

9-19-2015

Concert: Ithaca College Jazz Ensemble

Ithaca College Jazz Ensemble

Mike Titlebaum

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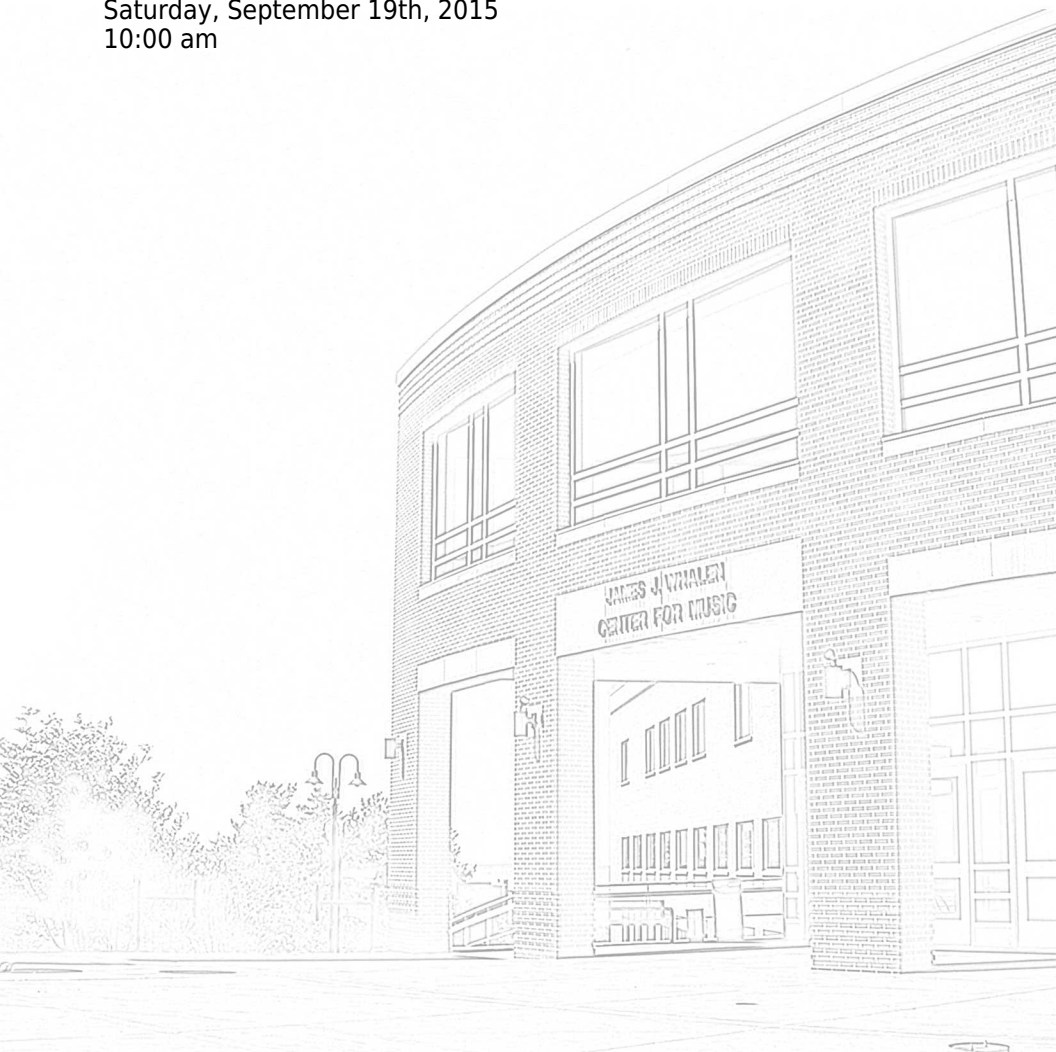
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Ithaca College Jazz Ensemble
Mike Titlebaum, director

WHAT IS JAZZ?

