

# OXFORD AMERICAN

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## Announcing *Points South* Live, featuring Buffalo Nichols and Oluwatobi Adewumi

*Oxford American and 21c Museum Hotel Bentonville present a live taping of the  
Points South podcast on March 21—free to the public*

February 25, 2022—CONWAY, AR—The Oxford American and 21c Museum Hotel Bentonville are excited to announce a **live taping of the Oxford American’s *Points South* podcast** set to take place **Monday, March 21, 2022 at 7:00 pm Central Time**. The intimate evening of music and conversation will be held at 21c Museum Hotel Bentonville (200 NE A Street, Bentonville, AR) and is free to the public. Featured guests during the 75-minute program will include folk/blues guitarist **Buffalo Nichols**, playing a short selection of songs, and visual artist **Oluwatobi Adewumi**, both of whom will be in conversation with Oxford American Executive Director and *Points South* host, **Dr. Sara A. Lewis**. Seating is limited, and reservations are required. [Visit the registration page here.](#)

The event is meant to celebrate the works of two accomplished Southerners while putting music and visual art in conversation, specifically the lived experiences that have informed and inspired both men in their respective crafts.



“Part of my intent, making myself more comfortable with [*Buffalo Nichols*], is putting more Black stories into the genres of folk and blues,” guitarist, songwriter, and vocalist Buffalo Nichols explains. “Listening to this record, I want more Black people to hear themselves in this music that is truly theirs.” That desire is embodied in his self-titled debut album—Fat Possum’s first solo blues signing in nearly 20 years—released in October 2021. While acknowledging the joy, exuberance and triumph contained in the blues, Nichols looks intently at the genre’s origins, which harken back to complicated and dire circumstances for Black Americans. With this in mind, Nichols says there is a missing link, which he’s often used as a compass: Black stories aren’t being told responsibly in the

genre anymore. To begin changing that, Buffalo Nichols gets the chance to tell his own story in the right way.

Oluwatobi Adewumi is a Contemporary artist who focuses on the sociocultural subject of Black Americans through his multimedia drawings. His work explores his personal journey of having been born in Nigeria then moving and assimilating into American Culture in conservative Arkansas.

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“My practice engages in a critical commentary of the past to learn and unlearn how history shapes our understanding of the present and, in turn, impacts our perception of the future. I represent in my work the expressions of the often-overlooked faces of Black African immigrants across the diaspora.” His drawings are between realism/abstract figures and portraits layered out to make it simple for his audience by telling a story in a story. Some of his best tools are charcoal, and acrylic paint which he can manipulate and use freely to bring the depth of the subject as he tackles the story behind each artwork.



This is the first event of our 2022 *Points South* Live series. Other locations will include Austin, TX, Nashville, TN, and Durham, NC—more information on dates and featured artists to be announced.

Points South launched in September 2019 and is supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the National Endowment for the Arts. The podcast features thought-provoking stories and music from the South, reimagining works from the *Oxford American* magazine, engaging vital Southern writers, artists, and thinkers in conversation, and featuring live performances recorded at intimate concert series.

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## **ABOUT OXFORD AMERICAN**

Founded in 1992, the Oxford American (OA) is a nonprofit arts organization whose mission is to explore the complexity and vitality of the American South through exceptional writing, music, and visual art.

## **ABOUT 21c MUSEUM HOTEL BENTONVILLE**

Tucked just off the corner of the town square, 21c Museum Hotel is a 104-room boutique hotel, contemporary art museum, and award-winning restaurant all in one. Hotel guests and local adventurers alike can enjoy cultural programming, rotating exhibitions of contemporary art, seasonal menus at The Hive restaurant, and the iconic green penguin.

