Past, present and future collide as we present established greats, young stars, and new definitions of jazz. The Count Basie Orchestra, an 80-year-old American institution, shares the stage with the ground-breaking Marcus Roberts Trio. Indian tabla player Zakir Hussain joins Charles Lloyd for a unique season finale presenting a fresh take on world music and jazz.

Celebrate Tradition & Embrace Innovation.

From South African jazz to New Orleans R&B, this season brings a true variety of the many rhythms and styles that make jazz a great and versatile art form. You’ll hear a mixture of eclectic music, from the Creole-flavored tunes of Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee Allen Toussaint’s latest album to the African folk melodies from Regina Carter’s Reverse Thread project.

WITNESS THE VARIETY.

The 2010/11 lineup includes the best and brightest in jazz today, artists that have been recognized worldwide for their virtuosity and talent. In one evening, two jazz masterminds, Grammy® Award winners Branford Marsalis and Terence Blanchard, delight audiences with their respective ensembles. Hear the great Dianne Reeves as well as the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra in this season of world-class jazz.

Experience the Excellence.

Past, present and future collide as we present established greats, young stars, and new definitions of jazz. The Count Basie Orchestra, an 80-year-old American institution, shares the stage with the ground-breaking Marcus Roberts Trio. Indian tabla player Zakir Hussain joins Charles Lloyd for a unique season finale presenting a fresh take on world music and jazz.

Join us this season for 10 spectacular nights of world-class performances!
Friday, October 8, 8:00
Chick Corea piano and keyboards
Christian McBride bass
Brian Blade drums

Last heard at Symphony Center more than 10 years ago, multiple Grammy® Award-winning pianist Chick Corea was called "jazz's most protean and unpredictable character" by DownBeat magazine. Joining forces with Corea are acoustic and electric bass virtuoso Christian McBride and Brian Blade, who is considered by many to be one of the all-time drumming greats.

Friday, October 22, 8:00
Hugh Masekela

With a career spanning more than 50 years, Hugh Masekela has released 35 albums, collaborated with celebrated artists across all genres and worked as an activist and advocate for justice and equality in South Africa and beyond. Masekela's unparalleled stage presence and ability to entertain combined with his trademark mixture of pop, jazz and native South African music will make for an exciting debut at Symphony Center.
Friday, December 10, 8:00

Regina Carter’s Reverse Thread
Esperanza Spalding Chamber Music Society

Two innovative artists share the stage for an evening that breaks barriers between jazz and other genres. Violinist Regina Carter brings her unique fusion of world music and jazz violin in a program showcasing her album Reverse Thread, which Time magazine describes as “wonderfully listenable, probingly intelligent, and at times breathtakingly daring.” Esperanza Spalding’s new project, Chamber Music Society, combines the intrigue of improvisation with sweet string arrangements, encompassing elements of jazz and African folk melodies.

Friday, January 14, 8:00

Allen Toussaint’s The Bright Mississippi
with Don Byron and Nicholas Payton

Allen Toussaint is among the most influential figures in New Orleans R&B. Over his 40-year career, he has written and produced for, had his songs covered by, and performed with Paul Simon, Elvis Costello, Patti LaBelle, Etta James and countless others. This program spotlights his 2009 Grammy®-nominated CD The Bright Mississippi, a salute to the stars of the Big Easy. Helping to bring this CD to life are two of its featured stars, acclaimed clarinetist Don Byron and trumpet wizard Nicholas Payton.
Friday, February 4, 8:00
Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra
with Wynton Marsalis

The Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra returns to Symphony Center to deliver another brilliant performance in classic big band fashion. The virtuosity of these fine jazz musicians and their leader, trumpeter Wynton Marsalis, will be displayed in music ranging from historic compositions to works by renowned jazz composers and members of the orchestra.

Friday, March 25, 8:00
An Evening with Branford Marsalis and Terence Blanchard

Two jazz masterminds join forces for an unforgettable double bill at Symphony Center. Three-time Grammy® Award-winning saxophonist Branford Marsalis is known for his innovative spirit and broad musical scope, with a career that has traveled many paths, from traditional and modern jazz to hip-hop. World-renowned trumpeter and Golden Globe®-nominated composer Terence Blanchard is one of the most important figures to emerge from the 1980s jazz resurgence and can be heard on nearly 50 film scores.
**Friday, April 15, 8:00**

**Dianne Reeves**

Outstanding jazz vocalist Dianne Reeves returns to deliver another program characterized by her unequaled interpretation and definitive style. After her last performance at Symphony Center, the *Chicago Tribune* said, “great jazz singing still lives—at least when Reeves is in the house.”

