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# LINCOLN CENTER PRESENTS

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In Collaboration with



## The Art of the Score

### The Movie Music of Terence Blanchard

Sunday, January 28, 2024, 7:30 p.m.

**Thomas Wilkins**, Conductor

**Terence Blanchard** Featuring the E-Collective

(New York Philharmonic debut)

**Lizz Wright, Kurt Elling**, Vocalists

(New York Philharmonic debuts)

**Members of the New York Philharmonic**

Wu Tsai Theater

David Geffen Hall at Lincoln Center

Home of the New York Philharmonic

This program will last approximately two hours,  
which includes one intermission.

## The Art of the Score

Thomas Wilkins, Conductor

Terence Blanchard Featuring the E-Collective

Terence Blanchard, Trumpet; Ben Wendel, Saxophone

Charles Altura, Guitar; Taylor Eigsti, Piano

David Ginyard Jr., Bass; Oscar Seaton, Drums

(New York Philharmonic debut)

Lizz Wright, Kurt Elling, Vocalists (New York Philharmonic debuts)

Members of the New York Philharmonic

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### The Movie Music of Terence Blanchard

(b. 1962)

#### *Malcolm X Suite*

TERENCE BLANCHARD FEATURING THE E-COLLECTIVE

Members of the NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC

#### *"A Change Is Gonna Come," from Malcolm X*

LIZZ WRIGHT

TERENCE BLANCHARD FEATURING THE E-COLLECTIVE

Members of the NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC

#### *"Someday We'll Be Free," from Malcolm X*

LIZZ WRIGHT

TERENCE BLANCHARD FEATURING THE E-COLLECTIVE

#### *25th Hour Suite*

TERENCE BLANCHARD FEATURING THE E-COLLECTIVE

Members of the NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC

#### *Inside Man Suite*

TERENCE BLANCHARD FEATURING THE E-COLLECTIVE

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## INTERMISSION

***Levees, from A Tale of God's Will (A Requiem for Katrina)***  
TERENCE BLANCHARD FEATURING THE E-COLLECTIVE  
Members of the NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC

***Shadowland, from Bamboozled***  
KURT ELLING  
TERENCE BLANCHARD FEATURING THE E-COLLECTIVE  
Members of the NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC

***BlackKkKlansman Suite***  
TERENCE BLANCHARD FEATURING THE E-COLLECTIVE  
Members of the NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC

***"Make Sure You're Sure," from Jungle Fever***  
KURT ELLING  
TERENCE BLANCHARD FEATURING THE E-COLLECTIVE

***Music from Harriet***  
On the Run (Running for the Bridge)  
Harriet Gets Bath  
I'm Going Back  
Wade in the Water (Harriet Comes Home)  
TERENCE BLANCHARD FEATURING THE E-COLLECTIVE  
Members of the NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC

**Touring Team for  
Terence Blanchard Featuring the E-Collective**  
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**This performance is made possible in part by the Josie Robertson Fund for Lincoln Center.**

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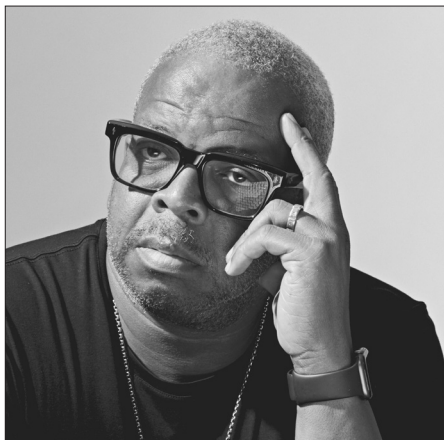
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# The Movie Music of Terence Blanchard

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**T**erence Blanchard claims a singular place among the great artists honored at Lincoln Center. He is a composer, band-leader, and trumpeter who makes music that spans jazz, pop, chamber music, and more — with dozens of film scores to his credit (and honors including seven Grammy Awards and two Oscar nominations). His bold artistry combined with his distinguished work as an educator and arts statesman are unparalleled in their breadth and impact in American culture.

Over 12 months beginning in March 2023 — the first cross-campus exploration of a single artist — *See Me As I Am*: Lincoln Center’s Year-Long Celebration of Terence Blanchard honors that brilliance across the campus and beyond. The New York Philharmonic’s *The Art of the Score* series now joins Lincoln Center’s multidisciplinary series that features a diverse range of art forms — jazz, opera, chamber music, orchestral music, film scores, and more — in collaboration with the six other arts organizations across campus: Film at Lincoln Center, Jazz at Lincoln Center, The



Juilliard School, Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, The Metropolitan Opera, and The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts.

