

Thursday, December 5, 2024, 7:30 PM  
Taplin Auditorium, Fine Hall

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## Jazz Small Groups X & I

**Ted Chubb, Director X**

**Rudresh Mahanthappa, Director I**

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### PROGRAM

*Selections from below will be announced from the stage:*

**Soy Califa** - Dexter Gordon

**Social Call** - Gigi Gryce

**East of The Sun** - Brooks Bowman

**Ah-Leu-Cha/ Honeysuckle Rose** -

Charlie Parker/ Thomas "Fats" Waller

**Save Your Love For Me** - Buddy Johnson

**Space** - Ted Chubb

**Green Door** - Bob Davie & Martin Moore

**Chillin'** - Rudresh Mahanthappa

**Bud Powell** - Chick Corea

**Along Came Betty** - Benny Golson

**Chelsea Bridge** - Billy Strayhorn

**UMMG** - Billy Strayhorn

**Oleo** - Sonny Rollins

**Thanksgiving at Miguel's** - Ari Freedman

**Aye Fred** - Theodore Peebles

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*The use of photographic, video, or audio equipment is strictly prohibited. Please turn off or mute electronic devices for the duration of the performance. To learn more about Jazz at Princeton and upcoming events, please visit [jazzatprinceton.com](http://jazzatprinceton.com) and sign-up for our mailing list or email [jazz@princeton.edu](mailto:jazz@princeton.edu)*

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## PERFORMERS

### **Small Group X**

Small Group X - Ted Chubb, Director  
Allison Jiang '26 - Voice  
Chirayu Nimonkar '26 - Alto Saxophone  
Pranav Vadapali '25 - Trombone  
Isadora Knutsen '25 - Guitar  
Shlok Shah '26 Piano  
Ezekiel Douglas Rosenthal '27 - Bass  
Mihir Rao '27 - Drums

### **Small Group I**

Rudresh Mahanthappa, Director  
Theodore Peebles '28- Trumpet  
Milan Sastry '26 - Alto Saxophone  
William Parson '28 - Trombone  
Alex Levin '27 - Piano  
Ari Freedman GS - Bass  
Alex MacArthur '25 - Drums

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**Small Group X Director Ted Chubb:** Over the past two decades Ted Chubb has developed into both a deeply expressive trumpeter and an inventive composer. He is both an accomplished bandleader and has served as sideman to an impressive list of NYC's top musicians, including Winard Harper, Christian McBride, Wallace Roney, Billy Hart, Rudresh Mahanthappa, Antonio Hart, Houston Person, Charenee Wade, Norman Simmons, Don Braden, Vince Ector, Melissa Walker, Bruce Williams, Jerome Jennings, Oscar Perez, Mike Lee and Cecil Brooks III. He has performed at venues from NYC jazz clubs Smalls; Fat Cat, The Jazz Standard, and Dizzy's at Jazz at Lincoln Center, to Jazz Festivals across North America, South America and Europe. Ted received his MM from Rutgers University and studied with master trumpet teacher, William Fielder. From 2006-2011, he toured with the Tony Award-winning show, Jersey Boys. Ted is a passionate jazz educator and served as JAZZ HOUSE KiDS, Director of Music from 2012-2017 and JAZZ HOUSE KiDS, Vice President of Jazz Education + Associate Producer 2017 - 2024. He is currently Adjunct Professor of Jazz Trumpet at Princeton University and continues to serve as JAZZ HOUSE KiDS in a curatorial and advisory role. He is also a member of the artistic leadership team responsible for the Montclair Jazz Festival. He has led tours, master classes and cultural exchange programs across the US as well as the globe from Peru to most recently Bahrain. Along with his wife, Rachel Ryll, Ted is co-owner, President & Artistic Director of The Statuary, an active artist live/work/present space that serves as a hub for the local jazz community and presents world class jazz to the people of Jersey City. His solo release "Gratified Never Satisfied", demonstrates an innate ability to adapt his knowledge, talent and worldliness to every aspect of his art and work. "I am in a phase in my life where I am trying to connect with and develop relationships through the music around the globe, anywhere there are people that can benefit from the positive and universal power of the music. In a time where so much of the world is trying to divide us from one another, I believe this is of the highest importance."

