

# MILES AHEAD

The Music of Miles Davis, Wayne Shorter, and Herbie Hancock

with the

Princeton University Concert Jazz Ensemble,  
Jazz Ensemble II, & Wayne Shorter Ensemble

directed by

**Anthony D.J. Branker**

featuring the

world premiere of a newly commissioned composition by  
NEA Jazz Master Jimmy Heath

**Saturday,  
May 7, 2005  
at 8:00 p.m.**

**Richardson Auditorium  
in Alexander Hall  
Princeton University**



Funding for the Jimmy Heath commission was made possible by a generous grant for The Commission Project, Sons of Sound, and the Princeton University Jazz Program.

## Program

### Wayne Shorter Ensemble

This is for Albert. .... Wayne Shorter  
Another Time Around ..... Charles Staab  
Intercession ..... Ben Wasserman

### Jazz Ensemble II

But Not For Me ..... George Gershwin  
lyrics by Ira Gershwin  
arr. Bob Mintzer  
Tell Me A Bedtime Story ..... Herbie Hancock  
arr. Gary Lindsay  
Dear Old Stockholm ..... Varmeland  
arr. Dan Hamuy  
Maiden Voyage ..... Herbie Hancock  
arr. Mark Taylor

### *intermission*

### Concert Jazz Ensemble

Dolphin Dance ..... Herbie Hancock  
arr. Bob Mintzer  
Joshua ..... Victor Feldman  
arr. Bob Mintzer  
The Maids of Cadiz ..... Léo Delibes  
arr. Gil Evans  
Seven Steps to Heaven ..... Victor Feldman  
arr. Manny Mendelson  
For the Love Of ..... Jimmy Heath  
Prince of Darkness ..... Wayne Shorter  
arr. Chuck Dotas

## CONCERT JAZZ ENSEMBLE

### *Saxophones*

alto 1: Irwin Hall+  
alto 2: Robert Berger  
tenor 1: Ben Wasserman  
tenor 2: Anthony Badaracco  
baritone: Richa Gawande

### *Trombones*

lead: Sarah Medrek  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Matt Musselman  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Cesar Caro  
4<sup>th</sup>: Danny Brome

### *Trumpets*

lead: Marcus Lowther  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Chris Thomas  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Justin Pines  
4<sup>th</sup>: Gus Tate

### *Rhythm Section*

piano: Julia Brav+  
bass: Daniel Ryan\*  
Dean Reynolds  
drums: Jonathan Marks\*  
Chuck Staab  
Bryan Gergen

## JAZZ ENSEMBLE II

### *Saxophones*

alto 1: Geoff Nelson  
alto 2: Kevin Shi  
tenor 1: Dylon Robbins  
tenor 2: Ramsey Stephan  
baritone: Willie Wong

### *Trombones*

lead: Matt Musselman  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Paul Chin  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Brent Werness  
4<sup>th</sup>: Danny Brome

### *Trumpets*

lead: Malik Saunders  
2<sup>nd</sup>: David Zaslavsky  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Greg Hiller  
4<sup>th</sup>: Russ Renzas

### *Rhythm Section*

piano: Ernest Brewster  
Rajiv Ayyangar  
guitar: John Norwood  
John Fontein  
bass: Evan Younger  
Jennifer Ruskey  
Ben Markowitz  
drums: Mischa Carlson  
Raj Seshadri

## WAYNE SHORTER ENSEMBLE

*Robbie Spackey* – alto and soprano saxophones;  
*Ben Wasserman* – tenor saxophone; *Christopher Huckfeldt\** – piano;  
*Dan Ryan* – acoustic bass; *Jonathan Marks* – drums

\* Certificate Program in Musical Performance  
+ 2005 New Jersey IAJE Intercollegiate All State Jazz Ensemble

## Princeton University Jazz Program

The **Princeton University Jazz Program** is dedicated to providing a much-needed educational forum for the study of the performance practices and rich cultural legacy of jazz. Students involved in jazz performance have numerous opportunities to concertize, participate in master classes, study privately, and to pursue independent projects. They also have the opportunity to participate in academic courses from the music department curriculum that encourage the study of the historical, social, theoretical, stylistic, and creative issues that pertain to the jazz idiom. In addition, Princeton's jazz program sponsors a number of outreach activities that are designed to enrich elementary, middle school, and high school students throughout the state, and the community at large.

