

9-14-2019

Concert: Ithaca College Jazz Ensemble: What is Jazz?

Ithaca College Jazz Ensemble

Mike Titlebaum

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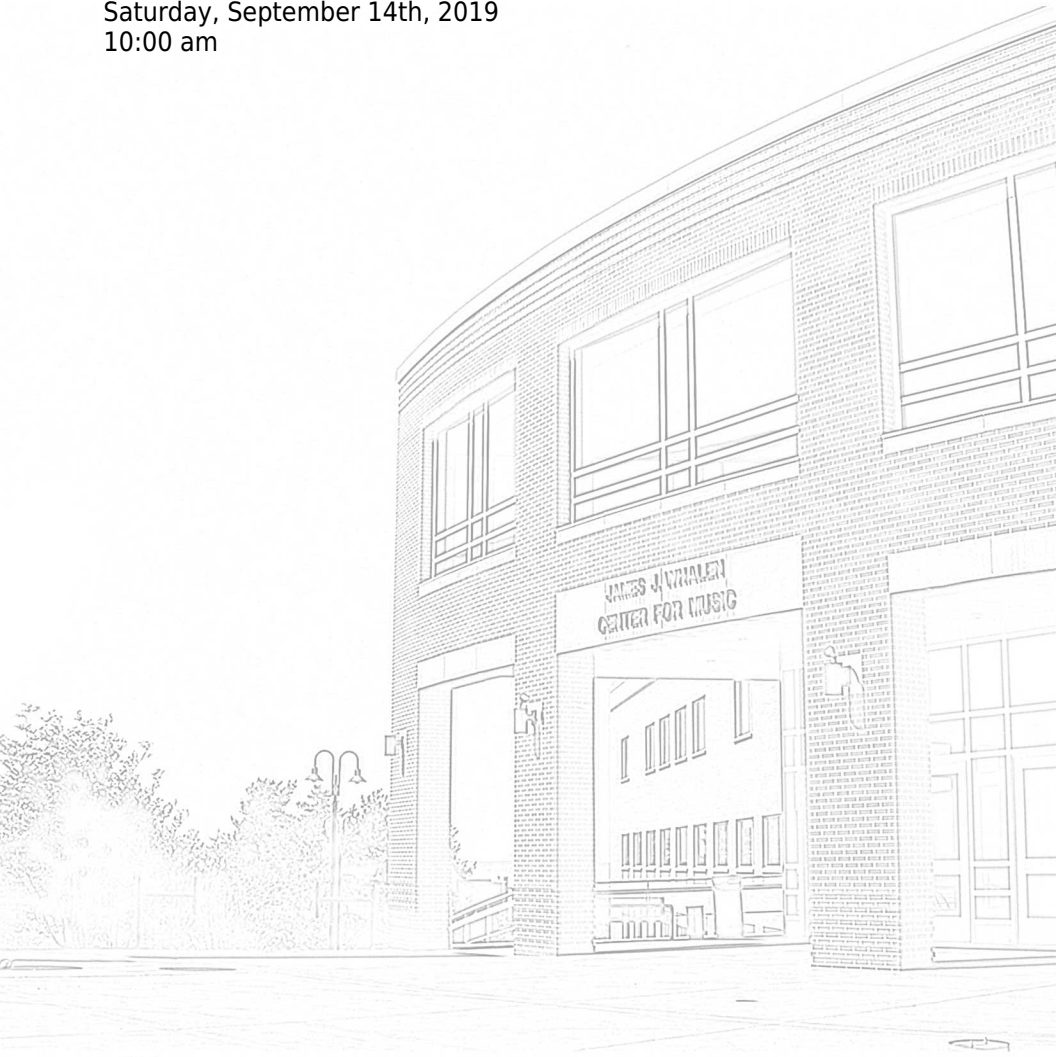
Ithaca College Jazz Ensemble

Mike Titlebaum, director

WHAT IS JAZZ?

A concert for children and families

Ford Hall
Saturday, September 14th, 2019
10:00 am



ITHACA COLLEGE

School of Music

Program

Groove Merchant

*Mike Passarelli, piano
Theo Curtin, guitar*

Thad Jones

Us

Thad Jones

Concerto for Cootie

Dan Yapp, trumpet

Duke Ellington

What Is Jazz?

Leonard Bernstein

Is 8 Enough?

Drew Martin, tenor saxophone

Mike Titlebaum

Told You So

*Steven Foti, flute
Kurt Eide, trombone*

Bill Holman

Jazz Ensemble

As aspiring jazz musicians and educators, we believe it is important that we teach about the fundamental aspects of jazz that make it unique from any other music: primarily its swinging rhythms, deep blues feeling and emphasis on improvisation. We aspire to demonstrate these things to children in a fun and engaging way 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, and a wonderful album by Leonard Bernstein from 1956 that was also 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 big band in the world.

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 remain to this day the model for how to teach kids real things about music while speaking to them in a clear, direct, and engaging way.

We hope you love the music and come back for more!

Jazz Ensemble Personnel

Saxophones

David Florentin, alto
Sara Mercurio, alto
Drew Martin, tenor
Steven Foti, tenor
Sebastian Posada, baritone

Trombones

Kurt Eide
Kate Mori
Aaron Suttle
Alexander Felker, bass

Trumpets

Dan Yapp
Shawn Rimkunas
Jennifer Rupert
Aleyna Ashenfarb

Rhythm

Michael Passarelli, piano
Nick Peloso, bass
Theo Curtin, guitar
Brendan Kennelty, drums
Eric Myers, drums

Upcoming Jazz Events at Ithaca College

Saturday Oct 12, 8:15pm, Ford: Jazz Ensemble

Friday Oct 25, 7:15pm, Ford: Dan Yapp, jazz trumpet senior recital

Sunday November 10, 2pm, Nabenhauer: Sara Shaw, Ava Gallo and Madison Carroll, elective jazz voice recital

Monday November 18, 8:15pm, Ford: Jazz Repertory Ensemble

Thursday Dec 5, 8:15pm, Ford: Jazz Vocal Ensemble

Saturday Dec 7, 3pm, Ford: Jazz Lab Band and Campus Jazz Ensemble

Saturday Dec 7, 8:15pm, Ford: Jazz Ensemble with guest artist Braxton Cook, saxophone, the David P ('60) and Susan W. Wohlhueter Jazz Ensemble Composition Contest concert

Monday Dec 9, 7pm, Hockett: Jazz Vocal Repertory Ensemble