

# EXTENDING THE *Tradition*

The Music of Charles Mingus,  
Thad Jones, Horace Silver,  
Bob Mintzer, Kenny Werner and  
the Princeton University  
Jazz Composers Collective

featuring the Princeton University  
Concert Jazz Ensemble  
and Jazz Composers Collective  
directed by  
Anthony D.J. Branker

**Saturday,**  
**December 2, 2006**  
at 8:00 p.m.

Richardson Auditorium  
in Alexander Hall

Princeton  
University



# Program

## Jazz Composers Collective

- Expanding Horizons .....Irwin Hall
- Il Mago .....Julia Brav
- Day Break .....Chuck Staab
- Thin Places .....Dean Reynolds
- Oven Timer .....Theo Beers
- Transient Self.....Ben Wasserman

### *intermission*

## Concert Jazz Ensemble

- Mean What You Say ..... Thad Jones  
transcribed by Michael Weiss
- Mosaic ..... Bob Mintzer
- Moanin' ..... Charles Mingus  
arr. Sy Johnson
- Compensation ..... Kenny Werner
- Nica's Dream ..... Horace Silver  
arr. Michael Mossman

## JAZZ COMPOSERS COLLECTIVE

Irwin Hall, alto & soprano saxophone  
Ben Wasserman, tenor saxophone  
Julia Brav, piano  
Dean Reynolds, bass  
Theo Beers, bass  
Chuck Staab, drums

## CONCERT JAZZ ENSEMBLE

### *Saxophones*

alto 1: Ross Silverman  
alto 2: Stephen Hammer  
tenor 1: Robert W. Enoch  
tenor 2: Jonathan Scholl  
baritone: Richa Gawande

### *Trombones*

lead: Charles Sneath  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Matt Rich  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Daniel Jaffe  
4<sup>th</sup>: Katherine Sanden

### *Trumpets*

lead: Andrew Sowa  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Joseph Codega  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Justin Pines  
4<sup>th</sup>: Peter Ketcham-Colwill  
Harrison Frye

### *Rhythm Section*

piano: Julia Brav  
Daniel Berry  
guitar: Zachary Wieder  
bass: Matt Wong  
Theo Beers  
drums: Chuck Staab  
Tyler Pines

## Princeton University Jazz Program

Throughout the years, the **Princeton University Jazz Program** under the direction of **Anthony D.J. Branker** has sought to educate and expose the university community to the artistic and historical significance of jazz by presenting artists and repertoire that are representative of the wide spectrum of styles and conceptual approaches found throughout the music's evolution. 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. We are excited to report that Princeton's jazz program, in partnership with the Princeton Public Library, has received a 2006-2007 **Looking At: Jazz, America's Art Form** grant from the **National Endowment for the Humanities** in collaboration with **Jazz at Lincoln Center**, **the American Library Association** and **National Video Resources**. The *Looking At: Jazz* project series will explore the cultural and social history of jazz through the presentation of six compelling documentary films, accompanied by viewing and discussion programs, essays by eminent scholars, and live performances for the community that will feature the Princeton University Concert Jazz Ensemble, Swingtet, and Afro-Latin Ensemble.

Presently, the ensemble program features one 17-piece big band and an ever changing variety of small groups, which have included Jazz Composers Collective, Wayne Shorter Ensemble, Afro-Latin Ensemble, Swingtet, Ornette Coleman Ensemble, Ellington/Strayhorn Ensemble, Jazz Messengers Ensemble, Afro-Groove Ensemble, Fusion Ensemble, John Coltrane Ensemble, Horace Silver Ensemble, Ensemble X, New Orleans Ensemble, Jazz Saxophone Quartet, Art Blakey Ensemble, Avant Garde Ensemble, Jazz Composers' Ensemble, Miles Davis Ensemble, Monk/Mingus Ensemble, Hard Bop Ensemble, Jazztet, 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*.

In an effort to provide ensemble members with the opportunity to learn from recognized jazz masters, Princeton's national award-winning jazz program has been fortunate to sponsor master class residencies and

feature its ensembles in concert performances 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, Rick Margitza, Ralph Bowen, Mark Gross, Clifford Adams, Jeffery Smith, Guilherme Franco, and Winston Byrd*. The program has also been fortunate to feature *Dr. Billy Taylor, Victor Lewis, Bill Frisell, Fred Hersch, Roy Hargrove, Hugh Masekela, James Williams, Craig Handy, Conrad Herwig, Jeremy Pelt, Gene Bertoncini, Jim Black, Bruce Williams, and Wilson "Willie Tee" Turbinton* as guest lecturers in master class situations.

Over the years, the award-winning **Concert Jazz Ensemble** has dedicated itself to the performance of the historically significant music of Duke Ellington and Billy Strayhorn. They have presented such works as: **The Far East Suite** with the Juilliard Jazz Orchestra; 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; 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.

