

Sunday, March 17, 2013, 7pm
Zellerbach Hall

Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra *with* Wynton Marsalis



Frank Stewart

Tonight's program will be announced from the stage.

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Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra *with* Wynton Marsalis

Wynton Marsalis	<i>Artistic Director, trumpet</i>
Ryan Kisor	<i>trumpet</i>
Marcus Printup	<i>trumpet</i>
Kenny Rampton	<i>trumpet</i>
Vincent Gardner	<i>trombone</i>
Chris Crenshaw	<i>trombone</i>
Elliot Mason	<i>trombone</i>
Sherman Irby	<i>alto saxophone</i>
Ted Nash	<i>alto & soprano saxophones, clarinet</i>
Walter Blanding, Jr.	<i>tenor & soprano saxophones, clarinet</i>
Victor Goines	<i>tenor & soprano saxophone, clarinet, bass clarinet</i>
Paul Nedzela	<i>baritone & soprano saxophones, bass clarinet</i>
Carlos Henriquez	<i>bass</i>
Dan Nimmer	<i>piano</i>
Ali Jackson	<i>drums</i>

HAILED AS “an extraordinarily versatile Orchestra” by the *Los Angeles Times*, the **Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra** is composed of 15 of jazz music’s leading soloists under the leadership of musical director Wynton Marsalis. Drawing from an extensive repertoire that includes original compositions by Mr. Marsalis, Ted Nash, and other members of the orchestra, as well as the masterworks of Ellington, Mingus, Coltrane, and other great jazz composers, the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis concerts are internationally critically acclaimed. “The finest big band in the world today,” said London’s *Daily Telegraph*.

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, Wycliffe Gordon, and Ted Nash.

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, and the Orchestra Esperimentale in São Paulo, Brazil. In 2006, the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra collaborated with Ghanaian drum collective Odadaa!, led by Yacub Addy, to perform *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; and Yokohama, Japan.

Wynton Marsalis (*trumpet*) is the Managing and Artistic Director of Jazz at Lincoln Center. Born in New Orleans, Louisiana, in 1961, Mr. Marsalis began his classical training on trumpet at age twelve. He entered the Juilliard School at age 17 and, shortly thereafter, joined the legendary Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers. Mr. Marsalis made his recording debut as a leader in 1982, and has since recorded more than 70 jazz and classical albums which have garnered him nine Grammy Awards. He is only artist to win both classical and jazz Grammys in the same year, in both 1983 and 1984. Mr. Marsalis’s rich body of compositions includes *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*. Other works include the 1999 ballet *Them Twos*, a collaboration with the New York City Ballet, as well as three symphonies that have been performed by orchestras around the world. In 1997, Mr. Marsalis became the first jazz artist to be awarded the Pulitzer Prize in music for his oratorio *Blood on the Fields*. Recent recordings on the Blue Note label include *Two Men with the Blues*, featuring Willie Nelson (2008), *He and She* (2009), and *Here We Go Again* featuring Willie Nelson and Norah Jones (2011).

Ryan Kisor (*trumpet*) was born in 1973 in Sioux City, Iowa, and began playing trumpet at age four. In 1990, he won first prize at the Thelonious Monk Institute’s first annual Louis Armstrong Trumpet Competition. In 1991, Mr. Kisor enrolled in Manhattan School of Music, where he studied with trumpeter Lew Soloff. He has performed and/or recorded with the Mingus Big Band, the Gil Evans Orchestra, Horace Silver, Gerry Mulligan, Charlie Haden’s Liberation Music Orchestra, the Carnegie Hall Jazz Band, the Philip Morris Jazz All-Stars, and others. As well as being an active sideman, Mr. Kisor has recorded numerous albums as a leader, including *Battle Cry, The Usual Suspects, Point of Arrival, Kisor, Power Source, Kisor II, The Dream, The Sidewinder, Awakening, Donna Lee, This Is Ryan, Conception Cool and Hot,* and

2010’s *Live at Smalls*. He has been a member of the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra since 1994.

Born and raised in Conyers, Georgia, **Marcus Printup** (*trumpet*)’s first musical experiences were 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 when he met his mentor, the great pianist Marcus Roberts, who introduced him to Wynton Marsalis, leading to Mr. Printup’s 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, Wycliffe Gordon, and Mr. Roberts, among others. His records as a leader include *Song for the Beautiful Woman, Unveiled, Hub Songs, Nocturnal Traces, The New Boogaloo, Peace in the Abstract, Bird of Paradise, London Lullaby, Ballads All Night,* and *A Time for Love*. Mr. Printup’s most recent album, *Homage*, was released in 2011 on the SteepleChase label. He made his screen debut in the 1999 movie *Playing by Heart* and recorded on the film’s soundtrack. August 22nd has been declared “Marcus Printup Day” in his hometown of Conyers, Georgia.

