



WASHINGTON  
PERFORMING ARTS

# 2022/23 SEASON THE WORLD IN OUR CITY



## JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER ORCHESTRA with WYNTON MARSALIS

SUNDAY, FEB. 26, 7 p.m.

THE JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS  
CONCERT HALL



WASHINGTON  
PERFORMING ARTS

# 2022/23 SEASON

## THE WORLD IN OUR CITY

Join Us at The John F. Kennedy Center Concert Hall!



### ORCHESTRE SYMPHONIQUE DE MONTRÉAL

Mar. 6, 8 p.m.

Led by celebrated Music Director Rafael Payare, hear a program of Mahler and Dorothy Chang, and Bartók accompanied by pianist Yefim Bronfman.



### TAIWAN PHILHARMONIC

Apr. 19, 8 p.m.

A first-ever Washington Performing Arts appearance in a wide-ranging program, joined by acclaimed violin virtuoso Paul Huang.

*Special thanks: National Endowment for the Arts, Susan S. Angell, and Dr. Gary Mather and Ms. Christina Co Mather*



### HELSINKI PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

May 8, 8 p.m.

Finland's foremost orchestra salutes composers Jean Sibelius and Kaija Saariaho, with acclaimed flute soloist Claire Chase.

*Special thanks: His Excellency Mikko Hautala, Ambassador of the Republic of Finland*

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**Present**

# **JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER ORCHESTRA with WYNTON MARSALIS**

SUNDAY, FEB. 26, 7 p.m.

THE JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS  
CONCERT HALL

***Tonight's program will be announced from the stage.***

*Tonight's performance is approximately 90 minutes.*

*There is no intermission.*

*This performance is made possible through the generous support of the following sponsors: an anonymous donor; Rudy Burwell and Mona Mohib/Encompass Supply; Kerrien Suarez; and Gary and Silvia Yacoubian.*

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**MARS**



# The Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis

**Wynton Marsalis** ... Music Director, Trumpet

**Fareed Simpson-Hankins** ... Trumpet

**Michael Rodriguez** ... Trumpet

**Marcus Printup**... Trumpet

**Vincent Gardner** ... Trombone

**Chris Crenshaw** ... Trombone, The Golkin Family Chair

**Elliot Mason** ... Trombone

**Sherman Irby** ... Alto and Soprano Saxophones, Flute, Clarinet

**Ted Nash** ... Alto and Soprano Saxophones, Flute, Clarinet

**Chris Lewis** ... Tenor and Soprano Saxophones, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet

**Abdias Armenteros** ... Tenor and Soprano Saxophones, Clarinet

**Paul Nedzela** ... Baritone and Soprano Saxophones, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet

**Dan Nimmer** ... Piano, The Zou Family Chair

**Carlos Henriquez** ... Bass, The Mandel Family Chair in honor of Kathleen B. Mandel

**Obed Calvaire** ... Drums

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS



### Jazz at Lincoln Center

With the world-renowned Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra (JLCO) and guest artists spanning genres and generations, Jazz at Lincoln Center produces thousands of performances, education, and broadcast events each season in its home in New York City (Frederick P. Rose Hall, "The House of Swing") and around the world, for people of all ages. Jazz at Lincoln

Center is led by Chairman Clarence Otis, Managing and Artistic Director Wynton Marsalis, and Executive Director Greg Scholl. Please visit us at [jazz.org](http://jazz.org).

The Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, comprising 15 of the finest jazz soloists and ensemble players today, has been the Jazz at Lincoln Center resident orchestra since 1988 and spends over a third of the year on tour across the world. Featured in all aspects of Jazz at Lincoln Center's programming, this remarkably versatile orchestra performs and leads educational events in New York, across the U.S. and around the globe; in concert halls; dance venues; jazz clubs; public parks;

and with symphony orchestras; ballet troupes; local students; and an ever-expanding roster of guest artists. Under Music Director Wynton Marsalis, the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra performs a vast repertoire, from rare historic compositions to Jazz at Lincoln Center-commissioned works, including compositions and arrangements by Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Fletcher Henderson, Thelonious Monk, Mary Lou Williams, Dizzy Gillespie, Benny Goodman, Charles Mingus, and current and former Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra members Wynton Marsalis, Wycliffe Gordon, Ted Nash, Victor Goines, Sherman Irby, Chris Crenshaw, and Carlos Henriquez.

