

10-6-2012

## Concert: Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Vocal Ensemble: WHAT IS JAZZ?

Ithaca College Jazz Ensemble

Ithaca College Jazz Vocal Ensemble

Mike Titlebaum

Catherine Gale

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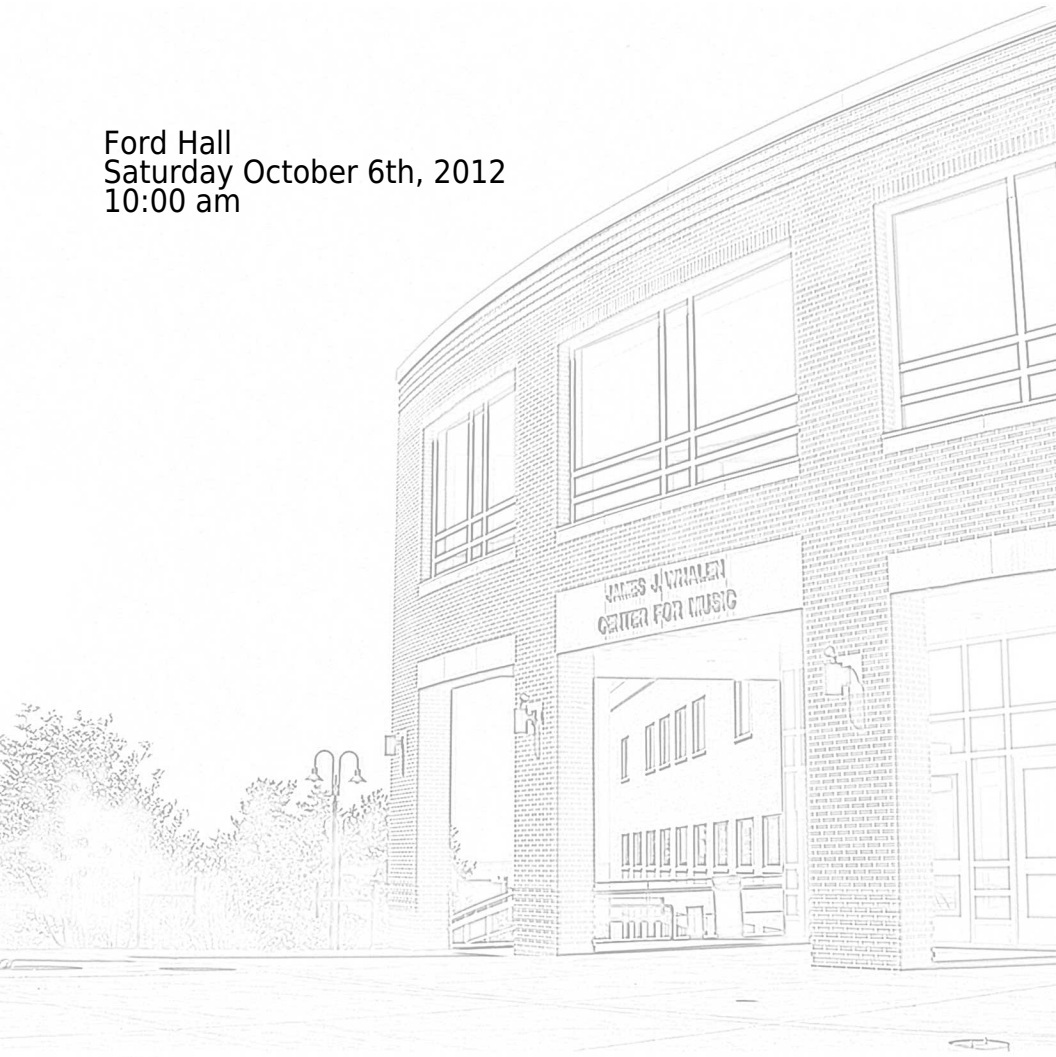
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# WHAT IS JAZZ?

## A concert for children and families

### Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Vocal Ensemble

Ford Hall  
Saturday October 6th, 2012  
10:00 am



ITHACA COLLEGE

School of Music

*Now in its second century, the Ithaca College School of Music affirms its fundamental belief that music and the arts are essential components of the human experience. The School of Music prepares students to be world-class professionals and the music leaders of tomorrow - ready to transform individuals and communities by advancing the art of music.*

# Program

Ko-Ko

*T.J. Schaper, trombone  
Will VanDeMark, alto sax*

Duke Ellington

Awful Mean

*Alana Dawes, bass  
Jack Storer, trumpet  
Chris Miley, alto saxophone  
Joshua Condon, piano*

Paul Chambers and  
Cannonball Adderley

What Is Jazz?