**Small Group I Director Rudresh Mahanthappa:** Hailed by Pitchfork as "jaw-dropping... one of the finest saxophonists going," alto saxophonist, composer and educator Rudresh Mahanthappa is widely known as one of the premier voices in jazz of the 21st century. He has over fifteen albums to his credit, including the acclaimed Bird Calls, which topped many critics' best-of-year lists for 2015 and was hailed by PopMatters as "complex, rhythmically vital, free in spirit while still crisscrossed with mutating structures." His most recent release, Hero Trio, was considered to be one of the best jazz albums of 2020 by critics and fans alike. Rudresh has been named alto saxophonist of the year for nine of the last thirteen years running in Downbeat Magazine's International Critics' Polls (2011-2013, 2015-2018, 2020-1), and for five consecutive years by the Jazz Journalists' Association (2009-2013) and again in 2016. He won alto saxophonist of the year in the 2015-2018 & 2020 JazzTimes Magazine Critics' Polls and was named the Village Voice's "Best Jazz Artist" in 2015. He has also received the Guggenheim Fellowship and the Doris Duke Performing Artist Award, among other honors. He is currently the Anthony H. P. Lee '79 Director of Jazz at Princeton University.

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Born in Trieste, Italy to Indian émigrés in 1971, Mahanthappa was brought up in Boulder, Colorado and gained proficiency playing everything from current pop to Dixieland. He went on to studies at North Texas, Berklee and DePaul University (as well as the Stanford Jazz Workshop) and came to settle in Chicago. Soon after moving to New York in 1997 he formed his own quartet featuring pianist Vijay Iyer. The band recorded an enduring sequence of albums, *Black Water*, *Mother Tongue* and *Codebook*, each highlighting Mahanthappa's inventive methodologies and deeply personal approach to composition. He and Iyer also formed the duo *Raw Materials*.

Coming deeper into contact with the Carnatic music of his parents' native southern India, Mahanthappa partnered in 2008 with fellow altoist Kadri Gopalnath and the Dakshina Ensemble for *Kinsmen*, garnering wide acclaim. *Apti*, the first outing by Mahanthappa's Indo-Pak Coalition (with Pakistani-born Rez Abbasi on guitar and Dan Weiss on tabla), saw release the same year; *Agrima* followed nine years later and considerably expanded the trio's sonic ambitions. In 2020, Rudresh released *Hero Trio*, an album of "covers" paying tribute to his musical heroes followed by the digital EP *Animal Crossing* in 2022 with the same trio. He also co-led a project celebrating the centenary of Charlie Parker with the blessing of the Parker estate.

Mahanthappa has also worked with Jack DeJohnette, Mark Dresser, Danilo Pérez, Arturo O'Farrill's Afro-Latin Jazz Orchestra, the collaborative trios MSG and Mauger, the co-led quintet *Dual Identity* with fellow altoist Steve Lehman, and another co-led quintet with fellow altoist and Chicago stalwart Bunky Green (*Apex*). His exploratory guitar-driven quartets on *Samdhi* and *Gamak* featured David Gilmore and Dave "Fuze" Fiuczynski, respectively. In 2015 he was commissioned by Ragamala Dance to create *Song of the Jasmine* for dancers and a hybrid jazz/South Indian ensemble. He was also commissioned by the PRISM Saxophone Quartet to compose a chamber piece, "I Will Not Apologize for My Tone Tonight," which can be heard on the quartet's 2015 double-disc release *Heritage/Evolution, Volume 1*. He was recently commissioned by the AACM's Great Black Music Ensemble to compose "Finding Our Voice" which premiered in 2021. Mahanthappa is a Yamaha artist and uses Vandoren reeds exclusively.

**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.

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