

11-23-2013

5th Treasures of Jazz: "Men of Jazz" and the Jazz Heritage Orchestra (2013)

Men of Jazz

Jazz Heritage Orchestra, Cleveland State University

Dennis Reynolds

Black Studies Program, Cleveland State University

Michael R. Williams

Cleveland State University, m.williams@csuohio.edu

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Cleveland State University Black Studies Program

presents

Fifth Annual “Treasures of Jazz”

featuring

Jazz Heritage Orchestra

& “Men of Jazz”



Saturday, November 23, 2013 @7:00 p.m.

Cleveland State
University
College of Liberal Arts
and Social Sciences



History

On June 11, 1998, the late Dr. Howard A. Mims, Black Studies Program Director, convened a meeting of professional jazz musicians and jazz enthusiasts. This initial meeting included the late Neal Creque, Dennis Bradley Reynolds, Marcus Belgrave, Dr. Larry Simpson and a host of other significant individuals. The express purpose of the meeting was to explore the feasibility and viability of Cleveland State University Black Studies Program sponsoring a professional jazz orchestra within its existing organizational structure.

The initial orchestra proposal was strongly embraced by the meeting participants. In a subsequent meeting, the group was expanded and eventually evolved into an advisory board. It was during advisory board meetings that the name Jazz Heritage Orchestra (JHO) and mission was determined.

The Advisory Board, under the leadership of Dr. Mims, decided that the mission of the Jazz Heritage Orchestra would be “to preserve and perpetuate the musical heritage of the great African American jazz masters. These jazz masters were the creators and innovators of the art form known as jazz.” A special mission focus was “to target and educate school age African American children as well as the general public to the significance of jazz.”

In 1998, Dennis Bradley Reynolds was appointed to the position of JHO’s artistic director. Working closely both with Dr. Mims (until his death) and the current Black Studies Program Director, Dr. Michael Williams, Dennis Reynolds has guided JHO to its’ national level of excellence. JHO is nationally recognized as one of the top big band orchestras in the country. JHO’s work with children and the orchestra ability to perform at an extraordinary high level has resulted in the CSU Black Studies Program being selected as one the nation’s Jazz at Lincoln Center: “Essentially Ellington” regional competition host sites. Only four other locations have earned this prestigious honor.

JHO has performed with local national and international artists such as Clark Terry, Vanessa Rubin, Nancy Wilson, Kia Allen, John Morton, Evelyn Wright and Benny Golson. The Orchestra has recorded two cds entitled: “Steeping Out” and “Bouncy with Benny”. The latter cd will be release shortly and is the only big band recording Benny Golson has recorded.

History

Despite the artistic success of the orchestra JHO remains true to its' mission: educating African American children and the general public about the history and importance of jazz. Prior to each concert performance JHO opens its rehearsals to students and community residents. Band members conduct master classes to demonstrate what it takes to become a jazz master. Band members also go into both private and public school settings to provide master jazz classes for both students and teachers. JHO makes special efforts to provide inner-city children with an excellent musical educational experience.

Through the auspices of the Cleveland State University Black Studies Program, the Jazz Heritage Orchestra is available for concerts, educational seminars, clinic and workshops. For further information please call: 216-687-3655.

JHO Orchestra Musicians

Chris Anderson
Christopher Burge
Earlie Braggs
Bobby Ferrazza
Kris Johnson
David Kay
James Pisano
Jim Rupp
Mike Wade

Eddie Bayard
Sam Blakeslee
Eric Dregne
Glenn Holmes
Paul Johnston
Damani Phillips
Dennis Reynolds
James Tinsley
Michael Cady-Vocalist



Late Dr. Howard A. Mims



Mr. Dennis Reynolds

Board of Directors

Mrs. Debra Mareborough-White, President

Ms. Renee Whiteside, Secretary

Mr. Henry Butler

Ms. Dionne Carmichael

Ms. Vivian Sharp

Mr. Bill Richards

Mr. Allen Mitchell

Mr. Abdul Qahhar

Mr. Al Porter, Jr.

Mr. Zizwe Tchiguka

Ms. Delores Dsugs

Dr. Elice Rodgers

Ms. Jeannise Andres

Ms. Jackie Ivey

Mr. Jerome Brown

5th Annual Treasures of Jazz

Program

Saturday, November 22, 2013

Welcome

Acknowledgements

Men of Jazz

CSU Jazz Heritage Orchestra

Closing Remarks



5th Annual Treasures of Jazz

CSU Black Studies Program

Dr. Michael R. Williams, Director

I thank each of you for taking time to attend the 5th Annual “Treasures of Jazz” Concert Series, featuring the Jazz Heritage Orchestra and the Men of Jazz. We are honored that you took time out of your busy schedules to spend an evening with us.

