Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis

Saturday, January 26, 2008, 8pm
Zellerbach Hall

Ellington Love Songs

Wynton Marsalis  music director, trumpet
Sean Jones  trumpet
Ryan Kisor  trumpet
Marcus Printup  trumpet
Vincent R. Gardner  trombone
Chris Crenshaw  saxophones
Sherman Irby  alto & soprano saxophones, clarinet
Ted Nash  tenor & soprano saxophones, clarinet
Walter Blanding  tenor & soprano saxophones, clarinet
Victor Goines  tenor saxophone, B-flat & bari clarinet
Joe Temperley  baritone & soprano saxophones, bari clarinet
Dan Nimmer  piano
Carlos Henriquez  bass
Ali Jackson  drums

Program to be announced from the stage.

Cal Performances’ 2007–2008 season is sponsored by Wells Fargo Bank.

Brooks Brothers is the official clothier of the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis.

Jazz at Lincoln Center is a not-for-profit arts organization dedicated to jazz. With the world-renowned Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis (formerly known as the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra), the Afro-Latin Jazz Orchestra with Arturo O’Farrill and a comprehensive array of guest artists, Jazz at Lincoln Center advances a unique vision for the continued development of the art of jazz by producing a year-round schedule of performance, education and broadcast events for audiences of all ages. These productions include concerts, national and international tours, residencies, weekly national radio and television programs, recordings, publications, an annual high school jazz band competition and festival, a band director academy, a jazz appreciation curriculum for children, advanced training through the Juilliard Institute for Jazz Studies, music publishing, children’s concerts, lectures, adult education courses and student and educator workshops. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Wynton Marsalis, Chairman of the Board Lisa Schiff, Executive Director Katherine E. Brown and Jazz at Lincoln Center board and staff, Jazz at Lincoln Center will produce hundreds of events during its 2006–2007 season. In October 2004, Jazz at Lincoln Center opened Frederick P. Rose Hall—the first-ever performance, education and broadcast facility devoted to jazz.

The Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, composed of 15 of today’s finest jazz soloists and ensemble players, has been the Jazz at Lincoln Center resident orchestra for over 13 years. Featured in all aspects of Jazz at Lincoln Center’s programming, the remarkably versatile Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra performs and leads educational events in New York, across the United States and around the world; in concert halls, dance venues, jazz clubs, public parks, river boats and churches; and with symphony orchestras, ballet troupes, local students and an ever-expanding roster of guest artists.

Education is a major part of Jazz at Lincoln Center’s mission and 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, educational residencies, workshops and concerts for students and adults worldwide. Jazz at Lincoln Center educational programs reaches over 110,000 students, teachers and general audience members.

The Jazz at Lincoln Center weekly radio series, Jazz at Lincoln Center Radio, is distributed by the WFMT Radio Networks. Winner of a 1997 Peabody Award, Jazz at Lincoln Center Radio is produced in conjunction with Murray Street Enterprise, New York.

Under Music Director Wynton Marsalis, the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra spends over a third of the year on tour. The big band 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, Billy Strayhorn, Dizzy Gillespie, Benny Goodman, Charles Mingus, Sy Oliver, Oliver Nelson and many others. Guest conductors have included Benny Carter, John Lewis, Jimmy Heath, Chico O’Farrill, Ray Santos, Paquito D’Rivera, Jon Faddis, Robert Sadin, David Berger, Gerald Wilson and Loren Schoenberg.

Jazz at Lincoln Center also regularly premieres works commissioned from a variety of composers, including Benny Carter, Joe Henderson, Benny Golson, Jimmy Heath, Wayne Shorter, Sam Rivers, Joe Lovano, Chico O’Farrill, Freddie Hubbard, Charles McPherson, Marcus Roberts, Geri Allen, Eric Reed, Wallace Roney and Christian McBride, as well as from current and former Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra members Wynton Marsalis, Wyckiffe Gordon, Ted Nash and Ron Westray. Over the last few years, the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra has performed collaborations with many of the world’s leading symphony orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic, the Russian National Orchestra, the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, the Boston, Chicago and London Symphony Orchestras, the Orchestra Esperimentale in São Paulo, Brazil and others. In 2006, the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra collaborated with Ghanaian drum collective Odadaa!, led by Yacub Addy, to perform...
About the Artists

Congo Square, a composition Mr. Marsalis and Mr. Addy co-wrote and dedicated to Mr. Marsalis’s native New Orleans. The Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra has also been featured in several education and performance residencies in the last few years, including those in Vienne, France; Perugia, Italy; Prague, Czech Republic; London, England; Lucerne, Switzerland; Berlin, Germany; São Paulo, Brazil; Yokohama, Japan and others.

