

THE CHICAGO | JAZZ | ENSEMBLE

in residence at Columbia College Chicago since 1965

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THE CHICAGO JAZZ ENSEMBLE with MUSIC DIRECTOR DANA HALL CELEBRATES THE MUSIC OF LOUIS ARMSTRONG AND DUKE ELLINGTON IN *THE GREAT SUMMIT* JANUARY 20

CHICAGO, IL, November 22, 2010 – The Chicago Jazz Ensemble with Music Director Dana Hall continues its 2010-11 performance season, with music ranging from a program of **Louis Armstrong** and **Duke Ellington** to an evening dedicated to **Ella Fitzgerald** and **Sarah Vaughan** to a 100th birthday celebration honoring Chicago gospel legend **Mahalia Jackson**. The CJE welcomes trumpeter **Jon Faddis**[®] as special guest conductor for two concerts this season. Two-time Grammy[®] nominee Ledisi also appears this season as special guest vocalist. Finally, the CJE welcomes renowned Chicago guitarist Jeffrey Parker as the newest member of the ensemble with a January 20 debut.

On **Thursday, January 20, at 7:30 p.m.** at the Harris Theater for Music and Dance, the CJE presents ***The Great Summit: The Music of Louis Armstrong and Duke Ellington***. Joined by **Jon Faddis** as special guest conductor and performer for this concert, the CJE celebrates its roots with a concert honoring jazz giants Louis Armstrong and Duke Ellington. The program will include favorite selections from the CJE's music library. Under Founder William Russo, the CJE became the first band other than Ellington's own to perform an Ellington score when it presented his first *Sacred Concert*, with the composer himself conducting. Louis Armstrong recorded the canonical *Hot Five* and *Hot Seven* recordings here in Chicago. These recordings, some of the most important in the history of jazz, comprise a significant part of the CJE's contemporary programs.

Jon Faddis is a consummate musician and a respected conductor, composer, and educator. He began directing orchestras in 1987 and has worked with the Grammy[®]-winning United Nation Orchestra, the Dizzy Gillespie 70th Birthday Big Band, the Dizzy Gillespie Alumni All-Stars, the Carnegie Hall Centennial Big Band, the Carnegie Hall Jazz Band (1992-2002), and the Jon Faddis Jazz Orchestra of New York (JFJONY, 2003-present). He has also been featured as a guest conductor and artist with the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra. His original compositions include the 1997 jazz opera *Lulu Noire*; other compositions may be heard on his Grammy[®]-nominated *Remembrances* (Chesky, 1998), *Hornucopia* (Epic, 1991), *Into the Faddisphere* (Epic, 1989), and they are the focus of his newest release, *Teranga* (Koch, 2006).

New to the CJE this year is **Chicago guitarist Jeffrey Parker**. He studied guitar at Boston's Berklee College of Music, later studying improvised music with George Garzone and playing with jazz alto saxophonist Antonio Hart. Parker is a member of the influential experimental-rock ensemble Tortoise and the jazz-fusion group Isotope 217, plays in the Cushicle Trio with Jason Ajemian and Nori Tanaka, leads a trio with Chris Lopes and Chad Taylor, is a frequent collaborator with

trumpeter Rob Mazurek in the Exploding Star Orchestra and the Chicago Underground Trio, Duo, and Orchestra, and is part of Ken Vandermark's Powerhouse Sound. Parker has toured the world in ensembles led by Joshua Redman, Brian Blade, Fred Anderson, George Lewis, Nicholas Payton, and Charles Earland.

Friday, February 18, at 7:30 p.m. at the Harris Theater for Music and Dance, the CJE presents *An Evening of Ella Fitzgerald and Sarah Vaughan*. Fresh from her tour of Japan with the Count Basie Big Band, the CJE welcomes Verve Music Group artist **Ledisi** as a special guest vocalist. Her Verve recording debut, *Lost & Found*, was released in 2007 and garnered strong reviews and two Grammy® nominations, including one for Best New Artist. Two of its singles, "Alright" and "In the Morning," peaked in the Top 50 of Billboard's Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Songs chart. *Turn Me Loose*, her sophomore release on Verve, followed in 2009 and earned her two more Grammy® nominations for Best R&B Album and Best Female R&B Vocal Performance.

The CJE concludes its 2010-11 performance season with a program as part of Jazz at Symphony Center on **Friday, May 20 at 8 p.m.** when we honor one of Chicago's greatest musical artists, **Mahalia Jackson**, in the year of what would have been her 100th birthday. The CJE welcomes Jon Faddis as special guest conductor and performer in this show.

The Chicago Jazz Ensemble is: **DANA HALL**, Music Director and drums; **DAN NICHOLSON** and **JARRARD HARRIS**, alto saxophone; **PAT MALLINGER** and **ROB DENTY** (also clarinet), tenor saxophone; **TIM McNAMARA**, baritone saxophone; **ANDY BAKER**, **TIM COFFMAN**, **TRACY KIRK**, and **THOMAS MATTA**, trombone; **MARK OLEN**, **LARRY BOWEN**, **ART HOYLE**, and **PHAREZ WHITTED**, trumpet; **JEREMY KAHN**, piano; **JEFF PARKER**, guitar; **DAN ANDERSON**, bass; and **BOBBI WILSYN**, vocals.

Season Tickets are available. Attend all three shows at the Harris for as little as \$40. Discounts available for 2 pack (25%) and full season (30%) ticket packages. In addition to discounts, season ticket benefits include preferred seating, cost savings on handling fees, and invitations to attend Open Rehearsals. All season ticket packages must be purchased by phone. Please call (312) 334-7777.

Single show tickets for the Chicago Jazz Ensemble at the Harris Theater for Music and Dance, located at 205 East Randolph on the northeast corner of Chicago's Millennium Park, are \$15 - \$45, with discounts for senior citizens and groups. **All student tickets are \$5** when purchased in person or via phone. Tickets can be purchased at (312) 334-7777 or www.harristheaterchicago.com. To purchase tickets to the Symphony Center performance on May 20th, please call (312) 294-3000 or go to www.cso.org.

The CJE, in residence at Columbia College Chicago since 1965, is sponsored in part by *Downbeat*, MacArthur Fund for Arts & Culture at Prince, Illinois Arts Council, The Chicago Community Trust, Polk Bros Foundation, Louis Armstrong Educational Foundation, The Robert Pritzker Family Foundation, and media sponsor WDCB/90.9 FM. Visit www.chicagojazzensemble.com for more information on the 2010-11 performance season or call (312) 369-6270.

For more information on Columbia College Chicago, visit www.colum.edu.