I thank JHO members. Your dedication and loyalty has been and continues to be a major in making Dr. Mims’ dream a reality. He wanted an orchestra dedicated to keeping jazz alive and will and JHO has worked hard to achieve that goal. I thank each member of the orchestra. Without your dedication all JHO has accomplished would not have been possible.

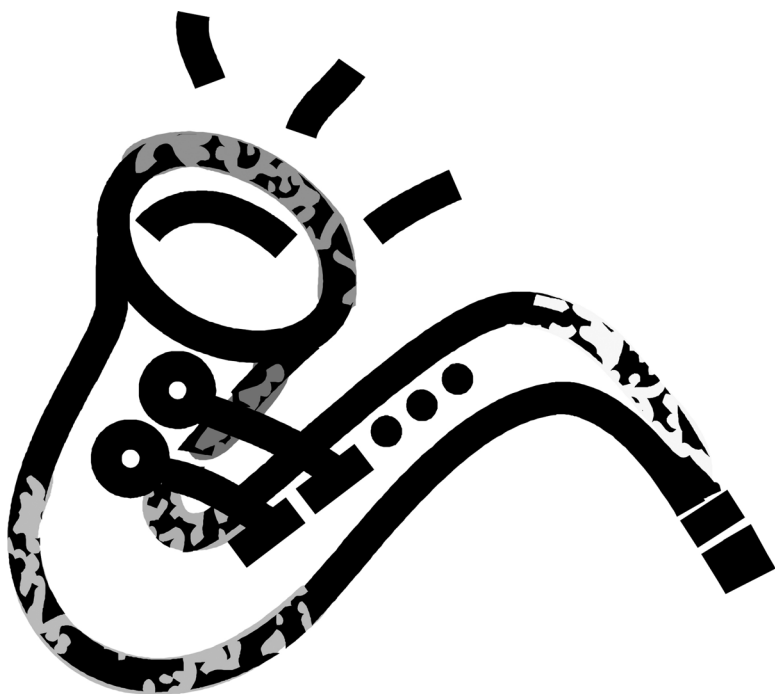
I thank all the Black Studies Program Advisory Board members, work-study students and volunteers. Without you this event would have been difficult to manage. A special thanks goes to Mrs. Debra Marenborough-White, Black Studies Program Advisory Board Chairperson. She provides much appreciated support, guidance and advice.

I thank Dr. Gregory Sadlek Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences. Dean Sadlek has provided much needed support for this and other Black Studies Program events.

A final thanks goes to the members of the CSU Duplication Department and Altogether Marketing LLC. It is through the support of these organizations that our brochures and flyers were produced.

—*Michael Williams*

5th Annual Treasures of Jazz
Notes



5th Annual Treasures of Jazz

CSU Black Studies Program

Dr. Michael Williams, Director

Prester Pickett, MFA, Coordinator

Jason Moore, MA, MRE, Secretary

The Rich Legacy of the African Diaspora

Mission Sstatement

To provide Cleveland State Univeristy and Cleveland communities with opportunities to acquire greater knowledge and appreciation of the history, life, all aspects of the arts, culture and experiences of peoples of African descent.

The Black Studies Program carries out its mission through the following six instruments:

Academic Programs

Major with 89 Interdisciplinary Courses

Minor

Tombouctou Book Club

Howard A. Mims African American Cultural Center

Bridges to Africa Panel Discussions

Curtis Wilson Colloquium Series

Kuumba Arts Exhibits

Umoja Roundtables

Black Aspirations Celebration

Weeklong Event of Cultural Arts and Contemporary Issues

Images Public Affairs Radio Forum

WERE 1490 AM - Sunday 10:00 a.m.

WCSB 89.3 AM - Wednesday 12:00 noon

Jazz Heritage Orchestra (JHO)

Professional Orchestra In-residence

Available for Concerts, Master Classes

Educational Seminars and Clinics

Howard A. Mims Lecture, Arts & Media Series (LAMS)

Outstanding Speakers, Performing Artists, Graphics Artists, Video and Film

To become a Patron or Sponsor of the Black Studies Program please contact 216.687.3655 or blackstudies@csuohio.edu