

UtahPresents  
**JAZZ**  
AT KINGSBURY HALL



DELFEAYO MARSALIS  
& THE UPTOWN JAZZ ORCHESTRA  
OCTOBER 18, 2024



# DELFEAYO MARSALIS & THE UPTOWN JAZZ ORCHESTRA

October 18, 2024 • 7:30PM  
Kingsbury Hall

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**UJO MISSION STATEMENT:**

Uptown Jazz Orchestra's mission is to promote the rich cultural legacy of American music through both entertaining and educational performances. Our educational shows are designed to give young people a greater awareness of important historical figures and musical traditions.

**TROMBONES:**

Delfeayo Marsalis  
Terrance Taplin  
Ethan Santos

**TRUMPETS:**

John Gray  
Andrew Baham  
Ryan Nielson

**SAXOPHONES:**

Roderick Paulin  
Scott Johnson  
Shaena Ryan Martin  
Aaron Narcisse  
Orlando Gilbert

**BASS:**

Jason Stewart

**PIANO:**

Shea Pierre

**DRUMS:**

Jarrel Allen

**VOCALS:**

Tonya Boyd-Cannon

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## INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The University of Utah has both historical and contemporary relationships with Indigenous Peoples. Given that the Salt Lake Valley has always been a gathering place for Indigenous Peoples, we acknowledge that this land, which is named for the Ute Tribe, is the traditional and ancestral homelands of the Shoshone, Paiute, Goshute, and Ute Tribes and is a crossroad for Indigenous Peoples.

The University of Utah recognizes the enduring relationships between many Indigenous Peoples and their traditional homelands. We are grateful for the territory upon which we gather today; we respect Utah's Indigenous Peoples, the original stewards of this land; and we value the sovereign relationships that exist between tribal governments, state governments, and the federal government.

Today, approximately 60,000 American Indian and Alaska Native peoples live in Utah. As a state institution, the University of Utah is committed to serving Native communities throughout Utah in partnership with Native Nations and our Urban Indian communities through research, education, and community outreach activities.

## TROMBONES:

### **DELFEAYO MARSALIS:**

Acclaimed trombonist, producer and educator Delfeayo Marsalis has been praised for his “technical excellence, inventive mind and frequent touches of humor,” and heralded and hailed as one of “the best, most imaginative and musical of the trombonists of his generation.” In addition to leading his own small groups and the dynamic Uptown Jazz Orchestra over the years, Marsalis has performed with music legends such as Ray Charles, Fats Domino, Art Blakey, and Elvin Jones. He has released 9 recordings as leader to critical acclaim and has steadily gained a reputation for being “a merchant of joy!”

Since producing his first album at the age of 17, Marsalis has produced over 125 recordings, yielding 1 Grammy and 7 nominations. He is the founder of three non-profits designed to help strengthen the New Orleans arts community: the Uptown Music Theatre, Uptown Jazz Orchestra, and Keep New Orleans Music Alive! Marsalis’ ground-breaking educational program, *Swinging with the Cool School*, a soft introduction to jazz for hip tots and adults, was implemented in the local Children’s Hospital as an experimental form of music therapy in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. Marsalis has reached over 6,000 students nationally through Cool School programming.

**TERRANCE TAPLIN** is a native New Orleanian who grew up surrounded by music. He is currently a long-standing member of the historic Treme Brass Band under the direction of Benny Jones, Sr., he is also a long-time staple in the New Orleans Jazz Orchestra, and assists as the musical director for Delfeayo Marsalis’ Uptown Jazz Orchestra. Terrance lends his musical attributes in all genres to bands in and out of New Orleans, often on the international stage. Terrance has worked with Raphael Saadiq, of Tony Toni Tone and Lucy Pearl fame, and has performed with a variety of artists including: Stevie Wonder, Mick Jagger, New Edition, Charlie Wilson, Eddie Levert, Dave Matthews, John Legend, Jennifer Hudson, and Aaron Neville, to name a few. Terrance has performed at the Grammys, the Espy’s, the Soul Train Music Awards, and the BET Experience. Terrance lends his talents to many award-winning artist projects and is sought after for his versatility in music.