Throughout the last decade, the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra has performed with many of the world's leading symphony orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic, Cleveland Orchestra, Philadelphia Orchestra, Czech Philharmonic, Berlin Philharmonic, Boston Symphony Orchestra, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, London Symphony Orchestra, Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, and many others. Marsalis' three major works for full symphony orchestra and jazz orchestra, *All Rise* - Symphony No. 1 (1999), *Swing Symphony* - Symphony No. 3 (2010), and *The Jungle* - Symphony No. 4 (2016), continue to be the focal point of Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra's symphonic collaborations.

The Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra has also been featured in several

education and performance residencies in the last few years, including those in Melbourne, Australia; Sydney, Australia; Chautauqua, New York; Prague, Czech Republic; Vienna, Austria; London, England; São Paulo, Brazil; and many others.

Education is a major part of Jazz at Lincoln Center's mission; its educational activities are coordinated with concert and Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra tour programming. These programs, many of which feature Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra members, include the celebrated Jazz for Young People™ family concert series; the Essentially Ellington High School Jazz Band Competition & Festival; the Jazz for Young People™ Curriculum; Let Freedom Swing, educational residencies; workshops; and concerts for students and adults worldwide. Jazz at Lincoln Center educational programs reach over 110,000 students, teachers, and general audience members.

Jazz at Lincoln Center, NPR Music, and WBGO have partnered to create the next generation of jazz programming in public radio: *Jazz Night in America*. The series showcases today's vital jazz scene while also underscoring the genre's storied history. Hosted by bassist Christian McBride, the program features hand-picked performances from across the country, woven with the colorful stories of the artists behind them. *Jazz Night in America* and Jazz at Lincoln Center's radio archive can be found at [jazz.org/radio](http://jazz.org/radio).



In 2015, Jazz at Lincoln Center launched Blue Engine Records ([www.jazz.org/blueengine](http://www.jazz.org/blueengine)), a new platform to make its vast archive of recorded concerts available to jazz audiences everywhere. The label is dedicated to releasing new studio and live recordings as well as archival recordings from past Jazz at Lincoln Center performances, and its first record—*Live in Cuba*, recorded on a historic 2010 trip to Havana by the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis—was released in October 2015. *Big Band Holidays* was released in December 2015, *The Abyssinian Mass* came out in March 2016, *The Music of John Lewis* was released in March 2017, and the JLCO's *Handful of Keys* came out in September 2017. Blue Engine's *United We Swing: Best of the Jazz at Lincoln Center Galas* features the Wynton Marsalis Septet and an array of special guests, with all proceeds going toward Jazz at Lincoln Center's education initiatives. Blue Engine's most recent album releases include 2020's *A Swingin' Sesame Street Celebration* and 2021's *The Democracy Suite* featuring the JLCO Septet with Wynton Marsalis.

For more information on Jazz at Lincoln Center, please visit [jazz.org](http://jazz.org).



### **Wynton Marsalis**

Music Director,  
Trumpet, JLCO

**Wynton Marsalis** is the Managing and Artistic Director of Jazz at Lincoln Center. Born in

New Orleans, Louisiana in 1961 to a musical family, Mr. Marsalis was gifted his first trumpet at age 6 by

Al Hirt. By 8, he began playing in the famed Fairview Baptist Church Band led by Danny Barker. Yet it was not until he turned 12 that Marsalis began his formal training on the trumpet. Subsequently, Wynton began performing in bands all over the city, from the New Orleans Philharmonic and New Orleans Youth Orchestra to a funk band called the Creators. His passion for music rapidly escalated. As a young teenager fresh out of high school, Wynton moved to New York City in 1979 to attend The Juilliard School to study classical music. Once there, however, he found that jazz was calling him. His career quickly launched when he traded Juilliard for Art Blakey's band, The Jazz Messengers. By 19, Wynton hit the road with his own band and has been touring the world ever since. From 1981 to date, Wynton has performed 4,777 concerts in 849 distinct cities and 64 countries around the world. Mr. Marsalis made his recording debut as a leader in 1982 and has since recorded 110 jazz and classical albums, four alternative records, and released five DVDs. In total, he has recorded 1,539 songs at the time of this writing. Marsalis is the winner of 9 Grammy Awards, and his oratorio *Blood on the Fields* was the first jazz composition to win the Pulitzer Prize for Music. He's the only musician to win a Grammy Award in two categories, jazz and classical, during the same year (1983, 1984).