Television broadcasts of Jazz at Lincoln Center programs have helped broaden the awareness of its unique efforts in the music. Concerts by the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra have aired in the United States, England, France, Spain, Germany, the Czech Republic, Portugal, Norway, Brazil, Argentina, Australia, China, Japan, Korea and the Philippines. Jazz at Lincoln Center has appeared on several XM Satellite Radio live broadcasts and seven Live From Lincoln Center broadcasts, carried by PBS stations nationwide; most recently on October 18, 2004, during the grand opening of Jazz at Lincoln Center’s new home, Frederick P. Rose Hall and on September 17, 2005, during Jazz at Lincoln Center’s Higher Ground Benefit Concert, which raised funds for the Higher Ground Relief Fund that was established by Jazz at Lincoln Center and administered through the Baton Rouge Area Foundation to benefit the musicians.

Wynton Marsalis (music director, trumpet) is the Artistic Director of Jazz at Lincoln Center. Born in New Orleans, Louisiana in 1961, Mr. Marsalis began his classical training on trumpet at age 12 and soon began playing in local bands of diverse genres. He entered The Juilliard School at age 17 and joined Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers. Mr. Marsalis made his recording debut as a leader in 1982, and since then he has recorded more than 30 jazz and classical recordings, which have won him nine Grammy Awards. In 1983, he became the first and only artist to win both classical and jazz Grammys in the same year and repeated this feat in 1984. Mr. Marsalis’s rich body of compositions includes Sweet Release, Jazz: Six Syncopated Movements, Jump Start, Citi Movement/Griot New York, At the Octoroon Balls and In This House, On This Morning and Big Train. In 1997, Mr. Marsalis became the first jazz artist to be awarded the prestigious Pulitzer Prize in music, for his oratorio Blood on the Fields, which was commissioned by Jazz at Lincoln Center. In 1999, he released eight new recordings in his unprecedented “Swinging into the 21st” series and premiered several new compositions, including the ballet Them Tiros, for a June 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 in December 1999. Sony Classical released All Rise on CD October 1, 2002. Recorded on September 14 and 15, 2001, in Los Angeles in those tense days following 9/11, All Rise features the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra along with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Morgan State University Choir, the Paul Smith Singers and the Northridge Singers. On March 6, 2007, he released From the Plantation to the Penitentiary on Blue Note Records, the follow-up CD to his Blue Note Records releases The Magic Hour and Unforgivable Blackness: The Rise and Fall of Jack Johnson, the companion soundtrack recording to Ken Burns’s PBS documentary of the great African-American boxer, and Wynton Marsalis: Live at the House of Tribes. Mr. Marsalis is also an internationally respected teacher and spokesman for music education and has received honorary doctorates from dozens of universities and colleges throughout the United States. He conducts educational programs for students of all ages and hosts the popular Jazz for Young People concerts produced by Jazz at Lincoln Center. Mr. Marsalis has also been featured in the video series Marsalis on Music and the radio series Making the Music. He has also written three books: Sweet Swing Blues on the Road in collaboration with photographer Frank Stewart, Jazz in the Bittersweet Blue of Life with Carl Vigeland and recently released To a Young Musician: Letters from the Road with Selwyn Seffy Hinds, published by Random House in 2004. In October 2005, Candlewick Press released Marsalis’s Jazz ABZ, an A to Z collection of 26 poems celebrating jazz greats, illustrated by poster artist Paul Rogers. In 2001, Mr. Marsalis was appointed Messenger of Peace by Mr. Kofi Annan, Secretary-General of the United Nations, and he has also been designated cultural ambassador to the United States of America by the U.S. State Department through their CultureConnect program. Mr. Marsalis serves on Lieutenant Governor Landrieu’s National Advisory Board for Culture, Recreation and Tourism, a national advisory board to guide the Lieutenant Governor’s administration’s plans to rebuild Louisiana’s tourism and cultural economies. He has also been named to the Bring New Orleans Back Commission, New Orleans Mayor C. Ray Nagin’s initiative to help rebuild New Orleans culturally, socially, economically and uniquely for every citizen. He helped lead 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.

