Duke Ellington (1899–1974)

**Sacred Concerts**

I. In the beginning
II. Will you be there?
III. Ain’t But The One
IV. Heaven, arranged by John Høybye and Peder Pedersen
V. Come Sunday
VI. David Danced
VII. My Love
VIII. Father Forgive
IX. It’s Freedom
X. Meditation
XI. Praise God & Dance, arranged by John Høybye and Peder Pedersen
PEABODY JAZZ ENSEMBLE

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

**Alto Saxophone**
- Ebban Dorsey
- Thomas Schinabeck

**Tenor Saxophone**
- Andrew Kreitner
- Yaya Escobar

**Baritone Saxophone**
- Max Nguyen

**Trombones**
- Marcel Penzes
- Spencer Merk
- Calvin Maholick

**Bass Trombone**
- Taylor Esbenshade

**Trumpets**
- Kevin Tzanetis
- Emerson Borg
- Keller Remington
- Aiden Interrante
- Trevor Johnson

**Piano (rotation)**
- Alex Navarrete
- Indra Carpio-Pretel

**Bass (rotation)**
- Aidan Taylor
- Dylan Simon

**Drums (rotation)**
- Zachary Lloyd
- Koleby Royston

**Guitar (rotation)**
- Brandon Born
- Aidan Walsh-King

PEABODY HOPKINS CONSERVATORY CHOIR with NEXT ENSEMBLE AND PEABODY CAMERATA

Beth Willer, conductor, director of choral studies

**Soprano 1**
- Emefa Agawu
- Morgan Beckstead
- Esther Brodsky
- Hong Chou
- Tori Delgado
- Abigail DeYoung
- Vivian Flanagan
- Alexis Hinz-Morrow
- Sarah Kent
- Yiran Lyu
- Michaela Marin
- Maggie Rogers
- Ofra Rybak
- Kayleigh Sprouse
- Mariana Weaver

**Soprano 2**
- Vanessa Bosh
- Abigail Coates
- Xinglan Deng
- Kathleen Hackett
- Gabriella Handoko
- Lulu Hassanein
- Ashley Huber
- Hana Juetten
- Yeongin Jung
- Lauren Kim
- Ever Krikorian
- Andrea Liu
- Mattigan Monschke
- Rui Shi
- Sofia Tsahalis
- Ye Xin

**Alto 1**
- Monica Blair
- Isabel Bos
- Zoey Carlos
- Siying Chen
- Dora Chen
- Amanda Ferber
- Danielle Harrison
- Kelly Hudak
- Kyubin Kwon
- Elizabeth Lentz
- Yizhen Lyu
- Rhonda Robinson
- Kaede Shimizu
- Sabrina Southwick
- Yushan Wang
- Cassidy Wauben

**Alto 2**
- Graham Browning
- Francesca Hellerman
- Anita-Mae Kahan
- Ashley Kim
- Yuheng Liu
- Yanci Long
- Sojin Oh
- Ruya Ozveren
- Mariela Palencia
- Delaney Stewart
- Arianna Surrow
- Emma Tucker
- Kisiah Waters
- Fran Weld

**Tenor 1**
- Nicholas Birkhead
- Eli Farrell
- Hao Liu
- Timothy Moss
- Rahsaun Smith
- Benjamin Tran
- Clyde Wright
- Zizhan Wu
- Tianshuo Yu

**Tenor 2**
- Huanyu Cao
- Jie Liang
- Noah Parady
- Chase Schallen
- Darin Shao
- Thurman Rhodes
- Tong Wu

**Bass 1**
- Champion Arias
- Henry Bryan
- Zhengan Cao
- Zihao Chen
- Scott George
- Roy Heng
- Christopher Kirby-Saunders
- Myroslav Mykhailenko
- Yanming Yao

**Bass 2**
- Christian Cang-cuesta
- Alex Chao
- Richard Gao
- ChenXuan Huang
- Jaylin Jackson
- Kerrick Li
- Sean McLaughlin
- Benjamin Norbrook
- Sebastian Picht
- Nick Scheffler
- Andrew Truong
- Jaiden Wettstein
- Xiaoming Zhang
- Hanqi Zhao
- Eric Zhu

