



JAAP VAN ZWEDEN
MUSIC DIRECTOR

New York Philharmonic Presents

Artist Spotlight

Tuesday, March 26, 2024, 7:30 p.m.

Herbie Hancock, Piano / Keyboard

Wu Tsai Theater
David Geffen Hall at Lincoln Center
Home of the New York Philharmonic

This program will last approximately one and one-half hours. There will be no intermission.



March 26, 2024

New York Philharmonic Presents

Artist Spotlight

Herbie Hancock, Piano / Keyboard

Terence Blanchard, Trumpet

Devin Daniels, Saxophone

James Genus, Bass

Trevor Lawrence, Jr., Drums

Lionel Loueke, Guitar

THIS CONCERT WILL BE PERFORMED WITHOUT AN INTERMISSION.

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About the Program

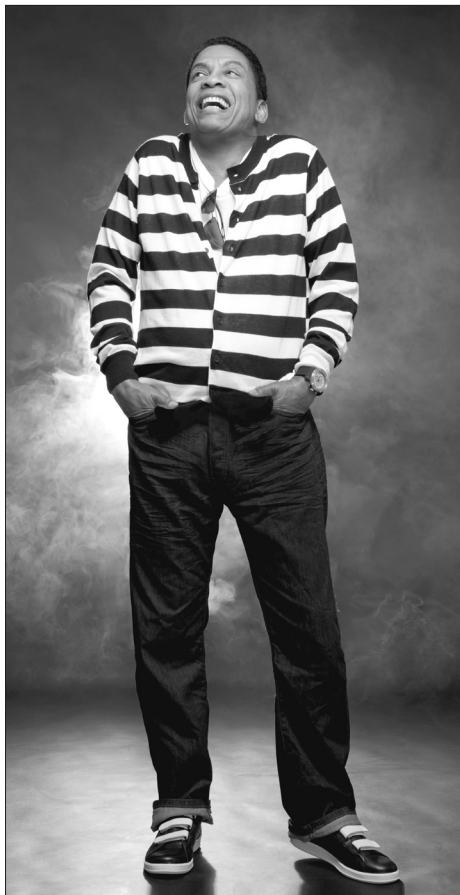
This concert is a celebration of the artistry of Herbie Hancock. However, the concept of offering a “retrospective” would be an anomaly, given who he is. “Looking back” has been antithetical to his vision, and the way his work continues to pave the way for artists of many disciplines. Still, as we consider his career, we appreciate the unbridled creativity that urges us to discover musical sounds, colors, and ideas anew.

Hancock’s 1962 debut album, *Takin’ Off*, now widely regarded as a standard-bearer, earned the attention of jazz legend Miles Davis, who invited Hancock to join the Miles Davis Quintet, offering the breakout star a chance to assume the role of protégé and lean into risk-taking in music. Hancock has said: “We had all learned — from Miles himself — that the secret is to keep moving forward, never look back. There are always new avenues to explore and new mountains to climb.”

As the late Leonard Bernstein wrote to a patron in 1966, when he was the NY Phil’s Music Director: “It is the duty of any Symphony Orchestra — particularly that of a cultural capital like New York — to keep its audience abreast of the main currents in the development of 20th-century music.” Now, well into the 21st century, we can look back at Hancock’s more-than-six-decade career and still experience music that stands at a precipice, challenging today’s artists and listeners to be vibrant through constant exploration.

It is an honor for the New York Philharmonic to present an innovator like Herbie Hancock, and for all of us here today to experience an artist who has always confronted genre definitions, questioned boundaries, and defied time.

— The Editors



The Artist



Now in the seventh decade of his professional life, **Herbie Hancock** remains where he has always been: at the forefront of world culture, technology, business, and music.

Hancock has been an integral part of every popular music movement since the 1960s. As a member of the Miles Davis Quintet, which pioneered a groundbreaking sound in jazz, Hancock also developed new approaches on his own recordings, followed by his work in the '70s — with record-breaking albums such as *Headhunters* — that combined electric jazz with funk and rock in an innovative style that continues to influence contemporary music. *Rockit* and *Future Shock* marked his foray into

electronic dance sounds; during the same period he also continued to work in an acoustic setting with V.S.O.P.

