul based on her latest album by that name, which won the 2015 Grammy for Best Jazz Vocal Album. The performance is on Friday, October 30 at the Fine Arts Center Concert Hall, 8 p.m.

While Reeves is best known for her skilled interpretations of sumptuously beautiful jazz ballads and standards, *Beautiful Life* includes a varied set of jazz/soul, mixed with songs made famous by Fleetwood Mac, Marvin Gaye, Bob Marley, Ani DiFranco and more. This mixed repertoire showcases the artist’s sublime gifts in what is a melding of R&B, Latin and pop elements within the framework of 21<sup>st</sup> century jazz.

As a result of her breathtaking virtuosity, improvisational prowess, and unique jazz and R&B stylings, Reeves has received the Grammy for *Best Jazz Vocal Performance* five times, including for

three consecutive recordings – a Grammy first in any vocal category. Featured in George Clooney’s six-time Academy Award nominated “Good Night, and Good Luck,” Reeves won her fourth Grammy for the film’s soundtrack (she also appeared in the film). She has released 20 studio albums since her debut record in 1982. In May of this year, she received an honorary doctorate from Juilliard.

Reeves has recorded and performed with Wynton Marsalis and the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra. She has also recorded with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra conducted by Daniel Barenboim and was a featured soloist with Sir Simon Rattle and the Berlin Philharmonic. Reeves was the first Creative Chair for Jazz for the Los Angeles Philharmonic and the first singer to ever perform at the famed Walt Disney Concert Hall.

In recent years Reeves has toured the world in a variety of contexts including a program entitled “Sing the Truth,” a musical celebration of Nina Simone which also featured Liz Wright and Angelique Kidjo. She performed at the White House on multiple occasions, including President Obama’s State Dinner for the President of China and the Governors’ Ball. In January 2015 Reeves joined Paul Simon, James Taylor and Bobby McFerrin in a tribute to Michael Brecker at Jazz at Lincoln Center.

Tickets for Dianne Reeves | Beautiful Life are \$50, \$45, \$20; Five College, GCC and 17 and under \$15, \$12, \$10. For tickets call the Box Office at 545-2511, toll-free at 800-999-UMAS, or purchase online at [fineartscenter.com](http://fineartscenter.com). This event is sponsored by Cooley Dickinson Hospital, NEPR, UMass Alumni Association and Hotel UMass.

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## PHOTOS

Hi-res photos are available at <https://fac.umass.edu/Online/PressRoom>

## PRESS PASSES

A limited number of press passes are available. Please contact Shawn Farley at 413-545-4159 or [sfarley@admin.umass.edu](mailto:sfarley@admin.umass.edu).

## Calendar Listing:

UMass Fine Arts Center presents:

### **DIANNE REEVES | BEAUTIFUL LIFE**

**With Peter Martin, Romero Lubambo, Reginald Veal and Terreon Gully**

**Friday, October 30 at 8 p.m., Fine Arts Center Concert Hall**

The lush vocals, unparalleled improvisation and skilled lyric interpretations of Dianne Reeves make her a powerhouse of jazz, and she has four GRAMMY® awards to prove it. Enjoy an evening of jazz as the legendary singer and her all-star quintet perform a rich program ranging from jazz to soul, featuring Bob Marley, Fleetwood Mac and Marvin Gaye classics, as well as sumptuously beautiful jazz ballads. Reeves’ “intimate sense of a song has long made her one of the most compelling vocalists in jazz” – *Seattle Times*

**\$50, \$45, \$20; Five College, GCC and 17 and under \$15, \$12, \$10**

Event Sponsors: Cooley Dickinson Hospital, NEPR, UMass Alumni Association and Hotel UMass