

# THE CHICAGO | JAZZ | ENSEMBLE

in residence at Columbia College Chicago since 1965

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## THE CHICAGO JAZZ ENSEMBLE with ARTISTIC DIRECTOR DANA HALL WELCOMES TRINIDADIAN TRUMPETER ETIENNE CHARLES OCT 6-7 FOR *MUSICA PANAMERICANO* AND A LISTENING SESSION

CHICAGO, IL - The [Chicago Jazz Ensemble](#) (CJE) with Artistic Director [Dana Hall](#) welcomes Trinidadian trumpeter and percussionist [Etienne Charles](#) to perform with the Ensemble in *Musica Panamericano* on **Friday, October 7** at 7:30 pm at the Harris Theater for Music and Dance. This program offers an energetic performance fusing Charles' original music with classic Caribbean influences such as calypso, reggae, and Latin. All arrangements are world premieres, written specially for this concert and the CJE.

This program features large-ensemble arrangements of compositions from Charles' two most recent recordings, 2009's *Folklore* and this summer's *Kaiso*. "I'm excited at how we can look at Etienne's command of his music and bring it to fruition with a larger ensemble, which is not something he's done very often," explains Dana Hall. The evening will also include several works by CJE founder William Russo, who, as a member of Stan Kenton's orchestra in the 1950s, was among the first composers to incorporate authentic Caribbean elements in his writing.

On **Thursday, October 6**, Etienne Charles joins Artistic Director Dana Hall for a **free Listening Session** from 12-1:30 pm (location TBA). The Listening Sessions program is the CJE's signature series of informal gatherings in which a panel of jazz performers, educators, and critics play records and lead an interactive discussion around a particular topic in jazz. These sessions create unique opportunities to get to know some of today's top jazz musicians in intimate, conversational settings and to learn more about jazz music. Listening Sessions are **free and open to the public**.

Trained at Juilliard and winner of the National Trumpet Competition in 2006, Etienne Charles is emblematic of a new generation of Caribbean musicians combining their native heritage with the jazz tradition. This fourth-generation musician references his Trinidadian background through his use of folk mythology as the inspiration for his compositions as well as his expertise on the instruments most associated with Trinidad - the **cuatro** and **steel drums**. He has performed or recorded with Wynton Marsalis, Monty Alexander, Marcus Roberts, Roberta Flack, the Count Basie Orchestra, and others.

[Watch Etienne Charles perform at the Kennedy Center](#) (he enters stage at 01:05).

Remaining concerts in the CJE's 2011-12 Harris Theater series include *Beneath the Underdog: The Musical World of Charles Mingus* on **Friday, January 20** at 7:30 pm, featuring bassist **Christian McBride** and vocalist/bassist **Meshell Ndegeocello**. *Ornithology: The Music of Charlie "Bird" Parker* will be presented on **Friday, February 24** at 7:30 pm, featuring Grammy-nominated Puerto Rican saxophonist **Miguel Zenón** and a guest string ensemble.

**Subscriptions** for the CJE's 2011-12 Harris Theater series are available and offer [an impressive benefit package](#); attend all three shows for as little as \$40 (30% savings). Save 25% with a two-concert mini subscription. Subscription packages must be purchased by phone via the Harris Theater Box Office at 312.334.7777. **Single tickets** for all Harris Theater shows are \$18 - \$48, with discounts for senior citizens and groups. Full-time student tickets are \$5. Purchase single tickets via 312.334.7777 or at [harristheaterchicago.org](http://harristheaterchicago.org). More information on the CJE is available at [chicagojazzensemble.com](http://chicagojazzensemble.com).

## **CJE ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION**

The Chicago Jazz Ensemble is **Dana Hall**, Artistic Director and drums; **Dan Nicholson** and **Jarrard Harris**, alto saxophone; **Pat Mallinger** and **Rob Denty**, tenor saxophone and clarinet; **Tim McNamara**, baritone saxophone; **Andy Baker**, **Tim Coffman**, **Tom Garling**, 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.

The CJE is proud to have been in residence at [Columbia College Chicago](#) since 1965. Its 2011-12 performance season is made possible in part by grants from the MacArthur Fund for Arts and Culture at Prince, the Fanny R. Wurlitzer Foundation, and the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency. The Chicago Jazz Ensemble's educational programs, including the Louis Armstrong Legacy Program and Celebration, are supported in part by the Louis Armstrong Educational Foundation, Citi Foundation, the Crown Family, the Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust, and the Polk Bros. Foundation. The CJE is also sponsored by Downbeat Magazine and media sponsor 90.9fm WDCB Public Radio.

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