The **Princeton University Concert Jazz Ensemble**, under the direction of **Anthony D.J. Branker**, enjoys a reputation as one of the most outstanding collegiate jazz groups in the United States. These gifted students, and others in Princeton's national award-winning jazz program, have appeared in concert with such internationally renowned jazz artists as *Clark Terry, Phil Woods, Slide Hampton, Jimmy Heath, Jon Faddis, Oliver Lake, Frank Foster, Benny Carter, Ted Curson, Stanley Jordan, Bobby Watson, Terence Blanchard, Bob Mintzer, Ralph Peterson, Steve Nelson, Antonio Hart, Don Braden, Jacky Terrasson, Jonny King, Walt Weiskopf, Valery Ponomarev, Bryan Carrott, Michael Philip Mossman, Ralph Bowen, Rick Margitza, Mark Gross, Clifford Adams, Jeffery Smith, and Guilherme Franco*. They have also been fortunate to feature *Dr. Billy Taylor, Victor Lewis, Bill Frisell, Roy Hargrove, James Williams, Craig Handy, Conrad Herwig, Gene Bertoncini, Jim Black, Bruce Williams, and Jeremy Pelt* as guest lecturers in master class situations.

In an effort to educate and expose, **Princeton's Jazz Program** has undertaken a number of stylistically diverse and challenging projects in concert programming. They have presented such programs as **"Hotter Than That: Louis Armstrong and the Early Years of Jazz"** – featuring music from Armstrong's Hot Five and Hot Seven Recordings, Jelly Roll Morton and Fletcher Henderson; Lalo Schifrin's afrocentric **Gillespiana Suite**, written for trumpeter Dizzy Gillespie; **"Jazz and the Latin Tinge"** – spotlighting classic works from the Latin jazz orchestras of Mario Bauza, Dizzy Gillespie and Chico O'Farrill; and **"A Love Supreme: The Spirit and Sound of John Coltrane's Music"** featuring tenor saxophonist **Ralph Bowen**, the world premiere of a commissioned work for big band by composer & trumpeter **Michael Philip Mossman**, and a performance of John Coltrane's 'A Love Supreme' suite.

The jazz program is also dedicated to the performance of the historically significant music of Duke Ellington and Billy Strayhorn. They have presented such works as Ellington's extended orchestral composition, **A Tone Parallel to**

**Harlem** with the Delaware Valley Philharmonic Orchestra and the Princeton University Orchestra, **New World A Comin'** with the Princeton University Orchestra, **The Sacred Concert Music of Duke Ellington** with the Princeton University Chapel Choir as well as with the University Glee Club and Gospel Ensemble, Ellington and Strayhorn's **Far East** and **New Orleans Suites**, the all-Strayhorn program of big band music entitled, **"A Lush Life: The Music of Billy Strayhorn,"** as well as the Ellington/Strayhorn collaborative adaptation of Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky's **Nutcracker Suite** and Edvard Grieg's **Peer Gynt Suites Nos. 1 & 2**. The **Concert Jazz Ensemble** has also been proud to present a number of concerts devoted to the works of guest composers. Such programs have focused on the music of Jimmy Heath, Frank Foster, Slide Hampton, Bob Mintzer, Oliver Lake, Michael Philip Mossman, Bobby Watson, Ralph Bowen, Ted Curson, Ralph Peterson, Jonny King and Walt Weiskopf.