Mr. Marsalis has solidified himself as an internationally acclaimed musician, composer and bandleader, educator, and advocate of American culture. As a composer, his body of work includes over 600 original songs, 11 ballets, four symphonies, eight suites, two chamber pieces, one string quartet, two masses, one

violin concerto, and in 2021, a tuba concerto. Included in this rich body of compositions is *Sweet Release; Jazz: Six Syncopated Movements; Jump Start and Jazz; Citi Movement/Griot New York; At the Octoroon Balls; In This House, On This Morning*; and *Big Train*. As part of his work at Jazz at Lincoln Center, Wynton has produced and performed countless new collaborative compositions, including the ballet *Them Twos*, for a 1999 collaboration with the New York City Ballet. That same year, he premiered the monumental work *All Rise*, commissioned and performed by the New York Philharmonic along with the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra and the Morgan State University Choir. *All Rise* was performed with the Tulsa Symphony Orchestra as part of the remembrance of the centennial anniversary of the Tulsa Race Massacre in June 2021. Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Wynton and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra have released 7 full-length albums and 4 singles on Blue Engine Records.

Mr. Marsalis is also a globally respected teacher and spokesman for music education. For Jazz, Wynton led the effort to construct Jazz at Lincoln Center's new home—Frederick P. Rose Hall—the first education, performance, and broadcast facility devoted to jazz, which opened in October 2004. He conducts educational programs for students of all ages and hosts the popular Jazz for Young People™ concerts produced by Jazz at Lincoln Center. In addition to his work at JLCO, Wynton is also the Founding Director of Jazz Studies at the Juilliard School. Mr. Marsalis

has written and is the host of the video series *Marsalis on Music*, the radio series *Making the Music*, and a weekly conversation series titled *Skain's Domain*. He has written and co-written nine books, including two children's books, *Squeak, Rumble, Whomp! Whomp! Whomp!* and *Jazz ABZ: An A to Z Collection of Jazz Portraits*, both illustrated by Paul Rogers. Wynton has received such accolades as having been appointed Messenger of Peace by United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan (2001), The National Medal of Arts (2005), and The National Medal of Humanities (2016). In December 2021, Marsalis and Jazz at Lincoln Center were awarded the Key to New York City by Mayor Bill de Blasio. Marsalis has received honorary doctorates from 39 universities and colleges throughout the U.S, including Harvard, Yale, Princeton, and Tulane University in New Orleans. Wynton Marsalis' core beliefs and foundation for living are based on the principles of jazz. He promotes individual creativity (improvisation), collective cooperation (swing), gratitude and good manners (sophistication), and faces adversity with persistent optimism (the blues).

### **Abdias Armenteros**

Tenor and Soprano Saxophones, Clarinet

**Abdias Armenteros** is a native of Miami, Florida, where he attended New World School of the Arts High School. He began to play the saxophone at the age of 8 and began to play jazz in the 9th grade. After getting into New World, he was able to travel to places like New



York City to compete in events like Essentially Ellington with the jazz band (which the school won in 2016), and Kagoshima, Japan, representing the city of Miami and the United States by being the only non-Asian group to perform in the Kagoshima Asian Arts Youth Festival. He has also done various summer programs such as the Brubeck Summer Jazz Colony and the Summer Jazz Academy with Jazz at Lincoln Center. Abdias is currently in his 1st year of his master's degree at Juilliard as a Jazz Studies Major after completing his undergraduate degree at the prestigious school. Since being in New York, he has shared the bandstand with world-renowned artists like Wynton Marsalis, Ben Vereen, Aloe Blacc, Victor Lewis, Arlo Parks, and performs regularly at different clubs and venues in the city with other well-known musicians in the city while continuing his studies at school. Abdias is a firm believer that music is healing, and we're living in a time where we need healing the most.

