

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, RIVERSIDE
Department of Music presents

Beats, Circuits, and Beyond: A Solo Set
by Jesse Justice, LA Musician

Florence Bayz Music Series

Dr. Amy Skjerseth, *coordinator*

Wednesday, February 4, 2026

12:00 – 12:50 P.M.

Music Rehearsal Hall, ARTS 157

BEATS, CIRCUITS, AND BEYOND

Los Angeles–based musician Jesse Justice brings his modular synth setup to the Florence Bayz Music Series for an afternoon of experimental sound and improvisation. His current solo practice focuses on the textures of modular synthesis, using an amalgamation of prepared and improvised techniques. In this performance, Justice invites listeners into a sonic landscape where circuitry, improvisation, and collective histories of experimental sound converge.

Modular synthesis brings together individual electronic sound tools and sound-shaping controls that the performer links by hand, creating a custom instrument for each performance. Unlike most electronic instruments, there are no preset sounds or fixed structures. The music takes shape through live choices, small adjustments, and attentive listening, allowing sounds to evolve gradually over the course of the performance.

This approach has roots in experimental music practices that emerged in the mid-20th century, when composers began exploring new technologies and questioning traditional ideas of musical form. Modular synthesis continues this tradition today by emphasizing exploration, flexibility, and real-time decision-making.

For listeners new to experimental or electronic music, this performance invites an open and relaxed way of listening. Rather than focusing on melody or rhythm, audiences may notice changes in the sound's texture, tone, and atmosphere. Sounds may repeat, shift slowly, or linger. There is no single story to follow—listeners may find it helpful to settle in, notice what draws their attention, and experience the sound as it unfolds in the moment.

JESSE JUSTICE

Justice first made his name in LA as a beatmaker before turning toward the Rhodes piano and composing in various jazz styles. As a member of the electronic jazz trio Human Error Club and the collectives Preference Records and The Village, he has co-produced projects spanning neo-soul, hip hop, and exploratory jazz.



Photo by Sam Lee

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