



Jazz Vocal Collective Concert

Thursday, April 25, 7:30 PM

Taplin Auditorium, Fine Hall

Jazz Vocal Collective presents: Spring In Song

Dr. Trineice Robinson-Martin, Director

The JAZZ VOCAL COLLECTIVE presents a beautiful evening of songs from the great American songbook and beyond.

About the Department of Music:

The Department of Music at Princeton University provides its undergraduates—whether they major or minor in Music—the opportunity to learn from a world-renowned faculty of scholars and composers. Performance opportunities include student-led and departmental ensembles like symphony orchestras, multi-genre choruses, jazz, contemporary music, African music, steel band, laptop orchestra, and much more, and students have access to private instrumental and voice lessons from eminent performing artists. The graduate program offers two distinct and prestigious Ph.D. programs in composition or musicology; graduate students receive fully-funded, immersive experiences conducting research, advancing their craft, and collaborating with faculty within Princeton University’s inspiring, interdisciplinary campus.

For more information about the Department of Music and other upcoming events, and to sign-up for our mailing list, please visit music.princeton.edu.

PROGRAM

Rude Buster By Toby Fox; Arr. Carlos Eiene

In Walked Bud By Thelonious Monk & Jon Hendricks
Soloist: Laura Kahu '27

When Sunny Gets Blue By Marvin Fisher
Soloist: Laura Kahu

That's All By Bob Haymes & Alan Brandt
Vincent Gerardi '25

Too Marvelous For Words By Richard Whiting
Soloist: Claire Dignazio '25

Polka dots and Moonbeans By Jimmy Van-Heusen & Johnny Burke
Soloist: Claire Dignazio

Theme from New York, New York By John Kander & Fred Ebb
Soloist: Alessandro Troncoso '25

Moonlight in Vermont By Karl Suessdorf & John Blackburn
Soloist: Yashree Himatsingka '24

All of You By Cole Porter
Soloist: Yashree Himatsingka

The use of photographic, video, or audio equipment is strictly prohibited. Please turn off or mute electronic devices for the duration of the performance.

PROGRAM CONTINUED

He's My Guy

Don Raye and Gene De Pauk
Soloist: Yashree Himatsingka

April In Paris (Avril a Paris)

By Vernon Duke & Yip Harburg
Soloist: Laura Robertson '24

Redemunho

By Beth Amin
Soloist: Laura Robertson

You Go to My Head

سرشارم کردی

By Fred Coots & Haven Gillespie
Persian lyrics by Mino Javan
Soloist: Laura Robertson

Speak Low

By Kurt Weill
Soloist: Sirfraz Shah '24

Misty

By Erroll Garner
Soloist: Sirfraz Shah

There Will Never Be Another You

By Harry Warren & Mack Gordon
Soloist: Sirfraz Shah

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ABOUT

JAZZ AT PRINCETON UNIVERSITY serves to promote this uniquely American music as a contemporary and relevant art form. Its 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. Jazz at Princeton University thanks you for joining them on this evening's journey of beauty, exploration, discovery, and hope.

JAZZ VOCAL COLLECTIVE is a small jazz ensemble that features solo voice and a rhythm section (i.e. piano, guitar, bass, and drums) to create a collaborative musical experience. In JVC, vocalists are responsible for selecting repertoire, creating, and notating their own musical arrangements of jazz standards and popular songs, and developing and performing those arrangements in class throughout the semester. JVC meets on Thursday nights from 7-9PM in the Jazz Studio of the Efron Music Building, and holds auditions during the first week of the fall semester. If you are interested in auditioning for next year for JVC or any other of the ensembles offered in the jazz program, please contact the Jazz program director, Rudresh Mahanthappa at rudreshm@princeton.edu

PERFORMERS

Sirfraz Shah '24, voice
Yashree Himatsingka '24 voice
Laura Robertson '24, voice
Claire Dignazio '25, voice
Vincent Gerardi '25, voice
Laura Kahu '27, voice
Alessandro Troncoso '25 voice, saxes and flute
Marcello Troncoso '27 alto sax
Samuel Gerhard '25 piano
Alexander Theodore '27, piano
Ian Kenselaar, bass (Special Guest)
Dominic Palombi, drums (Special Guest)
Dr. Trineice Robinson-Martin, voice, percussions, director

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

Yaashree Himatsingka is a senior in the History Department from Mumbai, India. She is also pursuing Certificates in Environmental Studies and South Asian Studies, and her independent research has led her from the tiger-prowled jungles of central India to the mountainous sublimes of Tierra del Fuego. She joined JVC in her senior year and has treasured every second of it! Previously, she was an alto in the a cappella group Shere Khan, a leader with Princeton Outdoor Action, a member of Two-Dickinson co-op, and a gallery attendant at Art@Bainbridge. Currently, she works as a dormitory assistant in Cuyler Hall and is exploring her newfound interest in documentary photography.