### **Obed Calvaire**

Drums, JLCO

**Obed Calvaire**, a native of Miami and of Haitian descent, is a graduate with both a master and bachelor's degree of music from one of America's premiere private music conservatories in the nation, Manhattan School of Music. He received his bachelor's degree in 2003, completing the undergraduate degree requirements in three years and receiving his master's in 2005. Calvaire has performed and recorded with artists such as Wynton Marsalis, Seal, Eddie Palmieri, Vanessa Williams, Richard Bona, SFJazz Collective, David Foster, Mary J. Blige, Stefon Harris, The

Clayton Brothers Quintet, Mike Stern, Kurt Rosenwinkel, Peter Cincotti, Monty Alexander, Music Soulchild, Nellie McKay, Yellow Jackets, Joshua Redman, Steve Turre, and Lizz Wright. He has also performed with large ensembles such as the Village Vanguard Orchestra, Metropole Orchestra, the Mingus Big Band, Maria Schneider, The Roy Hargrove Big Band, and the Bob Mintzer Big Band. Currently, Obed Calvaire can be found playing with the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, Dave Holland, Sean Jones, and Yosvany Terry, among others.

### **Chris Crenshaw**

Trombone, JLCO

**Chris Crenshaw** was born in Thomson, Georgia on December 20, 1982. Since birth, he has been driven by and surrounded by music. Playing piano since age three, his love for piano led to his first gig with Echoes of Joy, his father Casper's gospel quartet group. He started playing the trombone at 11 eventually studying with Steve Pruitt, Dr. Douglas Farwell, and Wycliffe Gordon. He attended Thomson High School, Valdosta State University, and the Juilliard School earning a master's degree in Jazz Studies in 2007. In 2006 after a year at Juilliard, Crenshaw joined the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra and has contributed to the JLCO as a trombonist, composer, arranger, transcriber, and conductor. He has appeared as a sideman on fellow JLCO trumpeter Marcus Printup's *Ballads All Night*. In 2012 he composed *God's Trombones*, a spiritually focused work which was premiered by the orchestra at Jazz at Lincoln Center. In 2017, Crenshaw was commissioned to write an original suite called *The Fifties: A Prism* based

on jazz in the 1950s. Along with *The Fifties* he also has an album with his own group, The Georgia Horns, entitled *Live at Dizzy's Club*.

### **Vincent Gardner**

Trombone, JLCO

**Vincent Gardner** was born in Chicago in 1972 and was raised in Hampton, Virginia. After singing and playing piano, violin, saxophone, and French horn at an early age, he decided on the trombone at age 12. He attended Florida A&M University and the University of North Florida. He soon caught the ear of Mercer Ellington, who hired Gardner for his first professional job. He moved to Brooklyn, New York after graduating from college, completed a world tour with Lauryn Hill in 2000, and then joined the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra. Gardner has served as Instructor at The Juilliard School, as Visiting Instructor at Florida State University and Michigan State University, and as Adjunct Instructor at The New School. He is currently the Director of the Jazz at Lincoln Center Youth Orchestra, and he has contributed many arrangements to the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra and other ensembles. In 2009 he was commissioned by Jazz at Lincoln Center to write *The Jesse B. Semple Suite*, a 60-minute suite inspired by the short stories of Langston Hughes. In addition, Gardner is a popular instructor at Jazz at Lincoln Center's ongoing jazz education program, Swing University, teaching courses on bebop and more. Gardner is featured on a number of notable recordings and has recorded five CDs as a leader for Steeplechase Records. He has performed with The

Duke Ellington Orchestra, Bobby McFerrin, Harry Connick, Jr., The Saturday Night Live Band, Chaka Khan, A Tribe Called Quest, and many others. Gardner was chosen as the "#1 Rising Star Trombonist" in the 2014 DownBeat Critics Poll.

### **Carlos Henriquez**

Bass, JLCO

**Carlos Henriquez** was born in 1979 in the Bronx, New York. He studied music at a young age, played guitar through junior high school and took up the bass while enrolled in The Juilliard School's Music Advancement Program. He entered LaGuardia High School of Music & Arts and Performing Arts and was involved with the LaGuardia Concert Jazz Ensemble which went on to win first place in Jazz at Lincoln Center's Essentially Ellington High School Jazz Band Competition & Festival in 1996. In 1998, swiftly after high school, Henriquez joined the Wynton Marsalis Septet and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, touring the world and featured on more than 25 albums. Henriquez has performed with artists including Chucho Valdés, Paco De Lucía, Tito Puente, the Marsalis Family, Willie Nelson, Bob Dylan, Stevie Wonder, Lenny Kravitz, Marc Anthony, and many others. He has been a member of the music faculty at Northwestern University School of Music since 2008 and was music director of the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra's cultural exchange with the Cuban Institute of Music with Chucho Valdés in 2010. His debut album as a bandleader, *The Bronx Pyramid*, came out in September 2015 on Jazz at Lincoln Center's Blue Engine Records and

his most recent album, *The South Bronx Story*, was nominated for a Grammy this year.