*Catherine Gale, vocal*

Mike Titlebaum

Sunny Side of the Street

*Jazz Vocal Ensemble*

Jimmy McHugh and Dorothy  
Fields  
arr. Myles Collins

A Tisket A Tasket

*Jazz Vocal Ensemble*

Ella Fitzgerald and Al  
Feldman  
arr. Klaus Lessman

Happy Birthday To You

*Jack Storer, trumpet  
Ethan Zawisza, trombone  
Joshua Condon, piano*

arr. Sam Thurston

C Jam Blues

*Jack Storer, trumpet  
Alec Staples, tenor sax*

Duke Ellington  
arr. Bill Holman

Sweet Georgia Brown

*Joshua Condon, piano  
Damien Scalise, guitar  
Kevin Cope, trumpet  
Chris Miley, alto saxophone*

Ben Bernie, Maceo Pinkard  
and Kenneth Casey

## **Biographies**

### **Mike Titlebaum**

Since 2008, saxophonist/composer/arranger Mike Titlebaum has been Director of Jazz Studies at Ithaca College, where he directs large jazz ensembles, coaches small combos, teaches jazz saxophone and courses in jazz improvisation, repertoire, arranging, pedagogy and history. He is the founding member of the Ithaca Jazz Quartet and the creator of the Ithaca College Jazz Ensemble Composition Contest.

He was born and raised in Rochester, NY, where he earned his BM in Saxophone Performance from the Eastman School of Music in 1991, as well as the coveted Performer's Certificate in Saxophone. He received his MM in 1992 from Eastman in Jazz and Contemporary Media. As a student, he won nine "DeeBee" awards from DownBeat magazine in multiple categories, including Jazz Performance (on both saxophone and trumpet), Classical Performance, Jazz Arranging, and Jazz Composition.

He played in many of New York's world famous musical venues, including the Blue Note, Smalls, Augies, Fez/Time Café and the infamous CBGB's as well as the pit orchestra of the Broadway musical "Cats." He has performed with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, the Binghamton Philharmonic Orchestra, and with dozens of internationally recognized artists and groups such as Jason Robert Brown, Red Rodney, Randy Brecker, the Nelson Riddle Orchestra, the Mingus Big Band, Cab Calloway, Jeff Tyzik, Natalie Cole, Billy Taylor, Mel Torme, Manhattan Transfer, Branford Marsalis, Clark Terry, Lee Konitz, Kenny Wheeler, Billy Hart, Paquito D'Rivera, and many others.

Titlebaum has published numerous compositions and arrangements through Lorenz (Heritage Jazz Works), Advance Music, and GIA Publications.

### **Catherine Gale**

Catherine Gale was raised in a family of musicians and has been singing since the age of three. She attended Oberlin College, and completed her Bachelor of Music degree at Manhattan School of Music. In 2008 she moved to Ithaca, NY. In 2010 she began teaching jazz voice and directing the Jazz Vocal Ensemble at Ithaca College.

She has sung with many groups in Central New York, including the Ithaca Jazz Quartet, the Central New York Jazz Orchestra, and Walter White's "Small Medium @ Large." For more than 15 years, she performed as a freelance singer in and around New York City, singing with a variety of groups including The Warren Vache Quintet, The Peter Deutchen Orchestra, Manhattan Sound, The Bronx Arts

Ensemble and The Swing Mavens.

Though much of her work is as a featured singer, Ms Gale has always been a fan of, and a performer in jazz vocal groups. She toured extensively with Swing Fever, and over the years has been a member of such groups as The Swing Syndicate, Lance Hayward Singers, New Voice of Hope, & Sharp Five. In addition to performing, Ms. Gale was on the faculty of New York University teaching jazz voice from 1998 to 2008.

## **Program Notes**

### **What is jazz?**

Jazz can seem difficult to define 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 music is jazz when they hear it --- even if they can't say why.

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

This concert was inspired by several things: The Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra's performance at Ithaca High School in 2010, a recent Cayuga Vocal Ensemble's children's concert, and a wonderful album by Leonard Bernstein from 1956 that was also (like this concert) simply called "What Is Jazz?"

The audience at the LCJO concert in 2010 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 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 lifetime spent composing and conducting the New York Philharmonic Orchestra, Bernstein regularly gave lectures and performances for young people. The video recordings of his children's concerts are still the model today for how to teach kids real things about music while speaking to them in a clear, direct and engaging way.

# Personnel

## Ithaca College Jazz Ensemble

### Saxophones

Christopher Miley, alto 1  
Will VanDeMark, alto 2  
Alex Staples, tenor 1  
David DeHority, tenor 2  
Andrew Horwitz, bari

### Trumpets

Sam Thurston  
Jack Storer  
Matt Venora  
Paul Schwartz  
James Rose

### Trombones

Ethan Zawisza  
T.J. Schaper  
Bill Connors  
Jeff Chilton (bass)

### Rhythm

Josh Condon, piano  
Alana Dawes, bass  
Damien Scalise, guitar  
Will Sigel, drums

## Ithaca College Jazz Vocal Ensemble

### Voices

Annie-Rose Baum  
Brandon Esteves  
Ashley Kristoff  
Jake Minter  
Paola Nieves-Rodriguez  
Michelle Rosnack  
Kailey Schnurman  
Taylor Smith

### *(voices, cont'd)*

D'quan Tyson  
Mengchun Yang

### Rhythm

Desmond Bratton, Bass  
Josh Rosen, Piano  
Tom Smith, Drums

## **Ithaca College School of Music**

Ever since its founding in 1892 as a Conservatory of Music, Ithaca College has remained dedicated to attracting the most talented young musicians, and then immersing these students in an advanced culture of musical learning that positions them to be leading professionals in music. As the conservatory evolved into a comprehensive college with expanded academic offerings, the School of Music has continued to earn its reputation as one of the best in the nation.