In addition to the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, which he joined in 2010, **Kenny Rampton** (*trumpet*) also performs as the leader of his own sextet and with the Mingus Big Band, the Mingus Orchestra, the Mingus Dynasty, George Gruntz Concert Jazz Band, and the Manhattan Jazz Orchestra (under the direction of Dave Matthews). In 2010, Mr. Rampton performed with the Scottish National Jazz Orchestra for the Edinburgh International Festival, and was the featured soloist on the Miles Davis/Gil Evans classic version of *Porgy and Bess*. He has toured the world with the Ray Charles Orchestra, in 1990; the legendary jazz drummer Panama Francis; the Savoy Sultans; and soon thereafter, the Jimmy McGriff Quartet, with whom he played for ten years. As a sideman, Mr. Rampton has performed

with Mingus Epitaph (under the direction of Gunther Schuller), Bebo Valdés’s Latin Jazz All-Stars, Maria Schneider, Jazz at Lincoln Center’s Afro-Latin Jazz Orchestra, Charles Earland, Dr. John, Lionel Hampton, Jon Hendricks, Illinois Jacquet, Geoff Keezer, Christian McBride, and a host of others. Most recently, he was hired to be the trumpet voice for *Sesame Street*. Some of his Broadway credits include *Finian’s Rainbow, The Wiz, Chicago: The Musical, In The Heights, Hair, Young Frankenstein,* and *The Producers*.

Vincent Gardner (*trombone*) 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 twelve. He attended Florida A&M University and the University of North Florida, and caught the ear of Mercer Ellington, who hired Mr. 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. Mr. 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 has contributed many arrangements for 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. Mr. Gardner is featured on a number of notable recordings and has recorded five albums for SteepleChase Records as a leader. 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.

Born in Thomson, Georgia, in 1982, **Chris Crenshaw** (*trombone*) has been driven by and surrounded by music since birth. He started playing piano at the age of three, and his teachers and fellow students quickly noticed his aptitude for the instrument. This love for piano led to his

first gig with Echoes of Joy, his father Casper's group. Mr. Crenshaw picked up the trombone at age eleven, and hasn't put it down since. He graduated from Thomson High School in 2001 and received his bachelor's degree in jazz performance from Valdosta State University (VSU) in 2005, with honors throughout his education, including Most Outstanding Student in the VSU Music Department and College of Arts. Mr. Crenshaw received his master's degree in jazz studies from the Juilliard School in 2007. His teachers include Dr. Douglas Farwell and Wycliffe Gordon, and he has worked with Gerard Wilson, Wynton Marsalis, Marcus Printup, Vincent Gardner, Jiggs Whigham, Carl Allen, Victor Goines, Marc Cary, Walter Blanding, Wessell "Warmdaddy" Anderson, Cassandra Wilson, Eric Reed, and many more. In 2006, Mr. Crenshaw joined the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra. With the Orchestra, he has written and performed the piece *Bearden (The Block)*, and he appears on fellow orchestra member Marcus Printup's album *Ballads All Night*.

Born in England in 1977, **Elliot Mason** (*trombone*) began trumpet lessons at age four with his father. At age seven, he switched his focus from the trumpet to the trombone. At eleven years old, he was performing in various venues and concentrating on jazz and improvisation. By 16, Mr. Mason left England to join his brother, Brad Mason, at the Berklee College of Music on a full tuition scholarship. After graduating, he moved to New York City. He has won the following awards: *Daily Telegraph* Young Jazz Soloist (under 25) Award, the prestigious Frank Rosolino Award, the International Trombone Association's Under 29 Jazz Trombone competition, and the Slide Hampton Award in recognition of outstanding performance abilities from Berklee. In 2008, Mr. Mason joined Northwestern University's faculty as the jazz trombone instructor, and he continues to be an integral part of the jazz studies program. Mr. Mason has performed with Count Basie Orchestra, the Mingus Big Band, the Maria Schneider Orchestra, and the Maynard

Ferguson Big Bop Nouveau. A member of the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra since 2006, Mr. Mason also continues to co-lead the Mason Brothers Quintet with his brother. Their debut album, *Two Sides, One Story*, was released on Archival Records in 2012.