### **Sherman Irby**

Alto and Soprano Saxophones, Flute, Clarinet, JLCO

**Sherman Irby** was born and raised in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, Sherman began playing music at the age of 12, almost immediately recognizing that it was his life's calling. Upon graduating high school—during which he had the opportunity to play and record with Gospel immortal James Cleveland—Sherman attended Clark Atlanta University, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in Music Education. He joined Atlanta-based piano legend Johnny O'Neal's quintet in 1991. After moving to New York in 1994, Sherman quickly connected with the fertile and vital scene at Smalls, where he was a regular until 1997. Here Sherman caught the attention of Blue Note Records, for which he recorded his first two albums, *Full Circle* and *Big Mama's Biscuits*, released in 1996 and 1998 respectively. During the Smalls period, Sherman also toured the U.S. and the Caribbean with the Boys Choir of Harlem in 1995; was a member of the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra from 1995 to 1997 and then rejoined again; recorded and toured with Marcus Roberts and participated in the incomparable Betty Carter's Jazz Ahead program during those same years; and began his four-year stint with Roy Hargrove in 1997. After departing Roy Hargrove's ensemble, Sherman shifted his primary focus to his own group. Although this was his primary commitment, Irby took the opportunity to join the final ensemble of the peerless Elvin Jones in 2004,

and after Elvin's passing, joined Papo Vazquez's Pirates Troubadours. From 2003-2011, Sherman was the regional director for Jazz Masters Workshop, a mentoring program for young children. He has served as Artist-in-Residence for Jazz Camp West, and an instructor for the Monterey Jazz Festival Band Camp. He is also a former board member for CubaNOLA Collective. Recognizing the shift in economics of the record industry, Sherman left Blue Note to form Black Warrior Records, releasing *Black Warrior*, *Faith*, *Organ Starter*, *Live at The Otto Club*, *Cerulean Canvas* and Andy Farber's, *This Could Be the Start of Something Big*. Sherman, along with most members of the JLCO, has arranged much of the vast library of music that they have performed over the past 16 years. He has also been commissioned to compose new works, including *Twilight Sounds*, his Dante-inspired ballet, *Inferno* and *Musings of Cosmic Stuff*. Even with the orchestra's busy schedule, Sherman was a regular member of the McCoy Tyner Quartet, and continues to perform with his own group, Momentum.

### **Chris Lewis**

Tenor and Soprano Saxophones, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet

**Chris Lewis** has quickly established himself as an in-demand saxophonist and educator on both coasts of the United States. Lewis has played and worked with artists such as Wynton Marsalis, Herbie Hancock, Michael Bubl , Eric Reed, Terrell Stafford, The Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, John Beasley's MONK'estra, the Vanguard Jazz Orchestra, and the Count Basie Orchestra. He has also worked on

numerous soundtracks and can be seen on camera with shows on Amazon Prime and HBO/CNN Films. In addition, Lewis has taught clinics on small and large ensemble playing, as well as harmony and improvisation at numerous camps, festivals and universities including the University of Melbourne, the University of California – Los Angeles (UCLA) Summer Jazz Intensive Workshop and has served as a guest clinician for Jazz at Lincoln Center’s regional *Essentially Ellington* festival. Lewis currently resides in New York City where he maintains a busy playing and teaching schedule.

### **Elliot Mason**

Trombone, JLCO

**Elliot Mason** was born in England into a family of jazz musicians. Mr. Mason began studying trumpet at age four with his father, who was a trumpeter, trombonist, and educator. At age seven, struck with an overwhelming curiosity in his father’s trombone, young Mason soon switched his focus from the trumpet. Mr. Mason received a full tuition scholarship to attend Berklee College of Music at age sixteen. After graduating from Berklee at nineteen, Mr. Mason moved to New York City where he distinguished himself as a respected and highly in demand trombone/bass trumpet player. In 2007, Elliot Mason was invited to become a member of the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, directed by Wynton Marsalis. While continuing to perform with the JLCO, Mr. Mason co-leads the Mason Brothers Quintet with his brother Brad, and leads his own band Cre8tion. Since 2016, Mr.

