

Welcome

NEW ENGLAND CONSERVATORY

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To You: The Music of Thad Jones

NEC Jazz Orchestra

Ken Schaphorst, director

Jim McNeely, guest conductor

Thursday, April 20, 2023

7:30 p.m.

NEC's Jordan Hall

PROGRAM

Thad Jones
(1923–1986)

Counterblocking

Little Pixie

Kids are Pretty People

Return Journey

A Child is Born

Fingers

Intermission

Jim McNeely

Thad

Thad Jones
arr. Jim McNeely

Elusive

Thad Jones

The Second Race

To You

Don't Git Sassy

NEC Jazz Orchestra
Ken Schaphorst, conductor

Winds

Zack Bacak, alto saxophone, soprano saxophone, flute
Ben Eidson, alto saxophone, soprano saxophone, flute
Chris Ferrari, tenor saxophone, flute
Sam Childs, tenor saxophone, soprano saxophone
Vladyslav Dovhan, baritone saxophone

Trumpets

Mark Tipton	Lemuel Marc
Richard Stanmeyer	Isaac Dubow

Trombone

s Michael Gerace	Dylan Rogan
Aiden Coleman	Weza Jamison-Neto

Rhythm

Jonathan Paik, piano	Leo Weisskoff, bass
Thatcher Harrison, guitar	Alex Yoo, drums

Guest

Koki Renwick, trumpet

Jim McNeely was born in Chicago. In 1975 he received his B.Mus. in composition from the University of Illinois and moved to New York City. He joined the Thad Jones/Mel Lewis Jazz Orchestra in 1978 and spent six years as a featured soloist with that band and its successor, Mel Lewis and the Jazz Orchestra (now The Vanguard Jazz Orchestra). In 1981 he began a 4- year tenure as pianist/composer with the Stan Getz Quartet, and from 1990-95 he held the piano chair in the Phil Woods Quintet. He currently leads his own tentet, his own trio, and appears as soloist at concerts and festivals worldwide.

Jim's reputation as composer/arranger and conductor for large jazz bands has earned him a Grammy Award and several Grammy nominations. In 1996 he re-joined The Vanguard Jazz Orchestra as pianist and Composer-in Residence. He is the former chief conductor, and now composer-in-residence, with the Frankfurt Radio Big Band, where he has collaborated with artists including Dave Holland, John Scofield, Luciana Souza, Branford Marsalis, Dave Douglas and Ambrose Akinmusire. Other work includes projects with the Danish Radio Big Band (where he was chief conductor for five years), the Metropole Orchestra, the Swiss Jazz Orchestra, the Frankfurt Radio Symphony Orchestra, and the Jazz Orchestra of the Conertgebouw. Jim's music has been called "exhilarating" (*The New York Times*) and "eloquent

enough to be profound." (*DownBeat*).

Jim has appeared as sideman on numerous recordings led by major artists such as Thad Jones, Mel Lewis, Stan Getz, Bob Brookmeyer, and Phil Woods. He has numerous albums under his own name, including the recent *Rituals*, with the Frankfurt Radio Big Band and Chris Potter, which received five stars from *DownBeat*. Jim is professor emeritus in jazz composition at Manhattan School of Music and has held positions at William Paterson University and New York University. He was involved with the BMI Jazz Composers Workshop for 24 years, including 16 years as musical director. He has done clinics and major residencies at dozens of institutions in the U.S., Canada, Europe, Japan, China, Australia, New Zealand, and Egypt.

Thad Jones was an American jazz trumpeter, composer, and bandleader. He was born in Pontiac, Michigan to a musical family of ten (an older brother was pianist Hank Jones and a younger brother was drummer Elvin Jones). Thad Jones was a self taught musician, performing professionally by the age of sixteen. He served in U.S. Army bands during World War II (1943-46).

After the war, Thad Jones continued his professional music career, eventually winding up with Count Basie in 1954, for whom he arranged, composed, and performed for nine years. But much of Jones's music was stylistically original and didn't always fit in with the Basie group which he left in 1963. In the early sixties he became a freelance arranger and performer in the New York area. In 1965 he and drummer Mel Lewis formed the Thad Jones/Mel Lewis Big Band. The group initially began with informal late night jam sessions amongst New York's top studio musicians. The group eventually began performing at the Village Vanguard, to wide acclaim, and continued with Jones in the lead for twelve years. In 1979 they won a Grammy Award for their album *Live in Munich*. Jones also taught at William Paterson College in New Jersey.

In 1978 Thad moved to Copenhagen, Denmark, where several other American jazz musicians had gone to live. There, he formed a new band, Eclipse, composed for The Danish Radio Big Band and taught jazz at the Royal Danish Conservatory in Copenhagen. A year before his death, Jones came back to the U.S. to lead the Count Basie Orchestra but had to step down due to ill health. He returned to his home in Copenhagen for the last few months of his life. Charles Mingus called Jones "...the greatest trumpet player I've heard in this life." In later years his playing ability was overshadowed by his composing and arranging skills. His best known composition is the standard *A Child is Born*.