**ETHAN SANTOS** is a Filipino-American multi-instrumentalist, bandleader, composer, arranger and educator from Fresno, CA. Ethan has lived in New Orleans for about two and a half years and has quickly become established in the scene, performing with the likes of Tank & the Bangas, Dumpstaphunk, Nicholas Payton, Leroy Jones, Trumpet Mafia, Delfeayo Marsalis & the Uptown Jazz Orchestra, the New Orleans Jazz Orchestra, Tidal Wave Brass Band and Young Fellaz Brass Band. Notable performance venues include the Kennedy Center, New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival, DC Jazz Festival, Tahiti Soul Jazz Festival, JazzAscona, Tokyo TUC and Boston Calling. Beyond the stage, Ethan serves as an adjunct professor at Tulane University and teaches at the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Foundation and privately.

## TRUMPETS:

**JOHN GRAY** is a musician and educator born and raised in Baton Rouge. He is a longstanding member of The Michael Foster Project and The Uptown Jazz Orchestra and performs with various jazz and R&B groups in the South Louisiana region. John is also a veteran music educator and recipient of the Baton Rouge Symphony's Teacher of the Year Award, The Liz Peters Master Teacher Award, and Louisiana Life Magazine's Louisianian of the Year Award. In addition to his performing and teaching career, John is a member of several music and educational organizations, and serves on the boards of the Baton Rouge Blues Foundation, The Debose Music Foundation, and the Academic Distinction Fund. He currently works as an adjunct instructor at Southern University.

**ANDREW BAHAM** has a number of accomplished performances, being a member of The Ellis Marsalis Quintet, Delfeayo Marsalis Sextet, Big Sam's Funky Nation, The Stooges Brass Band, Soul Rebels Brass Band, and more. He has produced albums for The Stooges Brass Band (*It's About Time*, *Thursday Night House Party*), Big Sam's Funky Nation' (*King Of The Party*, *Evolution*), Tonya Boyd-Cannon (of *The Voice Season 8*, *Muzic Is Life*), and arranging/production credits with the Uptown Jazz Orchestra (*Uptown In A Mardi Gras Day*). Baham has recorded 3 solo albums (*Introducing Andrew*

*Baham, From Whence We Came, ...And They Called It Love*), and just released his single, 'Let 'Em Smell The Roses'. He has recorded with Gavin Degraw (*Gavin DeGraw*), Pretty Lights (*A Color Map Of The Sun*), The Original Tuxedo Jazz Band, the Soul Rebels Brass Band, The Stooges Brass Band, and Big Sam's Funky Nation. He has also written and recorded soundtracks for *NCIS:New Orleans*, ESPN, Rockstar Games, and more.

**RYAN NIELSON** is praised for his "breathtaking" sound as a "musician of the highest order," Utah's own Nielson is a trumpet artist whose soulful playing comes from a love of groove, spirit, and beautiful melody. His popular YouTube channel Ryan's Trumpet has thousands of subscribers from around the globe. In 2024, Nielsen's book, *The Classroom Guide to Jazz Improvisation*, written with co-author and jazz icon John McNeil, was a #1 New Release on Amazon, published by Oxford University Press. As a performing artist, Nielsen has toured, performed, and/or recorded with Bobby Broom, Will Ledbetter, Ryan Hanseler, Christian Dillingham, the Kobie Watkins Grouptet, Ra Kalam Bob Moses, and the Summit Brass, to international acclaim. He is a LOTUS trumpet artist.