Hancock received an Academy Award for his *Round Midnight* film score, as well as 14 Grammy Awards, including Album of the Year for *River: The Joni Letters*, and two 2011 Grammy Awards for the globally collaborative *The Imagine Project*.

Herbie Hancock serves as creative chair for Jazz for the Los Angeles Philharmonic Association and as Institute Chairman of the Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz. In 2011 he was named a UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador, and in 2013 he received a Kennedy Center Honor. His memoir, *Herbie Hancock: Possibilities*, was published by Viking in 2014, and in February 2016 he was awarded the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award. Hancock is currently in the studio at work on a new album.

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 with Principal players appearing 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 of the Seoul Philharmonic, since 2024, and will assume that role at Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France in 2026. 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.

NEED TO KNOW

New York Philharmonic Guide

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The New York Philharmonic Box Office is at the **Welcome Center at David Geffen Hall**, open from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday; noon to 6:00 p.m., Sunday; and remains open one-half hour past concert time on performance evenings.

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For the Enjoyment of All

Latecomers and patrons who leave the hall will be seated only after the completion of a work.

Silence all cell phones and other electronic devices throughout the performance.

Photography, sound recording, or videotaping of performances is prohibited.

Accessibility

David Geffen Hall



All gender **restrooms** with accessible stalls are in the Karen and Richard LeFrak Lobby. Accessible men's, women's, and companion restrooms are available on all levels. Infant changing tables are in all restrooms.

Braille & Large-Print versions of print programs are available at Guest Experience on the Leon and Norma Hess Grand Promenade. **Tactile maps** of the Karen and Richard LeFrak Lobby, with seating chart of the Wu Tsai Theater, are available in the Welcome Center.

Induction loops are available in all performance spaces and at commerce points including the Welcome Center, Coat Check, and select bars. Receivers with headsets and neck loops are available for guests who do not have t-coil accessible hearing devices.

Noise-reducing headphones, fidgets, and earplugs are available to borrow.

Accessible seating is available in all performance areas and can be arranged at point of sale. For guests transferring to seats, mobility devices will be checked by staff, labeled, and returned at intermission and after the performance. Seating for persons of size is available in the Orchestra and Tiers 1 and 2. Accessible entrances are on the Josie Robertson Plaza. Accessible routes from the Karen and Richard LeFrak Lobby to all tiers and performance spaces are accessible by **elevator**.

For more information or to request additional accommodations, please contact Customer Relations at (212) 875-5656 and visit lincolncenter.org/visit/accessibility.

For Your Safety

For the latest on the **New York Philharmonic's health and safety guidelines** visit nyphil.org/safety.

Fire exits indicated by a red light and the sign nearest to the seat you occupy are the shortest routes to the street. In the event of fire or other emergency, do not run — walk to that exit.

If an evacuation is needed, follow the instructions given by the House Manager and Usher staff.

Automated external defibrillators (AEDs) and **First Aid kits** are available if needed during an emergency.

Spring



Gala

WITH GUSTAVO DUDAMEL
A Celebration of Music Education

Wednesday, April 24, 2024

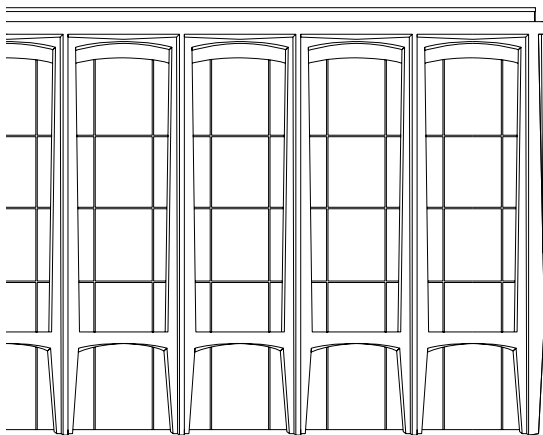
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