Saturday, October 14, 2017 at 8pm
Richardson Auditorium in Alexander Hall

JAZZ at PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
Rudresh Mahanthappa, Director

presents

THE GERALD CLAYTON TRIO
Gerald Clayton, Piano
Matt Brewer, Bass
Jeremy Dutton, Drums

with
Anson Jones ’21, Voice
Alex Laurenzi ’20, Alto Saxophone
Diego Aldarondo ’18, Tenor Saxophone
Spencer Hadley ’18, Trumpet
William Grear ’20, Trumpet
Sam Bartusek ’20, Guitar
Sean Decker ’18, Bass
Ben Alessio ‘21, Drums

Selections to be announced from stage.
Jazz at Princeton University serves to promote this uniquely American music as a contemporary and relevant art form. Our goals are to convey the vast musical and social history of jazz, establish a strong theoretical and stylistic foundation with regard to improvisation and composition, and emphasize the development of individual expression and creativity. Offerings of this program include academic course work, performing ensembles, master classes, private study, and independent projects.

We thank you for joining us on this evening’s journey of beauty, exploration, discovery, and hope.

ABOUT THE GUEST ARTIST

Gerald Clayton searches for honest expression in every note he plays. With harmonic curiosity and critical awareness, he develops musical narratives that unfold as a result of both deliberate searching and chance uncovering. The four-time GRAMMY-nominated pianist/composer formally began his musical journey at the prestigious Los Angeles County High School for the Arts, where he received the 2002 Presidential Scholar of the Arts Award. Continuing his scholarly pursuits, he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Piano Performance at the University of Southern California’s Thornton School of Music under the instruction of piano icon Billy Childs, after a year of intensive study with National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Master Kenny Barron at The Manhattan School of Music. Clayton won second place in the 2006 Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz Piano Competition.

Expansion has become part of Clayton’s artistic identity. His music is a celebration of the inherent differences in musical perspectives that promote true artistic synergy. Inclusive sensibilities have allowed him to perform and record with such distinctive artists as Diana Krall, Roy Hargrove, Dianne Reeves, Ambrose Akinmusire, Dayna Stephens, Kendrick Scott, John Scofield, Ben Williams, Terell Stafford and Dick Oatts, Michael Rodriguez, Terri Lyne Carrington, Avishai Cohen, Peter Bernstein, and the Clayton Brothers Quintet. Clayton also has enjoyed an extended association since early 2013, touring and recording with saxophone legend Charles Lloyd.

2016 marked his second year as Musical Director of the Monterey Jazz Festival On Tour, a project that has featured his trio along with Ravi Coltrane, Nicholas Payton, Terence Blanchard and Raul Midón on guitar and vocals.
Clayton’s discography as a leader reflects his evolution as an artist. His debut recording, *Two Shade* (ArtistShare), earned a 2010 GRAMMY nomination for Best Improvised Jazz Solo for his arrangement of Cole Porter’s “All of You.” “Battle Circle,” his composition featured on The Clayton Brothers’ recording *The New Song and Dance* (ArtistShare), received a GRAMMY nomination for Best Jazz Instrumental Composition in 2011. He received 2012 and 2013 GRAMMY nominations for Best Jazz Instrumental Album for *Bond: The Paris Sessions* (Concord) and *Life Forum* (Concord), his second and third album releases.

Capturing the truth in each moment’s conception of sound comes naturally to Clayton. The son of beloved bass player and composer John Clayton, he enjoyed a familial apprenticeship from an early age. Clayton honors the legacy of his father and all his musical ancestors through a commitment to artistic exploration, innovation, and reinvention.

Last season, Clayton turned his imaginative curiosity toward uncovering the essence of the Piedmont Blues experience and expression in early twentieth-century Durham (NC). A Duke University commission, Clayton’s evening-length composition explores a mixed media performance that features some of the most resonating voices in contemporary music.

**ABOUT THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR**

Few musicians share the ability of Rudresh Mahanthappa to embody the expansive possibilities of his music with his culture. The saxophonist/composer hybridizes progressive jazz and South Indian classical music in a fluid and forward-looking form reflecting his own experience growing up a second-generation Indian-American. Just as his personal experience is never wholly lived on one side of the hyphenate or the other, his music speaks in a voice dedicated to forging a new path forward.