Mason has been a faculty member at the Juilliard School of Music. He also runs his own private music studio in NYC. Mr. Mason is endorsed by B.A.C. musical instruments, and currently plays on his own signature series line of custom trombones that he co-designed.

### **Ted Nash**

Alto and Soprano Saxophones, Flute, Clarinet, JLCO

**Ted Nash** enjoys an extraordinary career as a performer, conductor, composer, writer, and educator. Born in Los Angeles, Nash’s interest in music started at an early age, encouraged by his father, trombonist Dick Nash, and uncle, reedman Ted Nash, both well-known studio and jazz musicians. Nash blossomed early, a “young lion” before the term became marketing vernacular. Ted Nash has been a composer since he was fifteen. His album *Portrait in Seven Shades* was recorded by the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra and was released in 2010. The album features the first composition released by the JLCO featuring original music by a band member other than bandleader Wynton Marsalis. It was credited by Ted Panken in *Downbeat Magazine* as marking a new direction for the Orchestra. For this work Nash received his first Grammy nomination as best arranger. Nash’s work often addresses and embraces themes of cultural and social importance. He grew up in a household of open-mindedness and social awareness—Nash’s parents, in addition to being wonderful musicians, were civil rights activists whose work helped

improve the lives of so many people. Nash's Grammy-winning recording, *Presidential Suite: Eight Variations on Freedom* won the 2017 Best Large Jazz Ensemble Album Grammy Award. The album includes "Spoken at Midnight," which won the 2017 Best Instrumental Composition Grammy Award. Nash's arrangement of "We Three Kings," featured on the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis' *Big Band Holidays* album, was nominated for the 2017 Best Instrumental Or A Cappella Arrangement Grammy Award. In 2017 Nash received the Composer of the Year award by the Jazz Journalists Association.

### **Paul Nedezela**

Baritone and Soprano Saxophones, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, JLCO

**Paul Nedezela** was born and raised in New York City. He joined the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra in 2014 and has also played with many renowned artists and ensembles, including (in alphabetical order) Ruben Blades, Bill Charlap, Chick Corea, Paquito D'Rivera, Kenny Garrett, Benny Golson, Branford Marsalis, Christian McBride, Kurt Rosenwinkel, Wayne Shorter, Frank Sinatra Jr., and The Vanguard Jazz Orchestra. Paul released his debut album, *Introducing Paul Nedzela*, in 2019. He has performed in Twyla Tharp's Broadway show, *Come Fly Away*, as well as in major festivals around the world, including but not limited to, The Monterey Jazz Festival, The Newport Jazz Festival, The Detroit Jazz Festival, The Banff Music Festival, The International Montreal Jazz Festival, The iLoveJazz Festival in Brazil, The Valencia Jazz Festival in Spain, The

Umbria Jazz Festival in Italy, and The American Festival of the Arts in Doha, Qatar. While still pursuing music, Paul graduated with honors in 2006 from McGill University in Montreal with a bachelor of arts degree in Mathematics. A recipient of the Samuel L. Jackson scholarship award, he continued his musical education at The Juilliard School and graduated with a master of music degree in 2008.

### **Dan Nimmer**

Piano, JLCO

**Dan Nimmer** was born in 1982 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. As a young man, Nimmer's family inherited a piano and he started playing by ear. He studied classical piano and eventually became interested in jazz. At the same time, he began playing gigs around Milwaukee. Upon graduation from high school, Nimmer left Milwaukee to study music at Northern Illinois University. It didn't take him long to become one of Chicago's busiest piano players. Working a lot in the Chicago scene, Nimmer decided to leave school and make the big move to New York City where he immediately emerged in the New York scene. In 2005, a year after moving to New York City, he became a member of both the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra and the Wynton Marsalis Quintet. Nimmer has performed and recorded with Jimmy Cobb, Norah Jones, Willie Nelson, Renée Fleming, Houston Person, Fareed Haque, George Benson, Lewis Nash, and many more. He has released six of his own trio albums on the Venus label (Japan).