Tonight you’ll experience the rewards of the historically important collaboration between Terence Blanchard and one of the great filmmakers of our time, Spike Lee. Hear highlights of Blanchard’s lush soundtracks in this performance in which Blanchard’s quintet, the E-Collective, with the maestro himself on trumpet, joins Members of the New York Philharmonic.

# Members of the New York Philharmonic

## VIOLIN I

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(As of January 22, 2024)

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# The Artists



## Terence Blanchard

has been a consistent artistic force for making powerful musical statements concerning painful American tragedies — past and present. He

stands tall as one of jazz's most esteemed trumpeters, and defies expectations by creating a spectrum of artistic pursuits. Boundary-breaking and genre-defying, Blanchard is recognized globally as a dazzling soloist and a prolific composer for film, television, opera, Broadway, and orchestra, as well as for his own ensembles. A leading theater magazine recently cited him as "the most exciting American composer working in opera today."

As a composer Blanchard is a seven-time Grammy Award winner and two-time Oscar nominee for his film scores. He became only the second African American composer to be nominated twice in the original score category at the 2022 Academy Awards, duplicating Quincy Jones's feat from 1967's *In Cold Blood* and 1985's *The Color Purple*. Blanchard's work has placed him at the forefront of giving voice to human rights, civil rights, and racial injustice, including the 2016 album *Breathless*, an elegy for Eric Garner, who was killed by police and whose words "I can't breathe" became a civil rights rallying cry.

Blanchard is also heralded as a two-time opera composer, whose *Fire Shut Up in My Bones* — based on the memoir of celebrated writer and *New York Times* columnist Charles Blow — was premiered by The Metropolitan Opera to open its 2021–22 season, making it the first opera

composed by an African American to be premiered at The Met in its 138-year history. The recording of those performances received a Grammy Award for Best Opera Recording, and *The New York Times* heralded the opera as "inspiring," "subtly powerful," and "a bold, affecting adaptation of Charles Blow's work." Of the historical moment, Blanchard said, "I don't want to be a token, but a turnkey." *Fire Shut Up in My Bones* has been widely recognized as one of our nation's most important cultural milestones.

Blanchard's first opera, *Champion*, about the troubled life of boxer Emile Griffith, was premiered in 2013 and starred Denyce Graves with a libretto from Pulitzer Prize winner Michael Cristofer. When *Champion* was first performed at The Met, in April 2023, it received widespread critical acclaim.

The center of gravity is Blanchard's beautiful, provocative, and inspiring jazz recordings that undergird all these projects. The same holds true now as it did early in his career, in 1994, when he told *DownBeat*, "Writing for film is fun, but nothing can beat being a jazz musician, playing a club, playing a concert."

Blanchard composed the scores for more than 20 Spike Lee projects over three decades, ranging from the documentary *When the Levees Broke* to Lee's recent *BlackKkKlansman* and *Da 5 Bloods* (both of which garnered Oscar nominations for Blanchard's scores). He has interwoven beautiful melodies that create strong backdrops to human stories like Regina King's *One Night in Miami*, Kasi Lemmons's *Eve's Bayou*, George Lucas's *Red Tails*, the HBO drama series *Perry Mason* (now in its second season), Apple TV's docuseries *They Call Me Magic*

(for which Blanchard received an Emmy nomination), and Gina Prince Bythewood and Viola Davis's critically acclaimed *The Woman King*.

In his expansive career as a recording leader, Terence Blanchard delivered *Absence*, a collaboration with the E-Collective, his longtime band, and the acclaimed Turtle Island Quartet; the recording received Grammy nominations in November 2021 for Best Instrumental Jazz Album and Best Improvised Jazz Solo for Blanchard. Recorded in February 2020, just before the COVID-19 lockdowns, *Absence* started out as a project to show gratitude to Wayne Shorter. "I knew that Wayne wasn't feeling well at the time, so I wanted to honor him to let him know how much he has meant to me," says Blanchard, who lives in Los Angeles as well as in his native New Orleans. "When you look at my own writing, you can see how much I've learned from Wayne. He mastered writing compositions starting with a simple melody and then juxtaposing it against the harmonies that come from a different place to make it come alive in a different light."

Born in New Orleans in 1962, Terence Blanchard is a musical polymath who launched his solo career as a bandleader in the 1990s. He has since released 20 solo albums, garnered 14 Grammy nominations, composed for the stage and for more than 60 films, and received 10 major commissions.