**Rehearsal Pianists**
- Adric Macsisak
- Sunwoo Kim
BIOGRAPHIES

Brinae Ali, soloist
Alexandria “Brinae Ali” Bradley, born and raised in Flint, Michigan is an interdisciplinary artist who believes in using the power of the arts to transform the conditions of the human spirit. When she is not traveling and performing, she is giving back to young people and grass roots organizing. Currently Bradley is the artistic director of Tapology, Inc., a youth based outreach program in Flint, that believes in preserving the art of tap and jazz culture through education and performance. As an educator she has collaborated with After School Activities Partnership, East Park Revitalization Alliance, Philadelphia Clef Club of Performing Arts, Raise It Up! Youth Arts and Awareness, Flint Youth Theatre, Mural Arts of Philadelphia, Young Audiences of New Jersey, Queens College, Long Island University, Ping Chong and Company, New Jersey Performing Arts Center, and was an artist in residence at the Carol Morgan School in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic and Apollo Theater Education with Wadleigh High School in Harlem NYC. She has also served as an adjunct professor at Queens College and Long Island University. Internationally Bradley has traveled and performed around the world in countries such as, France, Germany, China, and Brazil. She also travelled with a team of tap dancers to Russia for a tour in 5 cities working with the U.S. Embassy for its cultural exchange program celebrating National Tap Dance Day. Her Broadway and off-Broadway experience has gained her positions as assistant dance captain for *Shuffle Along: the 1921 Sensation And All That Followed* choreographed by Savion Glover and directed by George C.Wolfe, company member of NY and touring cast of *STOMP*, special feature in the *Cotton Club Parade* which later became *After Midnight* under the musical direction of Wynton Marsalis, New York City Center Off-Center production of *Don’t Bother Me, I Can’t Cope* directed and choreographed by Savion Glover and was a part of a two week tour in Italy celebrating Ella Fitzgerald’s centennial. As a playwright and songwriter she has also created award winning works such as Best Short Play at the Downtown Urban Theater Festival for her one woman show *Steps* and the Vox Populi Independence Music Award for *Destination Forever: Vol.1 EP*. Currently she is developing a work in progress with trumpeter Sean Jones called *Dizzy Spellz* fusing tap, Bebop, Hip Hop, and Afro Cuban music to articulate the African American experience through the music of Dizzy Gillespie from an Afro-futurist lense.

Imani-Grace Cooper, voice
Imani-Grace Cooper is a jazz vocalist with idiom versatility and knowledge from experiences including collegiate studies under the main instruction of 2013 *DownBeat Magazine*’s Jazz Education achievement award recipient, Connaire Miller. Her enthusiasm for jazz fueled the cultivation of a jazz series at Sankofa Cafe in Washington, D.C., titled Sounds at Sankofa which features a variety of D.C. jazz legends like Allyn Johnson and Fred Foss. Cooper debuted as a solo artist as the Apollo Theater’s guest artist during the Annual Harl Jazz Week. Cooper, as a solo artist and ensemble singer, has shared band stands with Dianne Reeves, Esperanza Spalding, Terri Lyne Carrington, the late George Duke, Al Jarreau, and many more! Cooper services fellow enthusiasts of singing in private voice lessons and can be found singing regularly in Washington, D.C., and surrounding cities.

Sean Jones, Richard and Elizabeth Case Chair in Jazz Studies, conductor
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.
Keith Snipes, **voice**

Keith Snipes is an actor, poet, vocalist, and songwriter. A native of Baltimore, Snipes started acting at the age of 16, after landing a summer job that focused on the arts. Gifted with a melodious singing voice, his first two theatrical performances were both in musical productions, West Side Story and Porgy & Bess, respectively.

Snipes’ primary musical influence was his mother, Daisy Mae Snipes. Under her guidance, he and his siblings would perform as if they were a professional gospel choir. His mother, who as a child sang with the famed gospel singer Shirley Caesar, taught her children how to deliver a song with poise and confidence.

It was not until his mother transitioned from this plane that Snipes, almost suddenly, began to seriously think of himself as a singer and songwriter. The first song he wrote is about his mother. He wrote it as he sat by her hospital bed, which was surrounded by liquids. The song is aptly entitled, “Bed of Water.” According to Snipes, the song takes the listener from the bed of water his mother carried him in for nine months to the bed of water he prayed would bring his mother through.

“Bed of Water” is just one of the emotionally charged soulful songs on his debut EP. It is filled with socially conscious songs and politically poignant poetry. Snipes is determined to say something meaningful whenever he writes and sings a song. Stay tuned!