Ford Hall
Saturday, September 19th, 2015
10:00 am



ITHACA COLLEGE

School of Music

Program

Told You So

Bill Holman
(b. 1927)

*Dunham Hall, saxophone
Dan Wenger, trombone*

Half the Fun

Duke Ellington
(1899-1974)

*Dan Felix, alto saxophone
Lex Simakas, piano*

Ol' Man River

Jerome Kern and Oscar
Hammerstein
arr. Bill Holman

*Zach Forlenza-Bailey, tenor saxophone
Alex Miller, trumpet
Andrew Hedge, drums*

What Is Jazz?

Leonard Bernstein
(1918-1990)
arr. Mike Titlebaum

Catherine Gale, vocal

Schmeezlemop

Mike Titlebaum
(b. 1968)

*Dan Felix, alto saxophone
Dan Wenger, trombone
Alex Toth, bass*

The Way Back

Mike Titlebaum

*Chris Walsh, trumpet
Dan Wenger, trombone
Dunham Hall, tenor saxophone
Jonah Prendergast, guitar*

Program Notes

Jazz music can be difficult to describe because it means different things to different people. Some may disagree about whether or not any particular performer or piece of music should be categorized as jazz, but most listeners simply know jazz when they hear it, even if they can't say why.

However, we believe that it is important to demonstrate the fundamental aspects of jazz that make it unique from any other music: its swinging rhythms and deep blues feeling. And, because we are aspiring educators, we want to teach these things in a way that is fun and engaging to children because we want to build a passionate audience for the music we love so much.

This concert was inspired primarily by two things: a wonderful album recorded in 1956 by Leonard Bernstein that is simply called "What Is Jazz?" and by the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra's performance at Ithaca High School in 2010. The audience at that concert will surely never forget it. Director Wynton Marsalis was an engaging and effective spokesman for jazz, encouraging the kids to get out of their chairs, dance, sing and shout. His ensemble played with stunning clarity and swing feel, and with a remarkable use of dynamic contrast. This performance demonstrated clearly that they are the finest jazz group currently performing.

Leonard Bernstein was perhaps a more surprising spokesperson for jazz. He clearly loved the music, and enjoyed teaching young people about it. In addition to a long career spent composing and conducting the New York Philharmonic Orchestra, Bernstein regularly gave lectures and performances for young people. The videos of his children's concerts are still the model today for how to teach kids tangible things about music in a clear and engaging way.

We hope you and your kids love the music, and return often to hear more.

-Mike Titlebaum

Jazz Ensemble Personnel

Saxophones

Dan Felix, alto
Nikhil Bartolomeo, alto
Zach Forlenza-Bailey, tenor
Dunham Hall, tenor
Will VanDeMark, bari

Trombones

Daniel Wenger
Matt Sidilau
Ben Allen
Matthew Della Camera, bass

Trumpets

Matt Allen
Alex Miller
Chris Walsh
Ray Fuller
Max Deger

Rhythm

Andrew Hedge, drums
Jonah Prendergast, guitar
Alex Toth, bass
Lex Simakas, piano

Upcoming Jazz Events at Ithaca College

Monday, Oct. 5 at 7PM (Hockett): Faculty recital of Nicholas Walker, bass.

Thursday, Oct. 8 at 8:15PM (Ford): IC Jazz Ensemble, directed by Mike Titlebaum.

Monday, Oct 19 at 8:15PM (Ford): The Manley and Doriseve Thaler Jazz Concert and Masterclass: The John Hollenbeck Large Ensemble.

Friday, Nov. 6 at 8:15PM (Ford): Symphonic Band and Jazz Vocal Ensemble.

Saturday, Nov. 7 at 8:15PM (Ford): Concert Band and Jazz Ensemble.

Sunday, Nov 8 at 7:00PM (Nabenhauer): Elective jazz drum/percussion recital of James Powell, jazz studies major.

Saturday, Dec. 5, 12 Noon (Ford): Campus Band, and Campus Jazz Band, directed by Bill Tiberio.

Saturday, Dec. 5, 4PM (Ford): Jazz Ensemble, directed by Mike Titlebaum.

Monday, Dec 7 (Ford): Jazz Repertory Ensemble, directed by Greg Evans.

Wednesday, Dec 9 (Ford): Jazz Lab Band, directed by Bill Tiberio.

Thursday, Dec 10 (Hockett): Jazz Vocal Ensemble, directed by Doug Avery.