Born and raised in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, **Sherman Irby** (*alto saxophone*) found his calling to music at age 12. In high school, he played and recorded with gospel immortal James Cleveland. Graduating from Clark Atlanta University with a B.A. in music education, Mr. Irby joined Johnny O'Neal's Atlanta-based quintet in 1991. In 1994, he moved to New York City and recorded his first two albums, *Full Circle* (1996) and *Big Mama's Biscuits* (1998), on Blue Note. Mr. Irby toured the United States and the Caribbean with the Boys Choir of Harlem in 1995, and was previously a member of the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra from 1995 to 1997. During that tenure, he also recorded and toured with Marcus Roberts and Roy Hargrove, and was part of Betty Carter's Jazz Ahead Program. Following a four-year stint with Mr. Hargrove, Mr. Irby focused on his own group, in addition to being a member of Elvin Jones's ensemble and Papo Vazquez's Pirates Troubadours. Since 2003, Mr. Irby has been the regional director for JazzMasters Workshop, mentoring young children, and a board member for the CubaNOLA Collective. After leaving Blue Note, Mr. Irby formed Black Warrior Records and has released *Black Warrior*, *Faith*, *Organ Starter*, and *Live at the Otto Club* under the new label.

Ted Nash (*alto & soprano saxophones, clarinet*), was born in Los Angeles into a musical family—his father, Dick Nash, and uncle, Ted Nash, are both well-known jazz and studio musicians. Mr. Nash exploded onto the jazz scene at the early age of 18, moved to New York, and released his first album, *Conception* (Concord Jazz). He is one of the co-leaders of the Jazz Composers Collective, and is constantly pushing the envelope in the world of "traditional jazz." His group, Odeon, has often been cited as a creative focus of jazz. Many of Mr. Nash's recordings

have received critical acclaim, appearing on the "best-of" lists in *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, *The Village Voice*, *The Boston Globe*, and *Newsday*. His albums *The Mancini Project* and *Sidewalk Meeting* have been placed on several "best-of-decade" lists. Mr. Nash's composition *Portrait in Seven Shades* was recorded and released by the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra in 2010, the first release by the Orchestra featuring original music by a band member other than bandleader Wynton Marsalis. His most recent album, *The Creep*, came out in 2012 on Plastic Sax Records.

Born to a musical family in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1971, **Walter Blanding, Jr.** (*tenor & soprano saxophones, clarinet*), began playing the saxophone at age six. In 1981, he moved with his family to New York City; by age 16, he was performing regularly with his parents at the Village Gate. Mr. Blanding attended LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and Performing Arts (the inspiration for the TV series *Fame*) and continued his studies at the New School for Social Research, receiving his B.F.A. in May 2005. His 1991 debut release, *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 joining the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra in 1998, he has performed, toured, and/or recorded with his own groups and with such renowned artists as the Cab Calloway Orchestra, Roy Hargrove, Hilton Ruiz, Count Basie Orchestra, Illinois Jacquet Big Band, Wycliffe Gordon, Marcus Roberts, Wynton Marsalis Quintet, and Isaac Hayes. Mr. Blanding lived in Israel for four years, where he had a major impact on the music scene, touring the country with his own ensemble and with invited such U.S. artists as Louis Hayes, Eric Reed, and Vanessa Rubin. 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."

Victor Goines (*tenor & soprano saxophones, clarinet, bass clarinet*), is a native of New Orleans.

He 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 Marsalis's Pulitzer Prize-winning recording *Blood on the Fields*, and the soundtracks for Ken Burns's acclaimed documentaries, including *Jazz* (1999) and *The War* (2007). As a leader, Mr. Goines has released eight recordings, most recently *Love Dance* (CrissCross, 2007) and *Twilight* (Rosemary Joseph, 2012). A gifted composer, Mr. Goines has more than 50 original works to his credit. In 2000, he was commissioned by Juilliard's Dance Division to compose a musical work in celebration of their 50th anniversary. In 2008, Performance Music at the University of Scranton commissioned him to compose two separate pieces for their choir and concert band. Additional commissions have come from Jazz at Lincoln Center. Mr. Goines has recorded and/or performed with many noted jazz and popular artists, including Ahmad Jamal, Ruth Brown, Dee Dee Bridgewater, Ray Charles, Bob Dylan, Dizzy Gillespie, Lenny Kravitz, Branford Marsalis, Ellis Marsalis, Dianne Reeves, Willie Nelson, Marcus Roberts, Diana Ross, and Stevie Wonder. Currently, he is Director of Jazz Studies/Professor of Music at Northwestern University. Prior to that appointment he was, for seven years, the artistic director of the jazz program at the Juilliard School, and a faculty member teaching saxophone and clarinet. He has also served on the faculties of Florida A&M University, the University of New Orleans, Loyola University in New Orleans, and Xavier University. He received a Bachelor of Music degree from Loyola University in New Orleans in 1984 and a Master of Music degree from Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond in 1990.