Regarding his consistent attachment to artistic works of conscience, Blanchard confesses, "You get to a certain age when you ask, Who's going to stand up and speak out for us? Then you look around and realize that the James Baldwins, Muhammad Alis, and Dr. Kings are no longer here ... and begin to understand that it falls on you. I'm not trying to say I'm here to try to correct the whole thing, I'm just

trying to speak the truth." In that regard, he cites unimpeachable inspirations:

John Coltrane playing *Alabama*, even Louis Armstrong talking about what was going on with his people any time he was interviewed. Herbie Hancock and Wayne Shorter, who live by their Buddhist philosophy and try to expand the conscience of their communities. I'm standing on all their shoulders. How dare I come through this life having had the blessing of meeting those men and not take away any of that? Like anybody else, I'd like to play feel-good party music, but sometimes my music is about the reality of where we are.



Devoted to promoting a lifelong enthusiasm for music, **Thomas Wilkins** brings energy and commitment to audiences of all ages. Hailed as a master at commu-

nunicating and connecting with audiences, he is principal conductor of the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra; artistic advisor, education and community engagement, at the Boston Symphony Orchestra; and principal guest conductor of the Virginia Symphony Orchestra; and he holds Indiana University's Henry A. Upper chair of orchestral conducting, established by the late Barbara and David Jacobs. He completed a long and successful tenure as music director of the Omaha Symphony at the end of the 2020–21 season. Previous posts have included resident conductor of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and Florida Orchestra (Tampa Bay).

Wilkins has appeared as guest conductor throughout the United States, leading

orchestras including the New York Philharmonic, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Minnesota Orchestra, The Philadelphia Orchestra, The Cleveland Orchestra, and the Boston, National, Chicago, San Francisco, Houston, and Cincinnati symphony orchestras. In 2022 he was the recipient of the League of American Orchestras's Gold Baton Award, and in that same year the Omaha Entertainment and Arts Awards presented him with their Lifetime Achievement Award for Music. Other awards include an honorary doctorate of arts from the Boston Conservatory, and the Leonard Bernstein Lifetime Achievement Award for the Elevation of Music in Society conferred by Boston's Longy School of Music.

His commitment to community has been demonstrated by his participation on the boards of directors of several organizations, including the Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce, Charles Drew Health Center (Omaha), Center Against Spouse Abuse in Tampa Bay, and the Museum of Fine Arts as well as the Academy Preparatory Center, both in St. Petersburg, Florida. Wilkins currently serves as chairman of the board for the Raymond James Charitable Endowment Fund and as national ambassador for the nonprofit World Pediatric Project, headquartered in Richmond, Virginia, which provides children throughout Central America and the Caribbean with critical surgical and diagnostic care.

A native of Norfolk, Virginia, Thomas Wilkins is a graduate of the Shenandoah Conservatory of Music and the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston.



Through an inimitable voice that *The New York Times* touts as “a smooth, dark alto possessed of qualities you might associate with barrel-aged bourbon or butter-soft leather,” acclaimed vocalist and songwriter **Lizz Wright** sings with a soaring reflection of the cultural fabric of America. Wright is one of the great modern American singers, with an illustrious 20-year career transcending social divides with her offer of love and deep sense of humanity. In 2024 Wright will release her studio debut album, *Shadow*, produced by Chris Bruce and executive produced by Wright on Blues & Greens Records (with licensing / distribution through Lightyear Entertainment / Virgin Music). Wright pens five originals as she celebrates the intimacy of romantic love, loss, community, and healing. On *Shadow*, Wright works with renowned engineer Ryan Freeland, who recorded Wright's album *Grace* and has also worked with music legend Bonnie Raitt. *Shadow* features acclaimed artists Angelique Kidjo and Meshell Ndegeocello. Anchored by acoustic guitars and layered with string quartets, harp, Carnatic Indian classical strings, gospel vocals, and bare emotion, *Shadow* presents the artist in a gentle and triumphant light.





