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
Program

Groove Merchant
  Mike Passarelli, piano
  Theo Curtin, guitar

Us

Concerto for Cootie
  Dan Yapp, trumpet

What Is Jazz?
  Leonard Bernstein

Is 8 Enough?
  Drew Martin, tenor saxophone

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 demostrated clearly that they are the finest big band in the world.

Leonard Bernstein was perhaps a more suprising 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 regulary 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