Upcoming Concerts at NEC

Visit necmusic.edu for complete and updated concert and ticketing information

FACULTY RECITAL: BRIAN LEVY, jazz saxophone

Friday, April 21, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

SONG & VERSE: "Diva! Romance, Peril, Dream, and the Feminine Eternal"

JJ Penna, coach

Friday, April 21, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Burnes Hall

MARION RUBIN BERMAN '31 PIANO HONORS CONCERT

Ligeti *Etudes*

Monday, April 24, 2023, 2022 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

JAZZ COMPOSERS' WORKSHOP ORCHESTRA, Frank Carlberg, director

Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

NEC PHILHARMONIA & SYMPHONIC CHOIR, Hugh Wolff, conductor

Brahms *Tragic Overture*; Gabriela Lena Frank *Conquest Requiem*;

Yeonjae Cho, soprano, Libang Wang, baritone; Lutoslawski *Concerto for*

Orchestra Wednesday, April 26, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Symphony Hall

SONATA NIGHT 46, Pei-Shan Lee, director

Music for Piano Four Hands by Franz Schubert

Wednesday, April 26, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Brown Hall

HONORS ENSEMBLE: ZEPHYR WIND QUINTET

Yechan Min, flute; Sojeong Kim, oboe; Hyunwoo Chun, clarinet; Andrew

Brooks, bassoon; Yeonjo Oh, French horn

Thursday, April 27, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

NEC CHAMBER SINGERS, Erica J. Washburn, conductor

"Something Old: An Origin Story"

works by Aleotti, Byrd, des Prez, Dowland, Lotti, Morley, Ockeghem, Palestrina,

Pearsall, Weelkes, de Wert

Friday, April 28, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

LIEDERABEND LXVI

Friday, April 28, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Williams Hall

Upcoming Concerts at NEC

—continued

NEC CHAMBER SINGERS, Erica J. Washburn, conductor

"Something New: The Line Between"

Improvisational electronic dance music, recycling selected Renaissance works from the 7:30 concert, guest artist, Andrew Lenox

Friday, April 28, 2023 at 10:00 p.m., Jordan Hall

FIRST MONDAY IN JORDAN HALL, Laurence Lesser, artistic director

Kurtág Hommage à Schumann; Ligeti Quartet No. 2; Schumann Quintet in E-flat Major

Monday, May 1, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

TUESDAY NIGHT NEW MUSIC

New music by NEC student composers, performed by their peers

Tuesday, May 2, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

HONORS ENSEMBLE: QUARTET LUMINERA

Masha Lakisova and Kristy Chen, violin; Njord Fossnes, viola; Davis You, cello

Wednesday, May 3, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

PRATT RESIDENCY CONCERT

Thursday, May 4, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Brown Hall

CHAMBER MUSIC GALA

Friday, May 5, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

CMA CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL

Sunday, May 7, 2023, 10:00 am -10:00 pm, Eben Jordan

ARTIST DIPLOMA RECITAL: Changyong Shin, piano

Changyong Shin '24 AD studies with Wha Kyung Byun

Monday, May 8, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

HONORS ENSEMBLE 7

Joshua Brown and Thompson Wang, violin; Cara Pogossian, viola; Claire Park,

cello *Tuesday, May 9, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

FACULTY RECITAL: STEPHEN DRURY, piano

Wednesday, May 10, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

HONORS ENSEMBLE 8

Yun Janice Lu, piano; Yiliang Eric Jiang, violin; Jeffrey Ho, cello

Thursday, May 11, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall

Upcoming Student Recitals at NEC

all programs subject to change

William Mabuza, *jazz bass* (BM)

Student of Jason Moran and Nasheet Waits **Friday,**
April 21, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Eben Jordan

Kwong Man To, *viola* (MM)

Student of Nicholas Cords

Friday, April 21, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Keller Room

Delfina Cheb Terrab, CMA (DMA '24)

Student of Dominique Eade and Anthony Coleman
Friday, April 21, 2023 at 8:30 p.m., Brown Hall

Jawoon Koo, *bass-baritone* (MM)

Student of MaryAnn McCormick

Saturday, April 22, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Brown Hall

Josie Larsen, *soprano* (MM)

Student of Bradley Williams

Saturday, April 22, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Burnes Hall

William Stark, *jazz bass* (BM)

Student of Cecil McBee

Saturday, April 22, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Pierce Hall

Libang Wang, *baritone* (MM)

Student of Michael Meraw

Saturday, April 22, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Williams Hall

Lucas Hernandez, *tenor* (BM)

Student of Bradley Williams

Sunday, April 23, 2023 at 12:00 noon, Burnes Hall

Andrew Li, *piano* (MM)

Student of Wha Kyung Byun

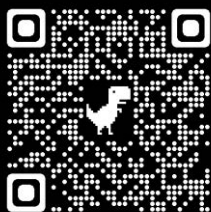
Sunday, April 23, 2023 at 12:00 noon, Williams Hall

Ga-Young Park, *collaborative piano* (DMA '25)

Student of Cameron Stowe and Jonathan Feldman
Sunday, April 23, 2023 at 12:00 noon, Keller Room

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Food and drink are not allowed in the concert hall, 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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