Beth Willer, **conductor, director of choral studies**

Noted for her “directorial command” and “technical expertise,” conductor Beth Willer is recognized as a bold, 21st-century artist with her finger on the pulse of the vocal ensemble art. Her commitment to expanding and deepening the repertoire for vocal ensembles through creative collaboration and culturally-relevant programming can be seen in her work with professional and student ensembles alike. A champion of new music, Willer frequently collaborates with established and emerging composers, including significant projects with David Lang, Julia Wolfe, George Benjamin, Kati Agócs, Kareem Roustom, James Kalembaliach, Shawn Kirchner, and Jessica Meyer. Current positions include director of choral studies at the Peabody Conservatory, and artistic director of the critically-acclaimed Lorelei Ensemble.

As associate professor and director of choral studies at the Peabody Conservatory, Willer leads the vocal ensembles, including NEXT Ensemble, the Peabody Camerata, and the Peabody Hopkins Conservatory Choir. In their inaugural year, the choir commissioned and premiered new works by Kareem Roustom, Paula Prestini, Tina Tallon, and Natalie Draper, and was invited to record works by Philip Glass for the short film *Philip Glass: Three Cities / BALTIMORE* in celebration of the composer’s 85th birthday. Prior to joining the Peabody faculty, Willer served as director of choral activities at Bucknell University, and led ensembles at Harvard University and The Boston Conservatory. A passionate music educator, Willer has led numerous young artist ensembles, including choruses at Boston University’s Tanglewood Institute, New England Conservatory’s Preparatory School, the Boston Arts Academy, and The Walnut Hill School. An active clinician and master teacher, Willer enjoys frequent engagements with high school and collegiate ensembles across the country.

As founder and artistic director of Lorelei Ensemble, Willer has led the octet to international acclaim, performing at celebrated venues across the country, including Carnegie Hall, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Tanglewood Music Center, and Boston’s Symphony Hall. Committed to fulfilling Lorelei’s mission to elevate and expand the repertoire for women’s voices, she frequently initiates collaborations with composers from the U.S. and abroad, leading the ensemble in more than 60 world, U.S., and regional premieres since its founding. Recent recordings include James Kalembaliach’s *Antigone: The Writings of Sophie Scholl and the White Rose Movement* (New Focus, 2022), David Lang’s *love fail* (Cantaloupa, 2020) and *Impermanence* (Sono Luminus, 2018) featuring motets of Guillaume Du Fay, selections from the Turin Manuscript and the Codex Calixtinus, and the premiere recording of Peter Gilbert’s *Tsukimi*. Lorelei Ensemble maintains a robust national touring schedule, including recent collaborations with Grammy-nominated ensembles A Far Cry and Cantus. In 2022-23, Lorelei Ensemble is proud to present the world premiere of Julia Wolfe’s *Her Story*, in performances with five co-commissioning orchestras: the Nashville Symphony, the San Francisco Symphony, the Chicago Symphony, the National Symphony Orchestra, and the Boston Symphony Orchestra. *Her Story* is the latest in a series of Wolfe’s compositions highlighting monumental and turbulent moments in American history and culture. Recent and upcoming Lorelei appearances and residencies include Eastman School of Music, Princeton University, Duke University, and two appearances at the Tanglewood Music Center’s 2022 season, performing with the Boston Symphony Orchestra (Thomas Adès), Emmanuel Ax, and Paul Appleby. Future projects include projects in collaboration with Grammy-nominated composer Christopher Cerrone, composer Ayanna Woods, video artist Hannah Wasileski, and Pilobolus co-artistic directors Renée Jaworski and Matt Kent. As a guest conductor, Willer has been privileged to lead premiere ensembles from across the country, including performances with Seraphic Fire, the Bang on a Can All-Stars, New York Baroque Incorporated, and Roomful of Teeth. Symphonic work includes performance and recording of standard repertoire and multiple world and U.S. premieres with the Boston Symphony Orchestra (Andris Nelsons, Thomas Adès), Nashville Symphony Orchestra (Giancarlo Guerrero), Chicago Symphony Orchestra (Marin Alsop), San Francisco Symphony (Guerrero), National Symphony (Gianandrea Noseda), the Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra (Stefan Asbury), Boston Modern Orchestra Project (Gil Rose), Odyssey Opera (Rose), and Boston University’s Tanglewood Institute Orchestra (Ken-David Masur).

Wller holds graduate degrees in conducting from Boston University (DMA and MM), and an undergraduate degree in music education and trumpet performance from Luther College (BM). Teachers include Ann Howard Jones, Weston Noble, Mark Shapiro, David Hoose, and Bruce Hangen.

Visit [peabody.jhu.edu/events](http://peabody.jhu.edu/events) for upcoming performances and events.