In 1999, the **University Monk/Mingus Ensemble** was named the winner of the 22nd Annual *Down Beat* magazine Student Music Award for **"Best Jazz Instrumental Group"** in the college division. Recently, Princeton's jazz program received its second national award from *Down Beat* when **Ensemble X** was chosen as the winner of **"Outstanding Performance"** honors in the jazz instrumental group category. The **Concert Jazz Ensemble** has been featured in performance at the International Association for Jazz Education International Conference in Washington, D.C., the National Endowment for the Humanities Paul Robeson Institute at Rutgers University, Down Beat MusicFest U.S.A. National Finals (Oakland, California), and has received numerous awards at intercollegiate jazz festivals held at the University of Notre Dame, Villanova University, and Rowan (Glassboro) University. In addition, several students from the Concert Jazz Ensemble were named winners of prestigious **"Outstanding Soloist"** awards at Down Beat's Musicfest U.S.A. National Finals and at the Notre Dame Intercollegiate Jazz Festival. Recently, the **University Afro-Groove Ensemble** was featured at the 2004 New Jersey Music Educators Association (NJMEA) State Conference and at the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual North Texas Jazz Festival with two members of the group receiving "Outstanding Soloist" awards. Recently, composition graduate student **Randy Bauer** was named the recipient of an **Honorable Mention Award** in the **2004-2005 ASCAP Foundation Young Jazz Composers Award Competition** for his composition, **"Wide-Eyed Wonder."** This work was created thanks to a commission from The Commission Project® and was premiered by the University Concert Jazz Ensemble in 2003.

Princeton's jazz program has also produced nine recording projects over the past fifteen years, which include *Yesternow: The Princeton University Jazz Program 1989-2004 compilation CD, It's All About the Groove (Afro-Groove Ensemble & Fusion Ensemble), Sounds From The Free-Thinking (Monk/Mingus Ensemble)* with guest trumpet soloist and former Mingus band member Ted Curson, *Music From the Sacred Concerts of Edward Kennedy Ellington*

(Concert Jazz Ensemble and Chapel Choir), *What's Going On?* (Ensemble X), *Mosaic* (Concert Jazz Ensemble & Hard Bop Ensemble), *The Sacred Concert Music of Duke Ellington* (Concert Jazz Ensemble, Glee Club and Gospel Ensemble), *Mean What You Say* (Concert Jazz Ensemble), and *7 Steps 2 Heaven* (Concert Jazz Ensemble).

Presently, the **Princeton University Jazz Ensemble Program** features two 17-piece big bands (Concert Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Ensemble II) and an ever-changing variety of small groups which have included the Wayne Shorter Ensemble, Ellington/Strayhorn Ensemble, Jazz Messengers Ensemble, John Coltrane Ensemble, Afro-Groove Ensemble, Fusion Ensemble, Horace Silver Ensemble, Ensemble X, New Orleans Ensemble, Art Blakey Ensemble, Avant Garde Ensemble, Jazz Composers' Ensemble, Miles Davis Ensemble, Monk/Mingus Ensemble, Hard Bop Ensemble, CJE Jazztet, Jazz Saxophone Quartet, and the Jazz Vespers Ensemble. Qualified students have the opportunity to pursue further studies in jazz performance through the Music Department's *Certificate Program in Musical Performance*.

## The Conductor

**Anthony D.J. Branker** is Senior Lecturer in Music and Conductor of University Jazz Ensembles at Princeton University, where he has also served as acting director of the Certificate Program in Musical Performance. In addition, he is a member of the jazz faculty at the Manhattan School of Music where he teaches jazz history. Mr. Branker has served as Professor of Music and Director of Jazz Studies at Hunter College of the City University of New York, where he was also the Director of Performance Studies, Artistic Director of Hunter's Jazz Forum Concert Series, and conductor of the *Hunter Jazz Repertory Orchestra*. Mr. Branker has also served as Chairperson of the Department of Music at Ursinus College, where he was a member of the faculty for ten years and as Instrumental Music Coordinator and Head of Jazz Studies for the New Jersey Summer Arts Institute at Rutgers University for ten years.

Professor Branker was recently named a Fulbright Scholar and will lecture in Estonia at the Estonian Academy of Music during the fall semester of 2005. He has also been honored by the United States Department of Education with a Presidential Scholars Teacher Recognition Award, the Institute for Arts and Humanities Education Distinguished Teaching Award, the International Association of Jazz Educators Award for Outstanding Service to Jazz Education, and was the recipient of the 2004 Alumni Award presented by the Association of Black Princeton Alumni. He has appeared as guest conductor with the *Jugend Sinfonie Orchester* (Bremen, Germany), *Kiryat Ono Symphonic Youth Band* (Israel), *Fukui Junior Orchestra* (Fukui, Japan), the *New Jersey IAJE Intercollegiate All State Jazz Ensemble*, the *NJ-IAJE Region*

*II High School Jazz Ensemble*, and has conducted performances that have featured the *Princeton University Orchestra*, *Chapel Choir*, *Glee Club/Concert Choir*, and *Gospel Ensemble*.