**Kurt Elling** is a two-time Grammy Award winner renowned for his signature sound and his inventive and individualized body of work-in-progress. With his one-of-a-kind

brand of contemporary beat lyricism, *vocalese* brilliance, and a rich variety of collaborations with fellow artists, the Chicago-based musician has extended the parameters of vocal jazz and enlarged its vocabulary. Elling's reinvention of the sounds, styles, and stories that influenced him embraces a panoply of musical

approaches. *The New York Times* called him "the standout male jazz vocalist of our time." Hailed by *The Guardian (UK)* as "a kind of Sinatra with superpowers," Elling has amassed international honors and accolades, including two Grammy Awards (with sixteen total nominations), two Dutch Edison Awards, a German Echo Award, and the French Prix Billie Holiday. Elling regularly dominates the *DownBeat* Critics Poll (with 18 wins), Readers Poll (15 wins), and *JazzTimes* Readers Poll (8 wins). *The Washington Post* declared that "since the 1990s, no singer in jazz has been as daring, dynamic, or interesting as Kurt Elling."

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Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts is the steward of the world’s leading performing arts center, an artistic and civic cornerstone for New York City comprising 11 resident companies on a 16-acre campus. The nonprofit’s strategic priorities include supporting the arts organizations that call Lincoln Center home to realize

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# Jaap van Zweden and the New York Philharmonic



**Jaap van Zweden** became Music Director of the New York Philharmonic in 2018. In 2023–24, his farewell season celebrates his connection with the Orchestra's musicians as he leads performances in which six Principal players appear as concerto soloists. He also revisits composers he has championed at the Philharmonic, from Steve Reich and Joel Thompson to Mozart and Mahler. He is also Music Director of the Hong Kong Philharmonic, since 2012, and becomes Music Director of the Seoul Philharmonic in 2024. He has appeared as guest with the Orchestre de Paris; Amsterdam's Royal Concertgebouw and Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestras; Vienna, Berlin, and Los Angeles philharmonic orchestras; and London Symphony, Chicago Symphony, and Cleveland orchestras.

Jaap van Zweden's NY Phil recordings include David Lang's *prisoner of the state* and Julia Wolfe's Grammy-nominated *Fire in my mouth* (Decca Gold). He conducted the first performances in Hong Kong of Wagner's *Ring Cycle*, the Naxos recording of which led the Hong Kong Philharmonic to be named the 2019 *Gramophone* Orchestra of the year. His performance of Wagner's *Parsifal* received the Edison Award for Best Opera Recording in 2012.

Born in Amsterdam, Jaap van Zweden became the youngest-ever concertmaster of the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra at age 19 and began his conducting career almost 20 years later. He was named *Musical America's* 2012 Conductor of the Year, was profiled by CBS *60 Minutes* on arriving at the NY Phil, and in the spring of 2023 received the prestigious Concertgebouw Prize. In 1997 he and his wife, Aaltje, established the Papageno Foundation to support families of children with autism.

The **New York Philharmonic** connects with millions of music lovers each season through live concerts in New York and around the world, broadcasts, streaming, education programs, and more. In the 2023–24 season — which builds on the Orchestra's transformation reflected in the new David Geffen Hall — the NY Phil honors Jaap van Zweden in his farewell season as Music Director, premieres 14 works by a wide range of composers including some whom van Zweden has championed, marks György Ligeti's centennial, and celebrates the 100th birthday of the beloved Young People's Concerts.

The Philharmonic has commissioned and / or premiered important works, from Dvořák's *New World* Symphony to Tania León's Pulitzer Prize-winning *Stride*. The NY Phil has released more than 2,000 recordings since 1917, and in 2023 announced a partnership with Apple Music Classical, the new streaming app designed to deliver classical music lovers the optimal listening experience. The Orchestra builds on a longstanding commitment to serving its communities — which has led to annual free concerts across New York City and the free online New York Philharmonic Shelby White & Leon Levy Digital Archives — through a new ticket access program.

Founded in 1842, the New York Philharmonic is the oldest symphony orchestra in the United States, and one of the oldest in the world. Jaap van Zweden became Music Director in 2018–19, following titans including Bernstein, Toscanini, and Mahler. Gustavo Dudamel will become Music and Artistic Director beginning in 2026 after serving as Music Director Designate in 2025–26.

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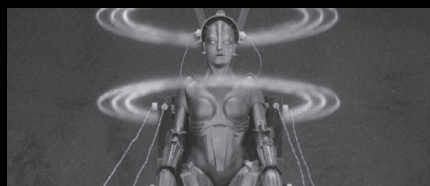
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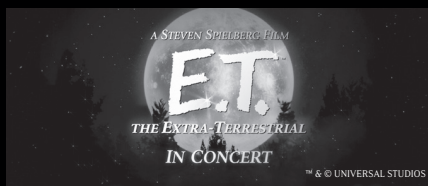
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FEBRUARY 6



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Music by John Williams

MAY 17-19

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