

DEPARTMENT OF
MUSIC
AT PRINCETON

JAZZ
at PRINCETON
UNIVERSITY

Wednesday, December 11, 2024, 7:30 PM
Taplin Auditorium, Fine Hall

Jazz Small Groups A & Z

Matthew Parrish, Director A
Miles Okazaki, Director Z

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

JAZZ
at PRINCETON
UNIVERSITY

February 15, 2024: Jazz Vocal Ensemble at 8:30 PM
Richardson Auditorium, Alexander Hall | Ticketed

April 12, 2024: Princeton University Jazz Festival
Richardson Auditorium, Alexander Hall | Ticketed

PROGRAM

Selections from below will be announced from the stage:



Small Group Z

Fried Pies — by Wes Montgomery

Chant — by Duke Pearson

Tell Me a Bedtime Story — by Herbie Hancock

Goodbye Pork Pie Hat — by Charles Mingus

Boogie Stop Shuffle — by Charles Mingus

Small Group A

Sister Cheryl — by Tony Williams

Autumn in NY — by Vernon Duke

Buenos Aires — by Matthew Parrish

Long Ago and Far Away — by Jerome Kern and Ira Gershwin

{Arr. Matthew Parrish}

Medley of Jazz Standards, including:

Evidence — by Thelonious Monk

Blue Boosa — by Kenny Dorham

Footprints — by Wayne Shorter

Power to the People — by Joe Henderson

The Summer Knows — by Michel Legrand

Hail Caesar — by Matthew Parrish



PERFORMERS



Small Group Z

Miles Okazaki, Director
Daisy Yao '28, Alto Saxophone
Arnav Vyas '27, Alto Saxophone
Brian J. Karle '28, Trombone
Sam Gerhard '25, Piano
Matthew Picoult '28, Guitar
Evan Callas '27, Bass
Nikhil Kuntipuram '28, Drums

Small Group A

Matthew Parrish, Director & Bassist
Thomas Verrill '25, Trombone
Matthew P. Cline '27, Trumpet
Sebastian Castro '25, Piano
Kit Man Simon Law '27, Tenor and Soprano Saxophone
Ryder Walsh '26, Drums



ABOUT

Director Matthew Parrish is a sought-after performer, arranger, composer, producer, and instructor whose bass career is grounded in Philadelphia. His late teens and early twenties included performing with Shirley Scott, Mickey Roker, Bobby Durham, Cecil Payne, Johnny Coles, Harry 'Sweets' Edison, Sylvia Simms, and fellow young musicians of that era, Orrin Evans and Byron Landham. He then toured with legendary trombonist, Al Grey and performed with Clark Terry, Marion McPartland, Dr. Lonnie Smith, Lou Donaldson, Joe Cohn, Savion Glover, and Bill Charlap. After the sad passing of Al, an important mentor and friend, Matthew continued to tour the United States, Europe, Asia, and South America with the bands of Greg Osby, James Newton, Stefon Harris, Regina Carter, Houston Person, Freddy Cole, and Vana Gierig with Paquito D'Rivera. Matthew frequents regional jazz venues, especially in New York City. The Jazz Standard, the Blue Note, Dizzy's 'Coca Cola' Club at Lincoln Center, Smalls, Birdland, Smoke, and the Iridium rely on his warm, innovative compositions, arrangements, and steady performing.

Director Miles Okazaki is a NYC-based guitarist originally from Port Townsend, a small seaside town in Washington State. His approach to the guitar is described by the New York Times as "utterly contemporary, free from the expectations of what it means to play a guitar in a group setting — not just in jazz, but any kind." His sideman experience over the last two decades covers a broad spectrum, from standards to experimental music (Kenny Barron, John Zorn, Steve Coleman, Stanley Turrentine, Henry Threadgill, Dan Weiss, Matt Mitchell, Jonathan Finlayson, Anthony Tidd, Jane Monheit, Amir ElSaffar, Darcy James Argue, and many others). He has released ten albums of original compositions over the last 12 years on the Sunnyside, Pi, and Cygnus labels. In 2018 Okazaki received wide critical acclaim for his six-album recording of the complete compositions of Thelonious Monk for solo guitar, an unprecedented project that Nate Chinen called "the six-string equivalent of a free solo climb up El Capitan." That year, Okazaki was voted the #1 rising star guitarist in the Downbeat Magazine critic's poll. Other projects include a longstanding duo with drummer Dan Weiss, a duo with percussionist Rajna Swaminathan, and a published book, Fundamentals of Guitar, with Mel Bay. He taught guitar and rhythmic theory at the University of Michigan from 2013-22, joined the faculty at Princeton University in 2021, and holds degrees from Harvard University, Manhattan School of Music, and the Juilliard School.

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 coursework, 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.