As a composer, Branker has received two composition prizes from the International Association for Jazz Education and two commissions from The Commission Project®. He has also served as a composer-in-residence and has had his music featured in performance in Russia, France, Finland, Germany, Lithuania, New York's Symphony Space, and at ASCAP's Jazz Songwriters Showcase at the Fez under the Time Café. His works have been performed and/or recorded by Steve Nelson, Stanley Jordan, Talib Kibwe, Bryan Carrott, Jann Parker, and the Spirit of Life Ensemble and have featured such guest soloists as Kenny Barron, Eddie Henderson, John Hicks, Valery Ponomarev, Winard Harper, Joe Ford, Cecil Brooks III, Onaje Allen Gumbs, and Alex Blake. His most recent CD project, *Spirit Songs*, is on the Sounds of Sound record label and features Branker's ensemble **Ascent** with alto & soprano saxophonist Antonio Hart, tenor & soprano saxophonist Ralph Bowen, trombonist Clifford Adams Jr., pianist Jonny King, bassist John Benitez, and drummer Ralph Peterson Jr.

As a trumpeter, Branker has performed and recorded with the *Spirit of Life Ensemble* – including a five-year residency at New York's internationally renowned 'Sweet Basil' jazz club. He has served as assistant musical director & composer for the group and was featured on four of their CD releases. He has also performed at a variety of festivals, concert halls and clubs in the United States and abroad, including such locales as Russia, Finland, France, Germany, Lithuania, and Estonia. He has worked in a variety of musical settings with such artists as Ted Curson, Talib Kibwe, Guilherme Franco & Nova Bossa Nova, Michael Cochrane, Steve Nelson, Eddie Henderson, Rick Margitza, Gary Burton, Stanley Jordan, Benny Carter, Ralph Peterson, Terence Blanchard, Roscoe Mitchell, the R&B group *Tavares*, and has performed in the critically acclaimed Off-Broadway production of *Dinah Was: The Dinah Washington Musical*.

Professor Branker has received fellowships or grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, Rutgers Institute of Jazz Studies, and Ursinus College. He has appeared as a lecturer for the National Endowment for the Humanities "Paul Robeson Institute" at Rutgers University, the Princeton University Alumni College Seminar "New Orleans: City of Jazz" (New Orleans, Louisiana), the Plexus Institute, and at Drew University. He has presented research at international conferences of the College Music Society and the International Association of Jazz Educators and has had numerous articles published; ranging in topic from the music of Cuba and its influence on American music to an examination of the blues and jazz in African-American poetry. Mr. Branker holds a Master of Music in Jazz Pedagogy from the University of Miami as well as a Bachelor of Arts in Music and a Certificate in African-American Studies from Princeton University. He is currently working towards his Doctorate in Education at Columbia University's Teachers College.



**Funding** for Jimmy Heath's composition "For the Love Of" was made possible by a very generous grant from The Commission Project®, Sons of Sound Productions, and the Princeton University Jazz Program.

### **The Commission Project®**

The Commission Project (TCP) fosters creativity through music education by bringing students together with professional composers and performers in schools and communities nationwide.

The Commission Project is one of the most active music commissioning organizations in the country. Since 1994, over 18,000 students have benefited from these programs that have resulted in 327 new musical compositions, of which 79 have been published, and 32 have been commercially recorded. Students' knowledge and appreciation of both the creative and performance aspects of music are significantly increased by these residencies, which consistently add a whole new dimension to their educational experience.

TCP is a 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit music education organization, relying on support from government agencies such as the National Endowment for the Arts; foundations such as the Rochester Area Community Foundation and Music For Youth Foundation; corporations such as Citibank and M&T Bank; and generous individuals. For more information or to make a contribution, please contact:

The Commission Project  
500 Panorama Trail  
Rochester, NY 14625  
(585) 385-6440  
[www.tcp-music.org](http://www.tcp-music.org)