Princeton offers a number of outstanding jazz performance groups. The **University Jazz Composers Collective** recently traveled to **Estonia** for a series of concerts sponsored by the **Department of State of the United States of America, the U.S. Embassy in Estonia, and the Estonian Academy of Music**. The ensemble presented three concerts, including a performance at the Estonian Academy of Music in Tallinn, where they premiered *The Eesti Jazz Suite* composed by the group's director, **Anthony D.J. Branker** during his fall 2005 residency as a U.S. Fulbright Scholar and visiting professor of music at the academy of music. The University

Jazz Composers Collective also gave a performance at the Geneva Night Club in the city of Narva, which was recorded for broadcast on **Estonian National Radio**, and at Theatre No. 99 in Tallinn where they featured two sets of original music created by students in the ensemble and were joined by Estonian jazz vocalist Kadri Voorand and guitarist Jaak Sooäär, chair of the jazz department at the academy of music. The Jazz Composers Collective was also featured in performance on **Estonian National Television (ETV)**. 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.

Princeton's jazz program has also produced nine recording projects over the past seventeen 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).

## The Conductor

**Anthony D.J. Branker** is Senior Lecturer in Music and Conductor of University Jazz Ensembles at Princeton University, where he also serves as Associate Director of the Program in Musical Performance. In 2005, he was named a U.S. Fulbright Scholar and visiting professor at the Estonian Academy of Music in Tallinn, Estonia. Mr. Branker has also served as a member of the jazz faculty of the Manhattan School of Music; Professor of Music, Director of Jazz Studies, and Director of Performance Studies at Hunter College of the City University of New York; Chairperson of the Department of Music at Ursinus College, and Instrumental Music Coordinator and Head of Jazz Studies for the New Jersey Summer Arts Institute at Rutgers University. He has 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.

As a composer, Branker has received composition prizes, commissions, served as composer-in-residence, and has had his music featured in performance in Russia, France, Finland, Estonia, Germany, and Lithuania. During his residency at the Estonian Academy of Music, Branker composed *The Eesti Jazz Suite*, a five-movement work inspired by the culture and people of Estonia. This work was premiered in November of 2006 at the academy of music as part of the concert tour of the Princeton University Jazz Composers Collective, which was sponsored by the Department of State of the United States, the U.S. Embassy in Estonia, and the Estonian Academy of Music. Branker's most recent CD project *Spirit Songs* was released internationally in 2006 on the Sons of Sound record label and features Branker's ensemble 'Ascent' in a program of eight original works with performances by alto & soprano saxophonist Antonio Hart, tenor & soprano saxophonist Ralph Bowen, trombonist Clifford Adams, pianist Jonny King, bassist John Benitez, and drummer Ralph Peterson. This recording is available through Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble, Borders Books & Music, Tower Records, J&R Music, Best Buy, and iTunes.

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, and has performed at

a variety of festivals, concert halls and clubs in the United States and abroad. 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*.

Mr. Branker has appeared as guest jazz conductor with the *Jugend Sinfonie Orchester* (Bremen, Germany), Israel's *Kiryat Ono Symphonic Youth Band*, Japan's *Fukui Junior Orchestra*, *Estonian Academy of Music Big Band* (Tallinn, Estonia), *New Jersey IAJE Intercollegiate All State Jazz Ensemble*, *New Jersey IAJE High School Region II All State Jazz Ensemble*, and has led performances that have featured the *Princeton University Orchestra*, *Chapel Choir*, *Glee Club/Concert Choir*, and *Gospel Ensemble*. While at Princeton, Mr. Branker has directed two national award-winning jazz groups, including the *Monk/Mingus Ensemble*, winner of the *Down Beat* magazine Student Music Award for "Best Jazz Instrumental Group," and *Ensemble X*, recipient of a 2003 *Down Beat* music award for "Outstanding Performance."

Professor Branker has received fellowships or grants from the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board/Council for International Exchange of Scholars, the National Endowment for the Humanities, Rutgers Institute of Jazz Studies, and Ursinus College. He has appeared as a lecturer for the Department of Pop & Jazz Music at Helsinki Polytechnic Stadia in Helsinki, Finland; Kuressaare Music Academy on the Estonian island of Saaremaa; the Pop/Jazz Program at Viljandi Kultuuriakadeemia Muusikamajas in Viljandi, Estonia; National Endowment for the Humanities Paul Robeson Institute at Rutgers University; the Princeton University Alumni College Seminar "New Orleans: City of Jazz" in New Orleans, Louisiana; the Plexus Institute; Drew University; and will serve as program scholar for the *Looking At: Jazz, America's Art Form* project series in Princeton during the spring of 2007. Professor Branker is a member of the board of directors of the New Jersey Chapter of the International Association for Jazz Education and the Princeton Symphony Orchestra, in addition to serving on the advisory board of MIMA Music, Inc.

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.

**For a complete listing of all  
Princeton University Jazz Program  
concerts for the 2006-2007 season,  
please visit our website at  
[www.princeton.edu/~puje](http://www.princeton.edu/~puje)**

**or**

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