

3-1-2014

Concert: Regional "Essentially Ellington" High School Jazz Band Festival at Ithaca College

Ithaca College Jazz Ensemble

Mike Titlebaum

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Ithaca College Jazz Ensemble and Titlebaum, Mike, "Concert: Regional "Essentially Ellington" High School Jazz Band Festival at Ithaca College" (2014). *All Concert & Recital Programs*. 443.

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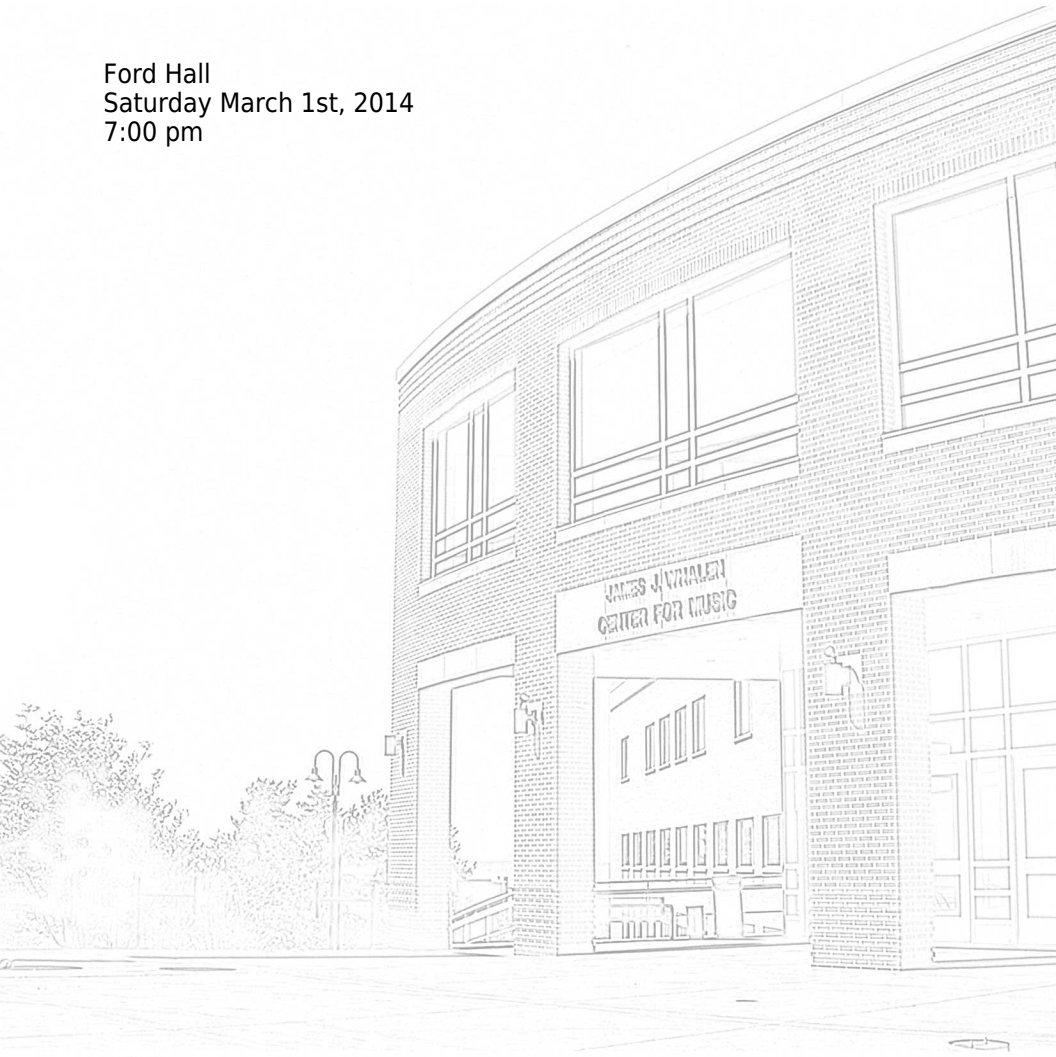
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Regional *Essentially Ellington* High School Jazz Band Festival at Ithaca College

Ithaca College Jazz Ensemble
Directed by Mike Titlebaum

With Rodney Whitaker, bass

Ford Hall
Saturday March 1st, 2014
7:00 pm



ITHACA COLLEGE

School of Music

Program

Jack the Bear

*Alex Toth, bass
Alec Miller, baritone sax
Ben Allen, trombone
Jack Storer, trumpet
Alec Staples, clarinet*

Duke Ellington

Dissonance In Blues

Alex Toth, bass

Gerald Wilson

St. Louis Blues

*Matthew Sidilau, trombone
Dan Felix, alto sax
Matt Venora, trumpet
Joshua Condon, piano*

W.C. Handy
arr. Bob Brookmeyer

Ned's Groove

Dan Felix, alto sax

Mike Titlebaum

Flirtibird (from Anatomy of a Murder)

Dan Felix, alto sax

Duke Ellington

Interlude #2.1

Mike Titlebaum

Us

Dan Felix, soprano sax

Thad Jones

Rhythm-a-Ning

*Alec Staples, tenor sax
Matt Venora, trumpet
Joshua Condon, piano*

Thelonious Monk
arr. Mike Titlebaum

Biographies

Mike Titlebaum

Saxophonist/composer/arranger Mike Titlebaum has served as director of jazz studies at Ithaca College since 2008, 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.

