

We Shall Overcome

A Celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Featuring Damien Sneed and Toronto Mass Choir

From Sunday, January 13, 2018 at 7:00pm

This was the 902nd concert in Koerner Hall

Damien Sneed, Leader, piano & vocals

Chenee Campbell, vocals

Markita Knight, vocals

Ayana George, vocals

Anitra McKinney, vocals

Quinn Brown, vocals

Mark Clark, drums

John Matthew Clark, bass

Marquéz Cassidy, keyboards

Toronto Mass Choir

Karen Burke, Co-founder & Director

Inspired by the words and action of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., *We Shall Overcome* showcases repertoire from across the African American music traditions that electrified generations of civil rights activists and defenders with interwoven spoken word from Dr. King's recorded speeches.

This production ties together a living lineage of music and culture that includes traditional gospel, modern gospel, classical, jazz, Broadway, and spirituals. From Aretha Franklin to Wynton Marsalis, Duke Ellington to Stevie Wonder, Nina Simone to Donny Hathaway, and traditional spirituals and music from *The Wiz*, Sneed's unique understanding of each genre allows him to fluidly cover so much musical ground in a single performance.

Composers include Duke Ellington, Damien Sneed, Nina Simone, Stevie Wonder, and Wynton Marsalis, and songbooks of Marvin Gaye, Aretha Franklin, Dionne Warwick, Donny Hathaway, and music from *The Wiz*.

[Damien Sneed](#)

[Toronto Mass Choir](#)

Damien Sneed and Toronto Mass Choir made their Royal Conservatory debuts on January 13, 2018.