Laura Robertson is a senior who will graduate with a degree in history and certificates in Journalism, Persian Language and Culture, and Latin American Studies. She sang classically for eight years before beginning to branch out and explore jazz music. She also sings with the Glee Club. Outside of music, Laura co-founded Princeton's Campus Food Ethics and Justice Think Tank. She facilitated the Religious Life Council, an interfaith group; costume coordinated for Raqs, a dance group; and was the Explainers editor for the Daily Princetonian. She is the Student Dining Coordinator in RoMa Dining Hall, and (newly!) a contributing reporter at New York Focus. After graduation, Laura will work on two projects funded by the Overseas Press Club and the Fund for Investigative Journalism. She plans to return to Tajikistan for the summer to report on Afghan refugees and competing neo-colonial influences in the region. She hopes to spend the fall working for a farmworkers coalition in Immokalee, Florida, before returning to New York City to pursue a career in investigative journalism. She hopes to continue to sing different genres after college.

Sirfraz Shah is a senior in the Economics department and is from Phoenix, Arizona. Sirfraz was introduced to music by his grandfather and father who both sang traditional Pakistani music throughout his childhood. His love for jazz began when he was twelve years old and eventually led him to join the Jazz Vocal Collective as a college freshman. In JVC, Sirfraz has sung alongside special guest artists such as Cyrus Chestnut, Camille Thurman, and Tammy McCann. In addition to JVC, Sirfraz also sings as a tenor 2 for the Princeton Nassoons, Princeton's oldest a cappella group. He's not sure how he will pursue jazz after graduation, but he knows that singing will always be an important part of his life!

Dr. Trineice Robinson-Martin serves as the private voice instructor in jazz and the Jazz Vocal Collective ensemble director. In addition to working at Princeton University, Dr. Robinson-Martin holds Artist-in-residencies at Yale Institute for Sacred Music, the founder of Soul Ingredients® Voice Studio, Soul Ingredients® Voice Teacher Training Academy, and performs regularly in the tri-state area.

As an internationally recognized voice pedagogue in contemporary music, Dr. Robinson-Martin has dedicated her career to performing and developing resources for teaching jazz, gospel, and R&B singing styles. She completed her doctoral work at Teachers College Columbia University. Her research focused on vocal pedagogy for Contemporary Commercial Music (e.g., R&B, jazz, rock, music theater, etc.), applied pedagogy, and gospel music performance practices. Dr. Robinson-Martin holds master's degrees in music education and jazz studies from Teachers College and Indiana University-Bloomington. Dr. Robinson-Martin is also a certified instructor in Somatic Voicework™ The Lovetri Method, a national faculty member of the Gospel Music Workshop of America, Inc., the executive director of the African American Jazz Caucus, Inc., a founding and executive board member of the Donald Meade Legacy Jazz Griot Award, and board of director of the Jazz Education Network, on the editorial board of the Journal of Singing, and is a member of the distinguished American Academy of Teachers of Singing. Based on her graduate research, Dr. Robinson-Martin designed Soul Ingredients®, a teaching methodology for developing a singer's musical style/interpretation in African American folk-based music styles (i.e., jazz, gospel, R&B, blues, etc.). This methodology shows students how to take their personal experiences, musical influences, and models, and execute the various components in a personal manner to the singer/performer's unique expression. In addition to her book "So You Want to Singing Gospel," she has contributed chapters to several textbooks and scholarly writings on the topics of voice and Black music history. In addition to books, Robinson-Martin's published work can also be found in Downbeat Magazine, New York Times, Journal of Singing, Journal of Voice, and Voice and Speech.

As a performer, Dr. Trineice Robinson-Martin maintains a diverse performance schedule. New York Music Daily praised Robinson as "an individualist who defies categorization: there's the immediacy of classic soul music here, coupled to jazz sophistication, gospel rapture and fervor." Whether touring with Peabo Bryson and Leela James in the Standing in *Shadows of Motown Live*, being a featured soloist with Erie Philharmonic Orchestra, creating vocal tracks for Nnenna Freelon's Grammy Nominated Album "Time Traveler," or performing with her jazz quartet, Dr. Trineice loves to perform good music. As evident in her 2021 debut album, which features Cyrus Chestnut and Don Braden, "All Or Nothing" reflects the whole-hearted spirit with which she's approached every facet of her wide-ranging career. It captures the passion, confidence and dazzling scope of her rich, expressive voice, which *DownBeat Magazine* hails as "redolent with power... stunning." But it also represents the dedication and commitment that she's brought to an impressive career as a renowned educator, researcher, scholar, and clinician.
