

UMassAmherst

Fine Arts Center

The Democracy! Suite

**The Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra Septet
with Wynton Marsalis**

Sunday, November 15, 3:00 p.m. ET

Virtual Performance with Live Artist Talkback



Photo credit: Piper Ferguson



The UMass Fine Arts Center is supported by the New England Foundation for the Arts through the New England Arts Resilience Fund, part of the United States Regional Arts Resilience Fund, an initiative of the U.S. Regional Arts Organizations and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, with major funding from the federal CARES Act from the National Endowment for the Arts.

UMass Amherst occupies the traditional land of the Nonotuck tribe. We would also like to acknowledge our neighboring Indigenous nations: the Nipmuc and the Wampanoag to the East, the Mohegan and Pequot to the South, the Mohican to the West, and the Abenaki to the North.

The presentation of The Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra Septet with Wynton Marsalis is sponsored by:



THE ARTISTS

Wynton Marsalis, trumpet/music director
Elliot Mason, trombone
Ted Nash, alto saxophone and flute
Walter Blanding, tenor and soprano saxophones
Dan Nimmer, piano
Carlos Henriquez, bass
Obed Calvaire, drums

PROGRAM

The Democracy! Suite

- 1) Be Present
- 2) Sloganize, Patronize, Realize, Revolutionize (Black Lives Matters)
- 3) Ballot Box Bounce
- 4) That Dance We Do (That You Love Too)
- 5) Deeper Than Dreams
- 6) Out Amongst the People (for J Bat)
- 7) It Come 'Round 'Gin
- 8) That's When All Will See

ABOUT JLCO Septet (Virtual Dates)

The Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra Septet's performance of *The Democracy! Suite* aims to entertain, inspire, and uplift audiences with the full vigor, vision, and depth of America's music. Led by trumpeter/composer Wynton Marsalis and featuring seven of jazz's finest soloists, the concert's unique repertoire celebrates jazz's embodiment of freedom and democracy.

The evening will feature the premiere of *The Democracy! Suite*, a new Marsalis composition written during the ongoing Covid-19 crisis as a response to the political, social, and economic struggles facing our nation. The Democracy Suite is a swinging and stimulating instrumental rumination on the issues that have recently dominated our lives as well as the beauty that could emerge from a collective effort to create a better future. This concert was filmed on September 27, 2020 at Frederick P. Rose Hall in New York City in accordance with the New York State Department of Health Interim Guidance on Media Production during the Covid-19 Emergency

ABOUT JLCO:

The Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis (JLCO) comprises 15 of the finest jazz soloists and ensemble players today. Led by Wynton Marsalis, Jazz at Lincoln Center Managing and Artistic Director, this remarkably versatile orchestra performs a vast repertoire ranging from original compositions and Jazz at Lincoln Center-commissioned works to rare historic compositions and masterworks by Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Fletcher Henderson, Thelonious Monk, Mary Lou Williams, Dizzy Gillespie, Benny Goodman, Charles Mingus, and many others. The JLCO has been the Jazz at Lincoln Center resident orchestra since 1988, performing and leading educational events in New York, across the United States, and around the globe. Alongside symphony orchestras, ballet troupes, local students, and an ever-expanding roster of guest artists, the JLCO has toured over 300 cities across six continents. Guest conductors have included Benny Carter, John Lewis, Jimmy Heath, Chico O'Farrill, Ray Santos, Paquito D'Rivera, Jon Faddis, Robert Sadin, David Berger, Gerald

Wilson, and Loren Schoenberg. The JLCO has been voted best Big Band in the annual DownBeat Readers' Poll from 2013–2016.

In 2015, Jazz at Lincoln Center announced the launch of Blue Engine Records, a new platform to make its archive of recorded concerts available to jazz audiences everywhere. The first release from Blue Engine Records, *Live in Cuba*, was recorded on a historic 2010 trip to Havana by the JLCO and was released in October 2015. *Big Band Holidays* was released in December 2015, *The Abyssinian Mass* came out in March 2016, *The Music of John Lewis* was released in March 2017, and the JLCO's *Handful of Keys* came out in September 2017. Blue Engine's *United We Swing: Best of the Jazz at Lincoln Center Galas* features the Wynton Marsalis Septet and an array of special guests, with all proceeds going toward Jazz at Lincoln Center's education initiatives. Recent album releases include 2018's *Una Noché con Ruben Blades*, 2019's *Betty Carter's The Music Never Stops*, 2019's *Bolden (Official Soundtrack)*, composed and performed by Wynton Marsalis. *Wynton Marsalis' Swing Symphony*, performed by the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra and the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra conducted by David Robertson was released in July 2019. To date, 14 other recordings have been released and internationally distributed: *Vitoria Suite*, *Portrait in Seven Shades*; *Congo Square*, *Don't Be Afraid ...The Music of Charles Mingus*, *A Love Supreme*, *All Rise*, *Big Train*, *Sweet Release & Ghost Story*, *Live in Swing City*, *Jump Start and Jazz*, *Blood on the Fields*, *They Came to Swing*, *The Fire of the Fundamentals*, and *Portraits by Ellington*.