## **Marcus Printup**

Trumpet, JLCO

**Marcus Printup** was born and raised in Conyers, Georgia. His first musical experiences were hearing the sanctified and soulful Gospel music his parents (Ann and Bobby), grandparents (J.C.) and older sister (Angela) sang in church. While attending the University of North Florida on a music scholarship, he won the International Trumpet Guild Jazz Trumpet competition. In 1991, Printup's life changed when he met his mentor, the great pianist Marcus Roberts, who introduced him to Wynton Marsalis. He subsequently joined Roberts as his road manager/understudy for 2 years. 1993 was a banner year for Printup. He performed for the first time with Marsalis in the latter's collaboration with the New York City Ballet, *Jazz In Six Syncopated Movements*, which led to Printup's induction into the then Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra. Also, during this time, Printup was noticed by Jazz legend, Betty Carter. Ms. Carter invited Printup to be in her inaugural and prestigious Betty Carter Jazz Ahead group, performing in a series of concerts at the Brooklyn Academy of Music. Printup has performed and or recorded with Marcus Roberts, Betty Carter, Dianne Reeves, Guru, Madeline Peyroux, Ted Nash, Dianne Schuur, Cyrus Chestnut, and Wycliffe Gordon, among many others. He has recorded over 15 records as a leader, including his most recent *Gentle Rain* (2020) featuring his wife, Riza Printup, on the Harp. He made a big screen appearance in the 1999 movie *Playing by Heart* and recorded on the film's soundtrack. Education is

extremely important to Printup, as he is an in-demand clinician teaching middle schools, high schools, and colleges across the U.S. and abroad. He also holds the position of Adjunct Professor of Music at Montclair State University. August 22nd has been declared "Marcus Printup Day" in his hometown of Conyers, Georgia.

## **Kenny Rampton**

Trumpet, JLCO

**Kenny Rampton** is a New York City-based trumpet player, arranger, and composer, a full-time member of the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis and is the man behind the sound of the trumpet on the iconic television show *Sesame Street*. With over three decades of experience as a successful recording and performing artist, Rampton is deeply committed to sharing his passion and knowledge of music with students from around the world. In addition to his role as an education instructor for Jazz at Lincoln Center, Rampton is the founder and artistic director of his own nonprofit educational organization Jazz Outreach Initiative, based in his hometown of Las Vegas, NV. Throughout his long and illustrious career, his signature style and versatility has led to many prestigious engagements, including touring as a member of the Ray Charles Orchestra, performing with notable jazz artists and ensembles such as Illinois Jacquet, Lionel Hampton, Gunther Schuller, The Christian McBride Big Band, The Chico O'Farrill Afro-Cuban Jazz Orchestra, Bebo Valdes' Afro-Cuban All-Stars, and The Mingus Big Band, and playing in a multitude of

Broadway shows, including *Anything Goes*, *Finian's Rainbow*, *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*, *The Wiz*, *Young Frankenstein*, *The Color Purple*, *Spamalot*, *The Producers*, *In the Heights*, and *Chicago*. Rampton has also worked with several pop artists and groups, including Katy Perry, Matchbox Twenty, and Chaka Khan. In addition to his trumpet playing, Rampton is an accomplished composer and bandleader in his own right. "Until Next Time," an original composition from his first solo album, *Moon Over Babylon*, was featured in the 2017 Broadway revival of *Six Degrees of Separation*. In 2015, Rampton collaborated with NYC Blues Hall of Fame artist Bill Sims, Jr. on the music for *Paradise Blue*, a play written by award-winning playwright Dominique Morisseau and directed by Ruben Santiago-Hudson. In 2018, Rampton expanded his music for the play into *The Paradise Blue Suite*, which he premiered with the Kenny Rampton Octet at Dizzy's Club at JLCO. He enjoys teaching private students from all over the world and has taught trumpet as an adjunct faculty member at The New School in New York City.