Walter Blanding (tenor and soprano saxophones, clarinet) was born August 14, 1971, in Cleveland, Ohio to a musical family and began playing the saxophone at age six. In 1981, he moved with his family to New York City and, by age 16, he was performing regularly with his parents at the Village Gate. Mr. Blanding attended LaGuardia High School for the Performing Arts (which inspired the TV series, Tough Young Tenors, was acclaimed as one of the best jazz albums of the year, and his artistry began to impress listeners and critics alike. Since that time, in addition to the Calloway Orchestra, Roy Hargrove, Hilton Ruiz, Wycliffe Gordon, Marcus Roberts, Wynton Marsalis, Issac Hayes and many others. Mr. Blanding lived in Israel for four years, where he had performed with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, Wycliffe Gordon, and the Jerusalem Symphony, among others. He also taught music in several Israeli schools and even opened his own private school in Tel Aviv. During this period, Newsweek International described him in a feature article as “Jazz Ambassador to Israel.”
Chris Crenshaw (trombone) was born on December 20, 1982. He is originally from Thomson, Georgia, and currently resides in St. Albans, New York. Ever since he was born, music has been his driving force. His mother says that he did not speak a word until his sister, Christian, was born. He grew up with music all around him and of various influences and started playing piano on his own at the age of three. Teachers and students noticed his gift throughout his schooling. His first gig was as a keyboardist in his father, Casper’s, gospel group called the Echoes of Joy. Chris Crenshaw picked up trombone at 11 years old and hasn’t let go of it since. Receiving top honors along the way, he graduated from Thomson High School in 2001 and from Valdosta State University with a bachelor’s degree in jazz performance in 2005. He received top honors at VUS including Most Outstanding Student in the VUS Music Department and College of the Arts. He is currently pursuing a master’s degree in jazz studies at The Juilliard School. Mr. Crenshaw was the 2004 Eastern Trombone Workshop National Jazz Solo Competition winner. His teachers include Dr. Douglas Farwell and Mr. Wycliffe Gordon and he has worked with the likes of Gerald Wilson, Wynton Marsalis, Marcus Printup, Vincent Gardner, Wycliffe Gordon, Jiggs Whigham, Carl Allen, Victor Goines, Marc Cary, Walter Blasing, Wessell Anderson, Cassandra Wilson, Eric Reed and many others. Mr. Crenshaw has been a member of the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra since 2006.

Vincent R. Gardner (trombone) was born in Chicago in 1972 and raised in Virginia. His family had a strong musical background, including his mother, his brother and his father, Burgess Gardner, a trumpeter and music educator who has been very active on the Chicago music scene since the 1960s. Singing in church from an early age, he began playing piano when he was six and soon switched to the violin, saxophone and French horn before finally deciding on the trombone at age 12. Mr. Gardner became interested in jazz while attending high school and upon graduating went on to Florida A&M University in Tallahassee and the University of North Florida in Jacksonville. In college, he took a summer job performing with a jazz band at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida, where he caught the ear of Mercer Ellington, who hired him for his first professional job. After graduating in 1996, he moved to New York to pursue his professional career. Mr. Gardner has performed, toured and/or recorded with the Duke Ellington Orchestra, Bobby McFerrin, the Count Basie Orchestra, Frank Foster, the Glenn Miller Orchestra, Chaka Kahn, A Tribe Called Quest, Nancy Wilson, McCoy Tyner, Nicholas Payton, Illinois Jacquet, Wynton Marsalis, Tommy Flanagan, Marcus Roberts, Matchbox 20, Jimmy Heath, Lauryn Hill and others. He has been a member of the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra since 2000.