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**Friday, April 22, 8:00**

**The Count Basie Orchestra**

with special guests **The Marcus Roberts Trio**

An enduring American institution, the Count Basie Orchestra has been keeping swing alive since 1935. Composed of both new members and musicians handpicked by the legendary Count Basie himself, the Count Basie Orchestra has earned 17 Grammy® Awards and continues to tour, record and collaborate with notable artists. During the second half of the program, the Marcus Roberts Trio lends its distinct sound and style to this celebration of the big band tradition.
Friday, May 20, 8:00
Chicago Jazz Ensemble with Jon Faddis
A Tribute to Mahalia Jackson

The Chicago Jazz Ensemble and trumpet great Jon Faddis present a centennial tribute to great gospel singer Mahalia Jackson. A true legend who rose to fame in Chicago, and the first gospel singer to perform at Carnegie Hall, she sang at the funeral of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and at the inauguration of John F. Kennedy. With the help of the stellar CJE and special guests, Mahalia Jackson’s spirit will be alive and well at Symphony Center.

Friday, June 3, 8:00
Charles Lloyd + Zakir Hussain

Charles Lloyd saxophone and flute / Jason Moran piano / Reuben Rogers bass / Eric Harland drums / Zakir Hussain tabla

Saxophone legend Charles Lloyd brings an evening of engaging and inventive jazz to Symphony Center. The first half of the concert will feature Lloyd with drummer Eric Harland and tabla titan Zakir Hussain performing music from their acclaimed album Sangam, which finds common ground between jazz and sensuous Eastern rhythms. Charles Lloyd’s quartet, including Harland, pianist Jason Moran and bassist Reuben Rogers, takes center stage for the second half of the program.
Special Concerts

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**Saturday, August 21, 8:00**
Herbie Hancock’s The Imagine Project Tour

Chicago native Herbie Hancock is one of the greatest living jazz musicians. Throughout his explorations, he transcends limitations and genres while still maintaining his unique, unmistakable voice. This tour celebrates Hancock’s 70th birthday and spotlights his groundbreaking recording and film venture, *The Imagine Project*, which brought Hancock around the globe to record with more than a dozen music superstars.

**Wednesday, August 25, 8:00**
LOUIS: A Silent Film with Live Musical Performance by Wynton Marsalis and Cecile Licad

Set to a musical score by Wynton Marsalis and Louis Moreau Gottschalk and performed by the Wynton Marsalis Septet and pianist Cecile Licad, LOUIS is a film homage to Louis Armstrong, Charlie Chaplin and the birth of the great American art form, jazz. Set in 1907 New Orleans and shot in the style of silent film by Academy Award®-winning cinematographer Vilmos Zsigmond, LOUIS tells the moving story of a young boy born into poverty who dreams of playing the trumpet.

**Friday, February 11, 8:00**
Blues at the Crossroads: The Robert Johnson Centennial Concert featuring Big Head Todd and the Monsters, David “Honeyboy” Edwards, Hubert Sumlin, Cedric Burnside and Lightnin’ Malcolm

Join us for a celebration of the 100th anniversary of Delta blues legend Robert Johnson’s birth. Ranked fifth in *Rolling Stone*’s list of the 100 Greatest Guitarists of All Time, Johnson has influenced generations of musicians with his songs, voice and style.

**Sunday, October 10, 7:00**
Chucho Valdés with the Afro-Cuban Messengers

Hailed as “one of the world’s great virtuosic pianists” by the *New York Times*, Chucho Valdés presents an evening of fiery Cuban rhythms with the award-winning Afro-Cuban Messengers. Witness Valdés’ great technical chops and unforgettable passion and spirit in his first Chicago appearance since 2001.

**Friday, April 8, 8:00**
Max Raabe & Palast Orchester A Night in Berlin

Travel back in time to Weimar-era Berlin through an evening of nostalgic 1920s and ’30s tunes with singer Max Raabe and his stellar 12-member band. The *New York Times* said, “They play with a stylishness, grace and vitality that do not call attention to their impressive virtuosity.”
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