### **Michael Rodriquez**

Trumpet

Grammy Award-winning artist **Michael Rodriguez** was born in Queens, New York and raised in Miami. Inspired to pursue music by his father Roberto Rodriguez, he studied at the University of Miami, soon transferring to The New School in New York, where he received his bachelor of arts degree. Rodriguez has performed and toured with Clark Terry, Bobby Watson, Quincy Jones, Joe Lovano, Toshiko Akiyoshi

Orchestra, Jessica Simpson, Chico O'Farrill Orchestra, Wynton Marsalis and the JLCO, and the Lincoln Center Afro-Latin Jazz Orchestra. A member of Charlie Haden's Liberation Music Orchestra, Rodriguez has also performed and traveled with Jon Faddis, Carla Bley, Kenny Barron, Conrad Herwig, Clayton Brothers Quintet, Harry Connick, Jr., Bob Mintzer, Eddie Palmieri, Herbie Hancock, Chick Corea, and Smithsonian Jazz Orchestra. He and his brother Robert have issued four albums together: *Introducing the Rodriguez Brothers*, *Conversations*, *Mood Swing*, and *Impromptu*, which received a Grammy nomination for Best Latin Jazz Album. Rodriguez performed on Haden's Grammy Award-winning album: *Land of the Sun*, and the Liberation Music Orchestra's *Not in Our Name*, among other critical works. In 2008, Rodriguez joined the Gonzalo Rubalcaba Quintet; in 2019, Chick Corea's Grammy Award-winning Spanish Heart Band. He issued his recent release *Pathways* on Rodbrosmusic, the label he co-owns with Robert.

### **Fareed Simpson-Hankins**

Trumpet

**Fareed Simpson-Hankins** is a trumpet player, producer, composer, educator, and bandleader born and raised in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. His trumpet playing is inspired by the sound of Miles Davis, the technical virtuosity of Dizzy Gillespie, the soulfulness of Lee Morgan, the confidence of Freddie Hubbard, and the joy and spirit of Louis Armstrong.

He first picked up the trumpet at eight years old. As a youth, he studied music at the Mount Airy Cultural



Center Jazz Program, Temple PREP, and graduated from Central High School. He played at local venues at a young age with Developing Excellence, Inc. and was mentored by Byard Lancaster. He acquired a love for music as a child when his parents practiced and brought him to their performances. He also learned from playing spirituals and gospel music in the church he grew up in, Shiloh Temple Church of God in Christ. He attended Temple University having had the opportunity to study with some of the finest trumpet players and veteran jazz musicians. Since graduating, he has performed with Bootsy Collins; The Clayton-Hamilton Big Band; The Philly POPS Jazz Orchestra of Philadelphia; Arturo O’Farrill and The Afro Latin Jazz Orchestra; Orrin Evans and The Captain Black Big Band; and Darcy James Argue’s Secret Society.

Recently, he has been seen on PBS, heard on WRTI 90.1, and has produced The Second Line Bebop Series – a web series that premiered on YouTube in 2022. He has performed at the 2017 Jazz is Back Festival in Grožnjan, Croatia, and at the 2016 North Sea Jazz Festival, in Rotterdam. He also won an Outstanding Soloist Award at the 2020 Jack Rudin Jazz Championship, hosted by Jazz at Lincoln Center. He currently leads his own quintet as well as co-leads Brothers.Ink with his brother. In 2019, he was featured on Temple University’s “Constant Renaissance”, which was nominated for a Grammy.

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# ABOUT WASHINGTON PERFORMING ARTS

One of the most established and honored performing arts institutions in America, Washington Performing Arts has engaged for more than half a century with artists, audiences, students, and civic life. The city is truly our stage: for decades, in venues ranging from concert halls and clubs to public parks, we have presented a tremendous range of artists and art forms, from the most distinguished symphony orchestras to both renowned and emerging artists in classical music, gospel music, jazz, international genres, and more. Washington Performing Arts also has an ever-expanding artistic and educational presence on the internet, addressing the programming challenges of this time of pandemic while envisioning ongoing opportunities for online connection and community in a post-COVID world.

Washington Performing Arts deeply values its partnerships with

local organizations and other arts institutions. Through events online and in a myriad of performance venues and neighborhoods, Washington Performing Arts engages international visiting artists in community programs and introduces local artists to wider audiences. We place a premium on establishing artists as a continuing presence in the lives of both young people and adults through residencies and education programs.

For its achievements, Washington Performing Arts has been recognized with a National Medal of Arts and with three Mayor's Arts Awards from the D.C. Government. We have now embarked upon our second half-century, ever inspired by the motto of our founder, Patrick Hayes: "Everybody in, nobody out."

For more information, please visit [washingtonperformingarts.org](http://washingtonperformingarts.org).

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