

JAZZ COMBOS

Sean Jones,* Richard and Elizabeth Case Chair in Jazz Studies



Sunday, December 11, 2022 · 3:00 pm
Joe Byrd Hall

Program will be announced from the stage.

The Peabody Jazz Department is committed to presenting jazz through community engagement, student empowerment, and pedagogical foundations. The new Peabody Jazz Combos series spotlights student performances of jazz classics and original compositions under the direction of Peabody jazz faculty, including Nasar Abadey, Richard D. Johnson, Warren Wolf, Tim Green, Charenée Wade and Sean Jones, the Richard and Elizabeth Case Chair of Jazz.

WARREN WOLF COMBO

Thomas Schinabeck, alto saxophone
John Rokicki, tenor saxophone
Ephraim Dorsey, tenor saxophone
Hannah Mayer, piano
Leo Zurita, piano
Aidan Taylor, bass
Koleby Royston, drums
Brandon Born, guitar

RICHARD JOHNSON COMBO

Kevin Tzanetis, trumpet
Max Nguyen, alto saxophone
Yaya Escobar, tenor saxophone
Maximilian Merendino Caroll, piano
Jack Glantz, piano
Claudio Silva, drums
Will Hazlehurst, bass

SEAN JONES COMBO

Nissan Ni, voice
Keller Remington, trumpet
Trevor Johnson, trumpet
Erick Garduno, alto saxophone
Indra Carpio-Pretel, piano
Rockwell Shapiro, piano
Zachary Lloyd, drums
Noah Ford, drums
Jason Torres, bass
Coby Siegel, guitar

BIOGRAPHIES

Richard D. Johnson, director

Born in Pittsburgh – home to jazz greats Art Blakey, Ray Brown, Jeff “Tain” Watts, and Ahmad Jamal – Richard D. Johnson has strong territorial jazz roots. He was first introduced to the piano at the age of 5 by his father, a gospel pianist from Baltimore. Since then, he has cultivated a rich and pedigreed musical background, being schooled by some of the most legendary jazz musicians and studying at the most esteemed institutions of music.

After receiving a scholarship and graduating from the Berklee School of Music in just two years, Johnson earned a master’s degree in jazz pedagogy from the Boston Conservatory. He then went on to receive an Artist Performance Diploma at the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz Performance at the New England Conservatory under the direction of the influential Ron Carter.

Johnson was invited to become a member of Wynton Marsalis’ Septet and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, which he did from 2000 to 2003. He also played as part of the Russell Malone Quartet, Delfeayo Marsalis Quintet, and the Bobby Watson Quartet. After completing his tenure with those groups, Johnson started the Reach Afar program for young people ages 7 to 17, educating them about elements of jazz in hip-hop.

Johnson has traveled extensively, sharing the gift of jazz with audiences around the world. As a representative of the United States through the U.S. State Department, he was named United States Musical Ambassador. He did six State Department tours, performing in more than 76 countries in Central and South America, Africa, and the Middle East. He has also accompanied such jazz icons as Wayne Shorter, Herbie Hancock, and Arturo Sandoval.

One of Johnson's other strengths is administration and music management. He is the founding member of Johnson Works LLC, a management placement service for musicians. In this role, he performs with world-class artists promoting jazz to a vast array of audiences. He also serves as the piano instructor for the Ravinia Jazz Program in Chicago. Another passion of Johnson's is history, which has led him to become a certified tour agent/guide and educate thousands of high school students.

Johnson is an accomplished composer and arranger with four musical releases as a leader. His latest colead project with Gregory Generet, entitled *2 of A Kind*, features a stellar jazz ensemble consisting of Freddie Hendrix on trumpet, Jon Beshay on tenor saxophone, Barry Stephenson on bass, and Henry Conerway on drums.

Richard Johnson is a Yamaha endorsed piano artist.

Sean Jones, director, Richard and Elizabeth Case Chair in Jazz Studies

The young jazz veteran trumpeter Sean Jones believes passionately in championing the creative arc of artists who are committed to their life journey. "I think the progression of the art form comes with people being allowed to be themselves in their rawest form with no compromise," he has noted.

A highly respected and in-demand musician, Jones has recorded and/or performed with many major figures including Joe Lovano, Chico O'Farrill, Illinois Jacquet, Jimmy Heath, Frank Foster, Nancy Wilson, Dianne Reeves, Gerald Wilson, and Marcus Miller. The relationship with Miller led to another highly impacting experience when Jones was selected by Miller, Herbie Hancock, and Wayne Shorter for their Tribute to Miles tour in 2011.

Currently, Jones is artistic director of the Pittsburgh Jazz Orchestra, Artist-in-Residence at San Francisco Performances, and a member of The SF JAZZ Collective. In addition, he serves as a member of the Jazz Education Network's Board of Directors and was recently appointed as artistic director of Carnegie Hall's NYO Jazz, which makes its Carnegie Hall debut and inaugural European tour in the summer of 2018. He has recently released his eighth recording, *Live from Jazz at the Bistro*, on Mack Avenue Records.

Heavily involved in education, Jones taught at the Berklee College of Music as the chair of the Brass Department before joining the Peabody Conservatory as the Richard and Elizabeth Case Chair in Jazz Studies in 2018. He has also taught at Duquesne University and at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, while regularly offering master classes and clinics all around the world.

Warren Wolf, director

Warren Wolf is a multi-instrumentalist who lives in Baltimore. Since a very young age, Wolf has been playing many different instruments which include the vibraphone/marimba, drumset/percussion, and the piano/keyboards. While attending Baltimore School for the Arts Warren also attended the Peabody Preparatory, where he studied with former Baltimore Symphony Orchestra member Leo LePage. While at Peabody, Wolf played many popular styles of music which included classical, jazz, and ragtime.

After graduating, Wolf headed north and enrolled at Berklee College of Music where he studied with Caribbean Jazz Project Vibist Dave Samuels and he began to experiment with many different music styles, outside of jazz and classical, such as hip-hop, r&b, drum-n-bass, funk, rock, gospel, world music, Latin, and many others.

Wolf previously served as faculty percussion member at Berklee teaching foundation piano classes and private lessons for drummers and mallet students. He is also the former chair of jazz studies at the Baltimore School for the Arts. He is currently an adjunct professor at Temple University in Philadelphia and the San Francisco Conservatory of Music.

Wolf has recorded seven records as a leader to date—*Incredible Jazz Vibes*, recorded on the Japanese label M & I Records; *Raw*; *Warren "Chano Pozo" Wolf*, where Wolf is featured on vibes, drums, and piano; *Black Wolf*, featuring Mulgrew Miller on piano, Jeff "Tain" Watts on drums, and Rodney Whitaker on bass; *Warren Wolf*, released on the Mack Ave label; *Wolfgang*, which is also on the Mack Ave label; and *Convergence*, featuring Brad Mehldau on piano, John Scofield on guitar, Christian McBride on bass, and Jeff "Tain" Watts on drums.

Wolf is a member of Christian McBride's group Inside Straight and is featured on the Inside Straight recordings *Kind of Brown* and *People Music*. He is also a member of the all star jazz group, The SFJazz Collective. Wolf is the leader of the group Warren Wolf & WOLFPACK.

Wolf is a Mack Ave. recording artist, Open Studio Network artist, Mallettech endorser, and is represented by the Paradigm Talent Agency, AMI Agency & Guessworks, Inc.