Paul Nedzela (*baritone & soprano saxophones, bass clarinet*) has become one of the top baritone saxophone players around. He has played with many renowned artists and ensembles, including Wessell "Warmdaddy" Anderson, Bill Charlap, Paquito D'Rivera, Victor Goines, Benny Golson, Wycliffe Gordon, Roy Haynes,

the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, Wynton Marsalis, Christian McBride, Eric Reed, Diane Reeves, Herlin Riley, Maria Schneider, Frank Sinatra Jr., The Temptations, the Vanguard Jazz Orchestra, Reginald Veal, and Max Weinberg. He has performed in Twyla Tharp's Broadway show *Come Fly Away*, as well as at major festivals around the world, including the Monterey Jazz Festival, the Banff Music Festival, the International Montreal Jazz Festival, and the American Festival of the Arts in Doha, Qatar. Mr. Nedzala has studied with some of the foremost baritone saxophonists in the world, including, Joe Temperely, Gary Smulyan, and Roger Rosenberg. While pursuing his musical studies, Mr. Nedzala 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 studies at the Juilliard School and graduated with a Master of Music degree in 2008.

Dan Nimmer (*piano*) was born in 1982 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. With prodigious technique and an innate sense of swing, his playing often recalls that of his own heroes Oscar Peterson, Wynton Kelly, Erroll Garner, and Art Tatum. Mr. Nimmer first studied classical piano and eventually grew interested in jazz. He began playing gigs with renowned saxophonist and mentor Berkley Fudge. Mr. Nimmer studied music at Northern Illinois University and became one of Chicago's busiest piano players. A year after moving to New York City, he became a member of the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis and the Wynton Marsalis Quintet. Mr. Nimmer has worked with Norah Jones, Willie Nelson, Dianne Reeves, George Benson, Frank Wess, Clark Terry, Tom Jones, Benny Golson, Lewis Nash, Peter Washington, Ed Thigpen, Wessell "Warmdaddy" Anderson, Fared Haque, and many more. He has appeared on numerous television shows, including *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*, *The Late Show with David Letterman*, *The View*, *The Kennedy Center Honors*, *Live from Abbey Road*, and PBS's *Live from Lincoln Center*.

Mr. Nimmer has released four of his own albums on the Venus label (Japan).

Carlos Henriquez (*bass*) was born in 1979 in the Bronx, New York. He began studying music at a young age, and played guitar through junior high school, taking up the bass while enrolled in the Juilliard School's Music Advancement Program. Mr. Henriquez entered LaGuardia High School of Music & Arts and Performing Arts, where he was involved with the LaGuardia Concert Jazz Ensemble, which went on to win first place in Jazz at Lincoln Center's Essentially Ellington competition in 1996. In 1998, shortly after graduating from LaGuardia, Mr. Henriquez joined the Wynton Marsalis Septet and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, touring the world and being featured on over 25 records. He has performed with many artists, including Chucho Valdés, Paco de Lucía, Tito Puente, the Marsalis family, Willie Nelson, Bob Dylan, Stevie Wonder, Lenny Kravitz, and Marc Anthony. Mr. Henriquez has been a member of the music faculty at Northwestern University School of Music since 2008, and was music director for the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra's cultural exchange with the Cuban Institute of Music with Chucho Valdés in 2010.

Ali Jackson (*drums*) developed his talent on drums at an early age. In 1993, he graduated from Cass Tech High School in Detroit. He was the recipient of Michigan's prestigious Artserv "Emerging Artist" award in 1998, and was selected as the soloist for the "Beacons of Jazz" concert honoring legend Max Roach at the New School for Jazz and Contemporary Music in New York. After earning an undergraduate degree in music composition at the New School, he studied under legendary jazz drummers Elvin Jones and Max Roach. Mr. Jackson has participated in 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, Aretha 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's *The Magic Hour* (Blue Note, 2004), and on Mr. Marsalis's 2007 album *From the Plantation to the Penitentiary*. He collaborated with jazz greats Cyrus Chestnut, Reginald Veal, and James Carter on *Gold Sounds* (Brown Brothers, 2005), a project that transformed the alternative rock band Pavement's songs into unique virtuosic interpretations, with the attitude of the church and the juke joint. He has been a member of the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra since 2005. Mr. Jackson currently performs with the Wynton Marsalis Quintet and Horns in the Hood, and leads his own Ali Jackson Quartet. He also hosted *Jammin' with Jackson*, a series for young musicians at Jazz at Lincoln Center's Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola. He is also the voice of "Duck Ellington," a character in the Penguin book and music series *Baby Loves Jazz*, released in 2006.