Victor L. Goines (tenor & soprano saxophones, B-flat clarinet & bass clarinet) is Juilliard’s first Director of Jazz Studies and conductor of the Juilliard Jazz Orchestra, an integral part of Juilliard’s two jazz programs: the Institute for Jazz Studies and the new bachelor of music degree in jazz studies. Mr. Goines has been a member of the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra and the Wynton Marsalis Septet since 1993, touring throughout the world and recording over 20 releases including Wynton Marsalis’s Pulitzer Prize-winning recording, Blood on the Fields (Columbia Records, 1997) and Ken Burns’s acclaimed documentaries, Jazz and Unforgivable Blackness: The Rise and Fall of Jack Johnson. He is an acclaimed solo artist and leads his own quartet and quintet. As a leader, Mr. Goines has released five recordings, the latest being New Adventures on Criss Cross records. In 2006, Mr. Goines was commissioned by Juilliard’s Dance division to compose a musical work in celebration of their 10th anniversary. The composition Base Line was premiered in 2002 to support the original choreography by Juilliard alumni Robert Battle. Born in 1961 and raised in New Orleans, he began studying clarinet at age eight. He received a bachelor of music education degree from Loyola University in New Orleans in 1984 and a master of music degree from Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia in 1990. In addition to performing and recording, Mr. Goines is deeply committed to his work in jazz education and became an Education Consultant for Jazz at Lincoln Center in 1998 and is a member of Juilliard’s Jazz Studies faculty. He has been a member of the faculties of Florida A&M University, University of New Orleans, Loyola University and Xavier University and has conducted clinics and workshops around the world. Mr. Goines has recorded and/or performed with Terence Blanchard, Ellis Marsalis, Bo Diddley, Dizzy Gillespie, Freddie Green, Lionel Hampton, Freddie Hubbard, Diana Ross, Branford Marsalis, Marcus Roberts, Ray Charles, Dee Dee Bridgewater, Bob Dylan, James Moody, Dianne Reeves and a host of other renowned musicians and ensembles.

Carlos Henriquez (bass) was born in 1979 in the Bronx, New York. After having studied classical guitar in junior high school, he started playing bass at The Juilliard School’s Music Advancement Program. Mr. Henriquez entered LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and Performing Arts, where he performed in the LaGuardia Concert Jazz Ensemble, which earned first place in the Jazz at Lincoln Center First Annual Essentially Ellington High School Jazz Band Competition and Festival in 1996 and second place the following year. Mr. Henriquez has performed with artists as diverse as Steve Turre, Eddie Palmieri and Tito Puente, Carlos Santana and George Benson. He traveled with the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra during its 20-city 1998 summer tour through the United States, Canada and Japan. Mr. Henriquez was also featured in on the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra Fall 1998 World Tour, which traveled to 33 cities in Europe, South America and the U.S. Since then, he has recorded, toured and performed with artists including Wynton Marsalis, Gonzalo Rubalcaba, Danilo Perez and Celia Cruz. Mr. Henriquez became a full-time member of the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra in 2005.

Sherman Irby (saxophone) was born and raised in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, and chose the violin as his first instrument. Encouraged by his mother to explore music, Mr. Irby later studied the guitar and piano, which he played in church. Although he was studying classical music in school, playing gospel music in church and R&B at dances, he was influenced by listening to Charlie Parker to turn to jazz. At Clark-Atlanta University, he played in the school jazz orchestra and performed with Lionel Hampton, Dizzy Gillespie, Charlie Rouse and Kenny Burrell. In 1994, he moved to New York and played with the Boys Choir of Harlem and the following year he landed the second alto chair with the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra. In 1996 and 1997, he participated in Betty Carter’s Jazz Ahead program. He has toured with Marcus Roberts and worked with Ann Hampton-Callaway, the Brooklyn Philharmonic Orchestra and the New York City Ballet. Also in 1997 Mr. Irby joined Roy Hargrove’s band, performing with the Grammy Award-winning Crisol project. Mr. Irby stayed in Hargrove’s group for the following three years touring. Mr. Irby has recorded three records to date: Full Circle (Blue Note), Big Mama’s Biscuits (Blue Note) and Black Warrior (BWR). The New York Times voted his record, Big Mama’s Biscuits, as one of the Top 10 records of 1998. He continues to tour with his own group and promote Black Warrior.