Titlebaum has delivered workshops, lectures and performances at numerous state and national conferences, including NYSSMA, NYSBDA, TMEA (Texas Music Educators Assoc.) and JEN (Jazz Education Network).

He played in many of New York's world famous musical venues, including the Blue Note, Smalls, Augies, Fez/Time Cafe 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.

Titlebaum has published numerous compositions and arrangements through Lorenz (Heritage Jazz Works), Advance Music, and GIA Publications. He earned his BM in Saxophone Performance from the Eastman School of Music in 1991 and the coveted Performer's Certificate in Saxophone. He received his MM in 1992 from Eastman in Jazz and Contemporary Media.

Rodney Whitaker

Internationally renowned bassist and Mack Avenue recording artist, Rodney Whitaker, currently holds the titles of Professor of Jazz Bass and Director of Jazz Studies at Michigan State University where he has built one of the leading jazz degree programs and performing faculty in the United States of America. He is considered one of the leading performers and teachers of the jazz double bass in the United States. Whitaker has performed and toured with over 100+ legendary performing jazz artists over the past 25+ years. Featured on more than 100+ recordings - from film to compact discs - Whitaker's film scores, *China*, directed by Jeff Wray, was released on PBS Fall 2002 and *Malaria and Malawi*, released on PBS Fall 2010. Also, Whitaker has a DVD release featuring Michigan State University's Jazz Department entitled, "Inside Jazz" and three new compact discs entitled, "Get Ready" & "Work To Do"—both on Mack Avenue Records and "Better Than Alright" by Michigan State University College of Music.

Essentially Ellington

Duke Ellington's music is at the very heart of America's 20th-century musical heritage and the core of the rich canon of jazz music. Jazz at Lincoln Center, committed to instilling a broader understanding of this music, created the *Essentially Ellington* program (*EE*) during the 1995-96 school year to make Ellington's music accessible to as many high school musicians as possible and to support the development of their schools' music programs.

EE is unique among educational resources for high school jazz bands. Each year Jazz at Lincoln Center transcribes, publishes, and distributes Duke Ellington Orchestra charts, along with recordings and additional educational materials, to high school bands in the U.S., Canada, and American schools abroad. These charts are original transcriptions of recordings by the Duke Ellington Orchestra, not simplified arrangements.

In 2008, Jazz at Lincoln Center began including non-Ellington repertoire. While the music of Duke Ellington will always be central to *EE*, the program now explores other important big band arrangers and composers as well—one each year. Featured artists have included Benny Carter, Mary Lou Williams, Count Basie and Dizzy Gillespie.

Throughout the school year, *EE* provides ongoing support to students and teachers participating in the program. Jazz professionals develop mentoring relationships with students through email correspondence, various conference presentations, and the season-ending festival weekend. Band directors receive quarterly newsletters and have access to online teaching guides and rehearsal videos that correspond directly to the current year's charts and offer practical ideas for the high school band room.

Personnel

Jazz Ensemble

Saxophones

Dan Felix, alto 1
Katie Herrle, alto 2
Alec Staples*, tenor 1
Zach Forlenza-Bailey, tenor 2
Alec Miller, bari

Trumpets

Matt Venora*, 1st
Jack Storer, 2nd
Rosemary Ward, 3rd
Matt Allen, 4th

Trombones

Matt Sidilau, 1st
Ben Allen, 2nd
Matthew Della Camera, 3rd
Jeff Chilton*, bass

Rhythm

Joshua Condon*, piano
Andrew Hedge, drums
Jonah Prendergast, guitar
Alex Toth, bass

* Section leader

Upcoming Jazz at Ithaca College

Wednesday, March 5, 9:00PM in Hockett Recital Hall: Junior recital of Emmett Scott, jazz piano.

Wednesday, April 9, 8:15PM in Hockett Recital Hall: Faculty recital of Nick Weiser, jazz piano.

Monday, April 21, 8:15PM in Ford Hall: Jazz Lab Band, directed by Bill Tiberio.

Monday, April 28, 8:15PM in Ford Hall: Jazz Repertory Ensemble, directed by Greg Evans.

Tuesday, April 29, 8:15PM in Hockett Recital Hall: Jazz Vocal Ensemble, directed by Catherine Gale.

Saturday, May 3, 12:00 Noon in Ford Hall: Campus Band directed by Dan Isbell, and Campus Jazz Band directed by Bill Tiberio.

Sunday, May 4, 4:00PM in Ford Hall: Ithaca College Jazz Ensemble, directed by Mike Titlebaum.