ABOUT JALC:

Jazz at Lincoln Center is dedicated to inspiring and growing audiences for jazz. With the world-renowned Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra and a comprehensive array of guest artists, Jazz at Lincoln Center advances a unique vision for the continued development of the art of jazz by producing a year-round schedule of performance, education, and broadcast events for audiences of all ages. These productions include concerts, national and international tours, residencies, weekly national radio programs, television broadcasts, recordings, publications, an annual high school jazz band competition and festival, a band director academy, jazz appreciation curricula for students, music publishing, children's concerts and classes, lectures, adult education courses, student and educator workshops, a record label, and interactive websites. Under the leadership of Managing and Artistic Director Wynton Marsalis, Chairman Clarence Otis, and Executive Director Greg Scholl, Jazz at Lincoln Center produces thousands of events each season in its home in New York City, Frederick P. Rose Hall, and around the world. For more information, visit jazz.org.

BIOGRAPHY: WYNTON MARSALIS

Wynton Marsalis (Trumpet) is the managing and artistic director of Jazz at Lincoln Center and a world-renowned trumpeter and composer. Born in New Orleans, Louisiana in 1961, Marsalis began his classical training on trumpet at age 12, entered The Juilliard School at age 17, and then joined Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers. He made his recording debut as a leader in 1982, and has since recorded more than 60 jazz and classical recordings, which have won him nine Grammy Awards. In 1983 he became the first and only artist to win both classical and jazz Grammys in the same year and repeated this feat in 1984. Marsalis is also an internationally respected teacher and spokesman for music education, and has received honorary doctorates from dozens of U.S. universities and colleges. He has written six books; his most recent are *Squeak, Rumble, Whomp! Whomp! Whomp!*, illustrated by Paul Rogers and published by Candlewick Press in 2012, and *Moving to Higher Ground: How Jazz Can Change Your Life* with Geoffrey C. Ward, published by Random House in 2008. In 1997 Marsalis became the first jazz artist to be awarded the prestigious Pulitzer Prize in music for his oratorio *Blood on the Fields*, which was commissioned by Jazz at Lincoln Center. In 2001 he was appointed Messenger of Peace by Mr. Kofi Annan, Secretary-General of the United Nations, and he has also been designated cultural ambassador to the United States of America by the U.S. State Department through their CultureConnect program. Marsalis was instrumental in the Higher Ground Hurricane Relief concert, produced by Jazz at Lincoln Center. The event raised more than \$3 million for the Higher Ground Relief Fund to benefit the musicians, music industry-related enterprises, and other individuals and entities from the areas in Greater New Orleans who were affected by Hurricane Katrina. Marsalis helped lead the effort to construct Jazz at Lincoln Center's home—Frederick P. Rose Hall—the first education, performance, and broadcast facility devoted to jazz, which opened in October 2004.

Upcoming event:



Sandglass Theater: Rock the Boat

Sunday, November 22, 2020
3:00 p.m. ET

Online Video Premiere followed
by artist Q&A

Rock the Boat is a puppet show for young audiences that explores themes of refugees, inclusion and respectful curiosity. A Poet in a boat, alone at sea, observing his routines suddenly finds his home filling with new characters seeking shelter and safety. Each, we learn, has fled some disaster: war, fire or flood. As all the newcomers and the Poet navigate life together on the vessel, they meet conflict, generosity, kindness and questions about who each other are. The Poet's poems become richer and deeper, and the unlikely collection of beings learn to steer threatening waters together. Rock the Boat aims to get young audiences thinking about relocation and displacement by addressing attitudes about acceptance of those who come from other countries and cultures. The production provides a narrative in which there is room for everyone in an inclusive society.

This performance is part of our REIMAGINE RESIDENCIES SERIES, a new residency program working with nationally-recognized artists, and dedicated to addressing contemporary social issues through performance, education, and outreach activities. More deeply, artists are asked what it means to be engaged with their art form as well as community and the public in this historical moment, and to allow that inquiry to serve as the impetus behind their residency. The Reimagine Residences Series is supported by Applewood & Loomis Communities.

Tickets for all **Fine Arts Center Fall 2020** events are free. For more information about these and all UMass Fine Arts Center Events and to get your ticketing link please visit:

fineartscenter.com