Ali Jackson Jr. (drums) developed his talent on drums at an early age. In 1993, he graduated from Cass Tech High School and was the recipient of Michigan’s prestigious Artserv “Emerging Artist” award in 1998. As a child, he was selected as the soloist for the “Beacons of Jazz” concert that honored legend Max Roach at New School University. After earning an undergraduate degree in music composition at the New School University for Contemporary Music, he studied under Elvin Jones and Max Roach. Mr. Jackson has been part of Young Audiences, a program that educates New York City youth about jazz. He has performed and recorded with artists including Wynton Marsalis, Dee Dee Bridgewater, Aeteth Franklin, George Benson, Harry Connick, Jr., KRS-1, Marcus Roberts, Joshua Redman, Vinx, Seito Kinen Orchestra conductor Seiji Ozawa, Diana Krall and the New York City Ballet. Most recently his production skills can be heard on George Benson’s GRP release Irreplaceable. Mr. Jackson is also featured on the Wynton Marsalis Quartet The Magic Hour (Blue Note, 2004) and on the latest release, From the Plantation to the Penitentiary. Mr. Jackson collaborated with jazz greats Cyrus Chestnut,
Dan Nimmer (piano) was born in 1982 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. An old soul in a very young body, Mr. Nimmer plays with the spirit, passion and the soul of someone who has been on the planet much longer. With prodigious technique and innate sense of swing, his playing often recalls that of his own heroes, specifically Oscar Peterson, Wynton Kelly, Erroll Garner and Art Tatum. As a young man, Mr. Nimmer’s family inherited a piano and he started playing by ear; he was, if you will, “called” by the instrument. Soon, he asked his parents for some piano lessons. He then began to study classical music with pianist Barbara Bunge and jazz with pianist Mark Davis at the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music. At the same time, he began playing gigs in Milwaukee with renowned saxophonist Berkley Fudge. Upon graduation from high school, Mr. Nimmer left Milwaukee to study music at Northern Illinois University. Soon he became one of Chicago’s busiest piano players, making his mark on the scene by playing with all of the Chicago heavyweights. It was because of this that Mr. Nimmer decided to leave school following his second year and make the big move to New York City where he immediately emerged into the New York scene. After being in New York for about a year, playing with many different musicians, Mr. Nimmer got a recommendation to play in Wynton Marsalis’s band. In 2005, Wynton heard him and hired him to become a member of the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra. In addition to Marsalis, Mr. Nimmer has performed and/or recorded with Jimmy Cobb, Frank Wess, Clark Terry, Cassandra Wilson, Benny Golson, Ed Thigpen, Wes “Warmdaddy” Anderson, Fareed Haque and many more. He has released two albums on the Venus label. The first is entitled Tea for Two and the most recent is Kelly Blue which features bassist John Webber and legendary jazz drummer Jimmy Cobb.

Marcus Printup (trumpet) was born and raised in Conyers, Georgia. He had his first musical experiences hearing the fiery gospel music his parents 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, Mr. Printup’s life changed drastically when he met his mentor, the great pianist Marcus Roberts. Mr. Roberts introduced him to Wynton Marsalis, which led to his induction into the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra in 1993. Mr. Printup has recorded with Betty Carter, Dianne Reeves, Eric Reed, Madeline Peyroux, Ted Nash, Cyrus Chestnut, Wyllieff Gordon and Mr. Roberts, among others. Mr. Printup has released several records as a leader, Song for the Beautiful Woman, Unveiled, Hub Song, Nocturnal Traces, The New Boogalo and his most recent, Peace in the Abstract (2006). He made his screen debut in the 1999 movie Playing by Heart and recorded on the film’s soundtrack.

Joe Temperley (baritone & soprano saxophones, bass clarinet) was born in Scotland and first achieved prominence in the United Kingdom as a member of Humphrey Lyttelton’s band from 1958 to 1962, which toured the United States in 1959. In 1961, he came to New York City, where he performed and/or recorded with Woody Herman, Buddy Rich, Joe Henderson, Duke Pearson, the Jazz Composer’s Orchestra, the Thad Jones-Mel Lewis Orchestra and Clark Terry, among many others. In October 1974, he toured and recorded with the Duke Ellington Orchestra as a replacement for Harry Carney. Mr. Temperley played in the Broadway show Sophisticated Ladies in the 1980s, and his film soundtrack credits include Cotton Club, Biliocs Blues, Brighton Beach Memoirs, When Harry Met Sally and Tune in Tomorrow, composed by Wynton Marsalis. Mr. Temperley is a mentor and a cofounder of the FIFE Youth Jazz Orchestra program in Scotland, which now enrolls 70 young musicians ages 7 to 17 playing in three full-size bands. Mr. Temperley has released several albums as a leader, including Nightingale (1991), Sunbeam and Thundercloud with pianist Dave McKenna (1996), With Every Breath (1998) and Double Duke (1999) with several fellow Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra members. In 2006, he released Portraits on Hep records and released Cocktails for Two on Sackville in spring 2007. He is an original member of the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra and serves on the faculty of the Juilliard Institute for Jazz Studies and Manhattan School of Music.