

A close-up photograph of a young man with dark hair, eyes closed, playing a golden trumpet. He is wearing a blue and white patterned shirt. The background is a warm, yellowish-green wall.

# **Concerts at** NEW ENGLAND CONSERVATORY

[necmusic.edu](http://necmusic.edu)

# Jazz Composers' Workshop Orchestra

Frank Carlberg, director  
Mark Tipton, assistant

with  
Michael Formanek, bass  
artist-in-residence

Tuesday, February 28, 2023  
7:30 p.m.  
NEC's Jordan Hall

PROGRAM

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**Michael Formanek**

*That Was Then*

*Wobble*

*Rising Tensions*

*Pong*

*Rhythcha*

*Michael Formanek Quartet*

Aaron Kaufman-Levine, alto saxophone

Jonathan Paik, piano

Michael Formanek, bass

Alex Yoo, piano

*Intermission*

*Impenetrable*

*Beneath the Shell*

*Echoes Without Regrets*

*Shucking While Jiving*

*The Distance*

*NEC Jazz Composers' Workshop Orchestra*

with Michael Formanek, bass

One marker of bassist **Michael Formanek**'s creativity and versatility is the range of distinguished musicians of several generations he's worked with. While still a teenager in the 1970s he toured with drummer Tony Williams and saxophonist Joe Henderson; starting in the '80s he played long stints with Stan Getz, Gerry Mulligan, Fred Hersch and Freddie Hubbard. (As a callback to those days, Formanek recorded with hardbop pianist Freddie Redd in 2013). The bassist has played a pivotal role on New York's creative jazz scene going back to the '90s when he notably led his own quintet and played in Tim Berne's barnstorming quartet Bloodcount. Nowadays Formanek's in the co-op Thumbscrew with Brooklyn guitarist Mary Halvorson and drummer Tomas Fujiwara.

Formanek is also a composer and leader of various bands. His principal recording and international touring vehicle is his acclaimed quartet with Tim Berne on alto saxophone, Craig Taborn on piano and Gerald Cleaver on drums, which records for ECM; 2010's *The Rub and Spare Change* and 2012's *Small Places* both earned coveted five-star raves in *Down Beat*. Formanek writes, and the quartet plays, compositions of great rhythmic sophistication that unfold in a natural sounding way – challenging music the players make sound like lyrical free expression. His occasional groups include the 18-piece all-star Ensemble Kolossus, roping in many New York improvisers he works with. Ensemble Kolossus recorded their first CD of all Formanek originals for the prestigious ECM label in December of 2014. The CD, *The Distance*, was released in February 2016 and in addition to numerous other accolades also received a five- star review in *Downbeat*!

Formanek's other recordings as leader include *Wide Open Spaces* and *Extended Animation* for quintet and *Low Profile* and *Nature of the Beast* for seven players (all on Enja), and the solo album *Am I Bothering You?* (Screwgun). *Mirage* (Clean Feed) is by the occasional improvising trio of Formanek, tenor saxophonist Ellery Eskelin and pedal steel guitarist Susan Alcorn. Thumbscrew's 2014 debut is on Cuneiform Records. Michael Formanek has also made dozens of recordings as sideman, for among others Dave Ballou, Tim Berne, Jane Ira Bloom, Dave Burrell, Harold Danko, Marty Ehrlich, Tomas Fujiwara, and Jack Walrath.

As composer of works for ensembles from duo to mixed jazz and classical orchestra, Michael Formanek has received institutional support from Chamber Music America, the Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation, the Peabody Conservatory, the Maryland State Arts Council and the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts. As an educator, Formanek continues to teach bass, composition, and improvisation in a wide range of locations in the US as well as internationally.

## **Jazz Composers' Workshop Orchestra**

### **Woodwinds**

Annalise Stalls, alto saxophone, flute  
Kira Daglio Fine, alto saxophone, soprano saxophone  
Hunter McKay, tenor saxophone, clarinet  
Logan From, tenor saxophone, bass clarinet  
Zack Bacak, alto saxophone, bass clarinet  
Vladyslav Dovhan, baritone saxophone

### **Trumpets**

Mark Tipton	Richard Stanmeyer
Alexandra Richmond	Koki Renwick

### **Trombones**

Michael Gerace	Yimin Ji
Cooper Malanowski	Jason Sato

### **Rhythm**

Jake Walters, piano	Nadav Brenner, guitar
Ben Friedland, bass	Zhenbang Wu, drums

## **Upcoming Concerts at NEC**

Visit [necmusic.edu](http://necmusic.edu) for complete and updated concert and ticketing information

### **LIEDERABEND LXV**

**Wednesday, March 1, 2023 at 6:00 p.m., Williams Hall**

**NEC SYMPHONY**, Hugh Wolff, conductor

Chin *subito con forza*; Pasculli *Concerto on Themes from "La Favorita" by Donizetti*,

Sojeong Kim '23 MM, oboe; Brahms *Symphony No. 1 in C Minor*

**Wednesday, March 1, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall**

**NEC JAZZ ORCHESTRA**, Ken Schaphorst, conductor

"Jazz and the Struggle for Freedom and Equality" - landmark compositions and

arrangements created to combat racism and bigotry: Mingus *Haitian Fight Song*;

selections from Ellington *Black, Brown and Beige*; Omar Thomas *We Will Know*:

*an LGBT Civil Rights Piece in Four Movements*

**Thursday, March 2, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall**

### **UNDERGRADUATE VOICE SPRING SHOWCASE**

**Thursday, March 2, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Williams Hall**

**ARTIST DIPLOMA RECITAL**: Leland Ko, cello

Leland Ko '24 AD studies with Yeesun Kim and Donald Weilerstein

**Friday, March 3, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall**

**FIRST MONDAY IN JORDAN HALL**, Laurence Lesser, artistic director

Ockeghem "Kyrie" from *Missa Prolationem*; Ligeti *Éjszaka, Reggel* – NEC Chamber

Singers, Erica J. Washburn conductor; Ligeti *Ramifications for 12 solo string players*;

Ligeti *Aventures and Nouvelles Aventures* – Stephen Drury, conductor

**Monday, March 6, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall**

**NEC PHILHARMONIA**, David Loebel, conductor

Coleman *Umoja: Anthem of Unity*; Dvořák *Symphony No. 7 in D Minor*; Schumann

*Concerto for Cello in A Minor*, op. 129 – Jeremy Tai '23 MM, cello

**Wednesday, March 8, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall**

### **PERKIN OPERA SCENES II**

Performances by graduate students in the NEC Opera Department

**Wednesday-Friday, March 8-10, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.,**

**Plimpton Shattuck Black Box Theatre**

**"WHAT I HEAR"**: BSO/NEC collaboration

**Thursday, March 9, 2023 at 5:30 p.m., Williams Hall**

## **Upcoming Concerts at NEC**

*—continued*

**SONATA NIGHT 44**, Pei-Shan Lee, director

*Thursday, March 9, 2023 at 6:30 p.m., Burnes Hall*

**CALLITHUMPIAN CONSORT**, Stephen Drury, artistic director

*Monday, March 13, 2022 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

**CORETTA SCOTT KING TRIBUTE CONCERT**, BSU concert

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

**TUESDAY NIGHT NEW MUSIC**

New music by NEC student composers, performed by their peers

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Brown Hall*

**NEC PHILHARMONIA**, Carlos Miguel Prieto, guest conductor

Debussy *Nuages* and *Fêtes* from *Nocturnes*; Ortiz *Téenek*; Copland *Symphony No. 3*;

*Wednesday, March 15, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

**FACULTY RECITAL: JASON MORAN RESIDENCY**

*Thursday, March 16, 2022 at 8:00 p.m., Brown Hall*

**FACULTY RECITAL: BORROMEO STRING QUARTET**

Haydn *String Quartet in F Major, op. 74 no. 1*; Bartók *String Quartet No. 2 in A Minor*

*Sunday, March 26, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Burnes Hall*

**JAZZ HONORS ENSEMBLE**

Will Fredendall, flute; Garrett Frees, saxophone; Jonathan Paik, piano;

Will Mabuza, bass; Caleb Montague, drums

*Monday, March 27, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

**CMA HONORS ENSEMBLE**

Mattias Kaufmann, accordion; G Rockwell, banjo, mandolin; Carson McHaney, violin; Avi Randall, piano; Leo Weisskoff, bass

*Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

**NEC COMPOSERS' SERIES**

Works by NEC faculty and alumni

*Wednesday, March 29, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

## **Upcoming Concerts at NEC**

*—continued*

### **MUSIC OF DAVE HOLLAND**

NEC jazz student ensembles, coached by Dave Holland, perform

*Thursday, March 30, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Eben Jordan*

NEC NEW MUSIC ENSEMBLE, Hugh Wolff, conductor

*Thursday, March 30, 2022 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

### **MOZART: COSI FAN TUTTE (Act One)**

performed by NEC Undergraduate Opera Studio, Michael Meraw,  
artistic director

*Friday, March 31 & Saturday, April 1, 2032 at 7:30 p.m.*

Plimpton Shattuck Black Box Theatre

**BRASS BASH**, James Markey, director

*Sunday, April 2, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Jordan Hall*

**FIRST MONDAY IN JORDAN HALL**, Laurence Lesser, artistic director

*Ligeti Trio; Schubert Quartet in G Major*

*Monday, April 3, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

**NEC PERCUSSION GROUP**, Will Hudgins, director

*Tuesday, April 4, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

**ARTIST DIPLOMA RECITAL**: Jonathan Swensen, cello

Jonathan Swensen '23 AD studies with Laurence Lesser

*Wednesday, April 5, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

### **LIEDERABEND LXVI**

*Wednesday, April 5, 2023 at 6:00 p.m., Williams Hall*

### **WILD CARD HONORS ENSEMBLE**

Zion Dyson, voice; Aaron Kaufman-Levine, saxophone; Caroline Jesalva, voice,  
violin; Bram Fisher, viola; Solomon Caldwell, bass; Noah Mark, drums

*Thursday, April 6, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

### **"CONNECTIONS" CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES**

Chamber music performed by students and faculty

*Thursday, April 6, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Burnes Hall*



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and photography and audio or video recording are prohibited.  
Assistive listening devices are available for all Jordan Hall concerts;  
contact the head usher or house manager on duty or inquire at the Coat Room.  
Latecomers will be seated at the discretion of management.

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