



THE SOUL REBELS WITH SPECIAL GUEST BIG FREEDIA

APRIL 9

7:30 PM THURSDAY

**MEMORIAL HALL
BEASLEY-CURTIS AUDITORIUM**

*This evening's program will be announced
from the stage.*

LUMAR LEBLANC, snare drum

DERRICK "OOPS" MOSS, bass drum and percussion

MANUEL PERKINS, sousaphone

MARCUS "RED" HUBBARD, trumpet

JULIAN GOSIN, trumpet

PAUL ROBERTSON, trombone

COREY PEYTON, trombone

ERION WILLIAMS, tenor saxophone

**PART OF THE SOUL REBELS
POETRY IN MOTION TOUR**

THE SOUL REBELS began with an idea—to expand upon the pop music they loved on the radio and the New Orleans brass tradition they grew up on. They took that tradition and blended funk and soul with elements of hip hop, jazz and rock all within a brass band context. The band has built a career around eclectic live shows that harnesses the power of horns and drums in a deep pocket funk with a party-like atmosphere. In this, their first performance at Carolina Performing Arts, they'll take the stage with special guest Big Freedia, with whom they have collaborated on singles from both the band and Big Freedia's most recent albums. This is the band's first performance with Big Freedia since these releases.

It has been a breakout year for The Soul Rebels, who received national attention with a performance on NPR's "Tiny Desk" series, made their debut late night TV appearance on *The Late Show with Stephen Colbert*, headlined at the global TED Conference, and recorded an official soundtrack feature for Universal Pictures' hit comedy *Girls Trip*. The band continues to expand its international reach, touring four continents, with stops in Europe, Australia, China, South Korea, and Japan. Their stage presence has led to live collaborations with the likes of: Nas, G-Eazy, Robin Thicke, Macy Gray, Portugal. The Man, Robert Glasper, among many others, and opening for Lauryn Hill and Nile Rodgers. Most recently, The Soul Rebels released their album *Poetry in Motion* in fall 2019, which has been called their "magnum opus" and "vibrant, energetic and polished" by *OffBeat Magazine*.

Known as the Queen of Bounce music, New Orleans-based hip-hop artist **BIG FREEDIA** began her rise to fame with a series of cult hit singles during the mid 2000's before being tapped for the reality show *Big Freedia Bounces Back*. In 2016, she was featured on Beyoncé's Grammy-winning single, "Formation" and, two years later, in Drake's "Nice For What." Big Freedia released her critically acclaimed album, *3rd Ward Bounce* (which featured Lizzo, among others) on Asylum Records in 2018. In the summer of 2019, the Queen of Bounce debuted her limited run ice cream flavor 'Big Freedia's Bouncin' Beignets' with Ben & Jerry's, graced the cover of *Billboard Magazine*, and was invited by *Vogue Magazine* to be the official host of the live Instagram stream for the 2019 Met Gala. She is also the author of the critically acclaimed memoir *Big Freedia: God Save the Queen Dival*. •