Through a blend of world-class faculty, state-of-the-art facilities, professional performance opportunities, access to liberal arts classes, and a beautiful campus setting, students grow in a challenging yet supportive community.

Not only do students have access to our broad music curriculum, but they can also take classes in any of the College's other schools and divisions. As a result, graduates are well prepared for a host of careers and work in almost every music field imaginable. School of Music alumni include symphony, opera, and Broadway performers; faculty members and deans at prestigious universities and colleges; teachers in school systems through the country; music therapists, composers; publicists; audio engineers in professional studios; and managers in the music industry. The School of Music boasts a consistent 100% job placement for music education graduates actively seeking employment, and 98% placement for other graduates into jobs or graduate schools.

Since 1941, the Ithaca College School of Music has been accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music.



## Upcoming Ithaca Jazz Events

**Tuesday, October 9, 2012 (8:15PM, Ford Hall):** Jazz Ensemble, directed by Mike Titlebaum.

**Friday, November 2, 2012 (8:15PM, Ford Hall):** Family Weekend, Concert Band directed by Mark Fonder, and Jazz Vocal Ensemble, directed by Catherine Gale.

**Saturday, November 3, 2012 (4:00PM, Ford Hall):** Family Weekend, Symphonic Band directed by Beth Peterson, and Jazz Ensemble, directed by Mike Titlebaum.

**Monday, November 26th, 2012 (7PM, Hockett Recital Hall):** Ithaca Faculty Jazz Quintet, performing the "10 songs of the year."

**Monday, December 3, 2012 (8:15PM, Hockett Recital Hall):** Jazz Vocal Ensemble, directed by Catherine Gale.

**Friday, December 7, 2012 (8:15PM, Ford Hall):** Jazz Ensemble composition contest concert, directed by Mike Titlebaum. Featuring trumpeter Terrell Stafford, guest artist.

**Monday, December 10, 2012 (8:15PM, Ford Hall):** Bill's Jazz Lab Ensemble, directed by Bill Tiberio.

**Tuesday, December 11, 2012 (8:15PM, Ford Hall):** Greg's Jazz Lab Ensemble, directed by Greg Evans.

## Upcoming Events (All)

### October

**7** - Ford - 3:00pm - Choral Collage (*Webcasted at [www.ithaca.edu/music/live/](http://www.ithaca.edu/music/live/)*)

**8** - Hockett - 7:00pm - Emily Newton, soprano; Dawn Pierce, mezzo-soprano

**9** - Ford - 8:15pm - Jazz Ensemble (*Webcasted at [www.ithaca.edu/music/live/](http://www.ithaca.edu/music/live/)*)

**10** - Ford - 8:15pm - Concert Band (*Webcasted*

*at [www.ithaca.edu/music/live/](http://www.ithaca.edu/music/live/)*)

**11** - Hockett - 8:00pm - Enduring Masters: Dick DeBenedictis

**11** - Ford - 8:15pm - Symphonic Band (*Webcasted*

*at [www.ithaca.edu/music/live/](http://www.ithaca.edu/music/live/)*)

**12** - Hockett - 3:00pm - Roberta Peters Masterclass: Nedda Casei

**13** - Ford - 8:30pm - Choral Reunion (*Webcasted*

*at [www.ithaca.edu/music/live/](http://www.ithaca.edu/music/live/)*)

**14** - Ford - 4:00pm - Symphony Orchestra (*Webcasted*

*at [www.ithaca.edu/music/live/](http://www.ithaca.edu/music/live/)*)

**15** - Ford - 8:15pm - African Drumming and Dance Ensemble

**16** - Ford - 8:15pm - Wind Ensemble (*Webcasted*

*at [www.ithaca.edu/music/live/](http://www.ithaca.edu/music/live/)*)

**22** - Hockett - 7:00pm - Composition Premieres

**23** - Hockett - 7:00pm - Brad Hougham, baritone

**25** - Ford - 8:15pm - Percussion Ensemble (GS)

**28** - Hockett - 5:00pm - Jaekook Kim, tenor

**30** - Hockett - 7:00pm - Ithaca Brass

**31** - JJWCM - 6:00pm - Healthy Living For Musicians

**31** - Hockett - 8:15pm - Tuba Ensemble