The current manifestations of that trajectory include his latest project *Bird Calls* (2015), which was named #1 jazz album of 2015 by both *Downbeat Magazine* and NPR Music’s Jazz Critics Poll. This 21st Century tribute to Charlie Parker includes a stellar band of pianist Matt Mitchell, bassist François Moutin, drummer Rudy Royston, and 20-year old trumpet prodigy Adam O’Farrill. The 2013 album *Gamak* featured guitarist David “Fuze” Fiuczynski, whose own microtonal vocabulary opened new possibilities for Mahanthappa’s compositional imagination, alongside bassist François Moutin and drummer Dan Weiss. The 2010 release of *Samdhi* (ACT Music + Vision), a multi-cultural ensemble that advances Mahanthappa’s blend of jazz and Indian music with modernist electronic music, was described by *JazzTimes*.
as “a landmark convergence of styles that didn’t lend itself to easy analysis... new music of this caliber hasn’t been attempted before.” Other recent projects run the gamut from the cross-generational alto summit Apex featuring Bunky Green; trios MSG and Mauger; the quintet Dual Identity co-led with fellow altoist Steve Lehman; and Raw Materials, his long-running duo project with pianist Vijay Iyer. Mahanthappa also continues to partner with Pakistani-American guitarist Rez Abbasi and innovative percussionist Dan Weiss in the Indo-Pak Coalition, while giants in both jazz and South Indian music have recognized his success: he was enlisted by Jack DeJohnette for the legendary drummer’s recent working group, while a collaboration with the renowned Carnatic saxophonist Kadri Gopalnath resulted in Mahanthappa’s critically-acclaimed 2008 CD *Kinsmen* (Pi).

Hailed by *The New York Times* as possessing “a roving intellect and a bladelike articulation,” Mahanthappa has been awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship, two New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowships, and numerous commissions. *Downbeat Magazine*’s International Critics Polls and the Jazz Journalists’ Association have named him alto saxophonist of the year numerous times (including 2016). In April 2013, he received a Doris Duke Performing Artist Award, one of the most prominent arts awards in the world. In 2015, he was named a United States Artists Fellow. Mahanthappa is the Anthony H. P. Lee ’79 Director of Jazz at Princeton University. Mahanthappa is a Yamaha artist and uses Vandoren reeds exclusively.
Upcoming Music at Princeton Events

Sunday, October 15, 3:00pm
Thomas Fritzsch, Viola da Gamba, and
Mark Kroll, Harpsichord
Taplin Auditorium in Fine Hall

Friday, October 20, 7:30pm
Saturday, October 21, 7:30pm
Princeton University Orchestra
Richardson Auditorium in Alexander Hall

Thursday, October 26, 8pm
Princeton University Concerts:
Tabea Zimmermann, Viola and
Thomas Hoppe, Piano
Richardson Auditorium in Alexander Hall

Friday, October 27, 10am
Princeton University Concerts
Performers as Teachers:
Tabea Zimmermann, Viola
Lee Music Performance and Rehearsal Room,
New Music Building

Friday, October 27, 12:30pm
Princeton University Concerts
Music Meditation
Tabea Zimmermann, Viola
Lee Music Performance and Rehearsal Room,
New Music Building

Saturday, November 4, 1pm
Princeton University Concerts:
Meet the Music Family Concert
Richardson Auditorium in Alexander Hall

Monday, November 6, 8pm
Tuesday, November 7, 8pm
“Analysing Engine”
A chamber opera by Andrew Lovett
Wallace Theater, Lewis Arts Complex

Friday, November 10, 7:30pm
Princeton University Glee Club
Football Concert with the Yale Glee Club
Richardson Auditorium in Alexander Hall

Tuesday, November 14, 8pm
Princeton Sound Kitchen:
Orchestra 2001
Taplin Auditorium in Fine Hall

Thursday, November 16, 6 & 9pm
Princeton University Concerts PUC125:
Cristina Pato, Galician Bagpipe and the
Cristina Pato Quartet
Richardson Auditorium in Alexander Hall

Friday, November 17, 8pm
Princeton Laptop Orchestra (PLOrk):
Ensemble Parallax
Co-Lab, Lewis Arts Complex

Saturday, November 18, 8pm
Jazz at Princeton University
Small Groups
Richardson Auditorium in Alexander Hall

For more information visit princeton.edu/music
2017-2018 SEASON
JAZZ EVENTS

Jazz of Cuba:
Alfredo Rodriguez, piano
Saturday, October 21, 2017 – 8pm

Songs of Freedom:
Celebrating the Songs of Joni Mitchell, Abbey Lincoln, and Nina Simone
Sunday, October 22, 2017 – 3pm

The Hot Sardines
Thursday, December 14, 2017 – 7:30pm

Rudresh Mahanthappa
And his Indo-Pak Coalition
Friday, March 16, 2018 – 8pm

John Pizzarelli Quartet
With Catherine Russell
Billie & Blue Eyes
Sunday, March 18, 2018 – 3pm

Jazz of Cuba:
Chucho Valdés
With Edmar Castaneda, jazz harp and Grégoire Maret, chromatic harmonica
Thursday, April 12, 2018 – 7:30pm

Jazz of Cuba:
Roberto Fonseca Quintet
Tuesday, April 24, 2018 – 7:30pm

Crosscurrents:
Zakir Hussain and Dave Holland
With Guest Artists from India and the Jazz World
Wednesday, May 2, 2018 – 7:30pm

Get your tickets today with a Choice Pass or Membership—the more you see, the more you save!