## SAXOPHONES:

**RODERICK PAULIN** is one of the most soulful, versatile and accomplished saxophonists in New Orleans. As a native of the Crescent City, Roderick has amassed credits as a musical arranger, soloist, conductor on over 55 studio and live recordings that extends more than 35 years with iconic entertainers Allen Toussaint, Neville Brothers, Jimmy Buffet, Hot 8 Brass Band, Davell Crawford, Kermit Ruffins, Shane Theriot, Jon Cleary, John Boutte', and Delfeayo Marsalis to name a few. National and International acts such as Maceo Parker, The Afghan Whigs, Dr. John, The Twilight Singers, John Legend, Raphael Saadiq, Maria Muldaur, The Temptations, The Dells, Aretha Franklin, Tony Toni Tone, and Branford Marsalis have benefited from that special something' that Roderick Paulin brings to music that pays homage to the musical masters of the past; yet Paulin makes his own indelible mark on any project he's affiliated within any capacity he's functioning in. Paulin's body of work as

an educator, musician, author, Speaker, and businessman are undeniable making Roderick Paulin the embodiment of the spirit New Orleans artists are known for.

**SCOTT JOHNSON** is a New Orleans based saxophonist, bandleader, and music educator. In addition to his teaching duties, Scott has given masterclasses on common practices for successful band directing, as well as serving on several boards aimed at bridging the gap from college to careers in music education. He remains an active clinician and music educator in Mississippi, Texas, and the New Orleans area. In 2018, Scott headlined the P-Town Jazz Festival in Plano, TX, and in 2021, he headlined part one of the Alcorn Jazz Festival. He also has an Artist/Educator endorsement with Cannonball Saxophones.

**SHAENA RYAN MARTIN** is a saxophonist, educator, composer, and arranger born and raised in Richmond, VA. She knew from a very young age that she loved music; one of her earliest memories is asking for a piano for Christmas at age four. One of her favorite childhood hobbies was learning her parents' favorite music by ear on her keyboard. Shaena lives in Durham, NC, where she is a professor of music at her alma maters, Duke and NC Central Universities. In addition to performing with the Uptown Jazz Orchestra, she has performed with artists such as Harry Connick Jr., Nnenna Freelon, and The Count Basie Orchestra. Most recently, Shaena took part in a tribute to legendary pianist Yusuf Salim, performing in a big band with Gary Bartz and Chip Crawford. Shaena is currently working on original compositions and arrangements as well as writing a Woodwind Methods textbook.

**AARON NARCISSE** began his musical journey at the age of 6, starting on the drums and a year later switching to the saxophone. His first musical experiences were in the church, where he honed his musical skills for most of his youth. This training would lead to his first paid performance by the age of 10. At the age of 13, Aaron's talent was further evaluated by the famous jazz pianist and educator Ellis Marsalis, who recommended that Aaron attend the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts (N.O.C.C.A) which has been known for producing such talented artists including, Branford and Wynton Marsalis, Harry Connick Jr., Terence Blanchard, Jon Batiste and Trombone Shorty. Shortly after graduating from N.O.C.C.A., Aaron was offered an opportunity to

play in Terence Blanchard's band where he spent two years with Blanchard, touring and playing on a handful of movie and television scores. Aaron moved to Los Angeles for a decade where he performed and toured with artists such as Earth Wind and Fire, Anita Baker, Teena Marie, Stevie Wonder, Bill Withers, The RZA, Wyclef Jean, Chante Moore, Lalah Hathaway, Jeffery Osborne, Eric Benet, Taj Mahal, and many others. For the last decade, Aaron has been a steady figure on the national scene and in the local music community.

**ORLANDO GILBERT** grew up in the city of New Orleans. He was surrounded by its rich culture and vibrant music scene, and heavily influenced by his father, John Gilbert, who was a cofounder of the Rebirth Brass Band. He immersed himself in the New Orleans sound by playing with legends such as Herlin Riley, Trombone Shorty, and countless others. He continued his studies at Berklee College of Music, played with the likes of Ralph Peterson Jr. and other jazz legends. Today, Orlando works with some of the greatest musicians New Orleans has to offer as well as leading his own project with his father.

## **BASS:**

**JASON STEWART** started playing the double bass at the age of 17 in his hometown of New Orleans, Louisiana. He was introduced to Jazz music at the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts where he studied with the great trumpeter and educator Clyde Kerr Jr. and master bassist Bill Huntington. During the 1990s he lived in and played gigs in New Orleans and then in 2000 he moved to New York city. From 2007-2013 he studied with master bassist Ron Carter. In addition, he received an Artist Diploma from the Juilliard school of music in 2009-2011. He performed with the Ellis Marsalis trio, quartet, and quintet from 2007 to 2020. He has also performed over the years with the Marsalis family, Leroy Jones, Wendell Brunious, Steve Masakowski, Shannon Powell, Mulgrew Miller, Steve Nelson, Nicholas Payton, Terence Blanchard, Carl Allen, Adonis Rose, The New Orleans Jazz Orchestra, and Henry Butler among others. He currently lives in New Orleans, Louisiana.

The University of Utah Department of Theatre Presents



# ***A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM***

PLAYWRIGHT **William Shakespeare,**  
DIRECTOR **Robert Scott Smith**

**October 25 - November 3**  
**Studio 115 (Performing Arts Building)**



## PIANO:

**SHEA PIERRE**, a distinguished pianist and composer from New Orleans, has captivated audiences worldwide with his exceptional musical talent. Beginning his journey at age four, under the mentorship of icons like Ellis Marsalis, Shea has developed a unique sound that blends jazz with world music, reflecting his city's rich cultural heritage. His Grammy-nominated work has led to collaborations with renowned artists such as Christian Scott, Donald Harrison, Weedie Brimah and the Hands of Time, and Fatoumata Diawara, showcasing his versatility and acclaim on the global stage. Beyond performances, Shea's commitment to music and community upliftment makes him an inspirational figure, enriching lives through his profound artistry and dedication to excellence.

## DRUMS:

**JARREL ALLEN** started out playing music as a Trumpet player. After deciding he didn't want that to be his instrument, he became fascinated with drums around 7 years old. From that moment on, he has been playing drums and has been fortunate enough to share the stage with the likes of people like Harry Connick Jr, Herbie Hancock and the various renowned musicians of New Orleans. Although he cherishes his music career and everything it has provided, boxing is another part of his life that he takes very seriously. Sometimes more seriously than music. He picked up boxing around the age of 14 and has been training with plans of pivoting from amateur boxing to professional boxing. His current goal is to express himself through both art forms, eventually releasing his own albums and competing professionally for all people to experience what he has to offer the world.

## VOCALS:

**TONYA BOYD-CANNON** falls into the latter category as a vocal musician – a Mississippi-born, Louisiana-raised singer-songwriter who radiates an unmistakable confidence and passion, and an individual who

has truly dedicated her essence to the art form. Her sound puts vibe front and center instead of confining herself to genre limitations. It's a distinctive style that draws from her desire to give and heal others through music – ebbing and flowing from the most heart-wrenching ballads, to jazz, funk, rock, gospel, and everything in between! Tonya's illustrious career has seen her release many singles, EPs, full-length albums, and collaborations, all of which have received significant praise from media and critics alike. From performing the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival to Colombia's Mompox Jazz Festival; Tonya Boyd-Cannon's voice leaves a musical presence on your heart, mind and soul.





UtahPresents

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## **DUCK POND**

**Circa**

October 23 | 7:30PM

Kingsbury Hall

This contemporary reimagining of the classic *Swan Lake* is full of humor, fun, aerials, and acrobatics.



## **THE LOST ART OF DREAMING**

**Sean Dorsey Dance**

November 21 | 7:30PM

Kingsbury Hall

*The Lost Art of Dreaming* invites the audience to connect with their own joy and look towards a brighter future.



## **THE LOWER LIGHTS CHRISTMAS CONCERTS**

December 11, 13, 14 | 7:00PM

Kingsbury Hall

This UtahPresents holiday tradition is back again! Join us as local band The Lower Lights brings their energetic spirit to classic tunes, as well as some new holiday favorites in a night of fun for the whole family.

Tickets and info at [utahpresents.org](https://utahpresents.org)





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