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IMG ARTISTS PRESENTS

When You Wish Upon a Star

A Jazz Tribute to
100 YEARS
of Disney

Saturday, Nov. 4, 7 p.m.

WHEN YOU WISH UPON A STAR

A Jazz Tribute to 100 Years of Disney

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“When You Wish Upon a Star—A Jazz Tribute to 100 Years of Disney”

Join us for an unforgettable evening as we celebrate 100 years of Disney through the lens of jazz. From “Snow White” to “Lady and the Tramp,” “Mary Poppins” and “Toy Story” to “The Jungle Book,” popular songs from these famous films have been interpreted and recorded by Disney music fans such as Louis Armstrong, Miles Davis, Dave Brubeck, Dianne Reeves and many more. “Someday My Prince Will Come,” “He's a Tramp,” “Everybody Wants to be a Cat” and “The Bare Necessities” are just a few of the iconic songs which will be celebrated as we look back on the impact of jazz on 100 years of Disney magic!

“When You Wish Upon a Star” will be performed by the newly created house band of **The National Jazz Museum in Harlem**, featuring pianist and musical director, **Sean Mason**, and vocalists **Sasha Dobson** and **Tahira Clayton**, who will bring these famous songs to life.

Band Personnel

Sean Mason, Piano, Musical Director

Tahira Clayton, Vocalist

Sasha Dobson, Vocalist

Ahmad Johnson, Drums

Corentin Le Hir, Bass

Alicyn Yaffee, Guitar

Anthony Hervey, Trumpet

(This production is not affiliated with, sponsored, or authorized by The Walt Disney Company)



IMG *Artists*

ABOUT IMG ARTISTS

IMG Artists is a global leader of performing arts, social media and festival and events management. For more than thirty years, the company has set the standard for excellence across fields of artist and celebrity management, touring, dance and attractions, festival and event management and cultural consulting. Their specialists in offices across four continents offer unparalleled international reach and depth of experience to the company's artists, clients and partners.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL JAZZ MUSEUM IN HARLEM

The National Jazz Museum in Harlem is a Smithsonian-affiliated museum, led by Artistic Directors Jon Batiste and Christian McBride, to preserve, promote and present jazz by inspiring knowledge, appreciation and the celebration of jazz locally, nationally and internationally. The mission of the National Jazz Museum in Harlem (NJMH) is to preserve, promote and present jazz by inspiring knowledge, appreciation, and the celebration of jazz locally, nationally and internationally. Jon Batiste and Christian McBride serve as co-Artistic Directors of the National Jazz Museum in Harlem. [More about the NJMH.](#)



ARTIST BIOS



Sean Mason is a jazz pianist and composer based in New York City who is quickly emerging as one of the premier talents of his generation. Born and raised in Charlotte, N.C., Sean took to the piano at age 13, teaching himself to play by ear the music of his upbringing: gospel, R&B and soul, which quickly evolved into a highly original jazz style. Sean's unique voice in

jazz is steeped in southern culture, giving extended time for groove without needing to fill in the space, while also displaying a range of vocabulary far beyond his years. As a bandleader, Sean leads two groups: The Sean Mason Trio based in Charlotte and The

Sean Mason Quintet in New York. Both groups play Sean's original music, which has been described as highly melodic, swinging gospel jazz—as Sean puts it, “my purpose is to play dance music.” Folk music, stride piano and the style of Sean's early hero Ray Charles are the main ingredients in a stew that is greater than the sum of its parts.

When studying at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro, Sean met jazz legend Branford Marsalis, who was immediately taken with the young student and recommended he apply to the Juilliard School in New York. “I told my brother [Wynton Marsalis, director of Juilliard Jazz], ‘be on the lookout for this kid.’” Upon arrival in New York, Sean hit the ground running, quickly securing residencies for his groups at some of the more prestigious jazz clubs such as Smoke Jazz Club and Smalls Jazz Club, as well as sideman work with such luminaries as Wynton Marsalis, Catherine Russell, Herlin Riley and many more, all while completing his studies at Juilliard. A major steppingstone occurred when NPR's influential multimedia show “Jazz Night in America” chose Sean among five musicians for their “Youngbloods” series. Penetrating even further into popular culture, Sean was featured on Branford Marsalis' film score to the highly acclaimed Netflix production of August Wilson's “Ma Rainey's Black Bottom.”

Sean's debut record was released in early 2023 on Blue Engine Records, the label of Jazz at Lincoln Center. Produced by Branford Marsalis, it is an album of original compositions for the Sean Mason Quintet, featuring a lineup of young all-stars Tony Galusi (trumpet), Chris Lewis (tenor saxophone), Felix Moseholm (bass), Domo Branch (drums) and Sean leading at the piano. Early reports cite the record's impressive display of maturity from such burgeoning talents. As Sean continues touring the world as a bandleader and sideman while fitting in near-constant session work, the future is bright.

Sasha Dobson has performed all over the world in diverse contexts as a leader and first-call collaborator. The singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist represents one-third of hit trio Puss n Boots, alongside Catherine Popper and Blue Note Artist Norah Jones, with whose band Sasha has toured fairly regularly for the past eight years. As a guitarist and songwriter, Sasha bonds intuitive phrasing and refined storytelling chops with her honest,



witty lyric-writing. Daughter of vocalist Gail Dobson and highly sought pianist and arranger, the late Smith Dobson, Sasha developed a core understanding of the lineage of jazz from an early age—one that has allowed her to develop into the powerhouse singer and multi-instrumentalist she's become. In addition to traveling the world as a three-dimensional performer, Sasha spent her early days in New York hitting as a leader at many of the city's noted venues including Jazz at Lincoln Center and Smalls Jazz Club, where she and her band are a regular fixture. In recent years, she's led her own project at Farm Aid and opened for Willie Nelson. In 2020, Sasha released "Simple Things," her anticipated EP featuring Don Was on bass and production and Jay Lane on drums. Her 2021 release of "Girl Talk," featuring guitarist Peter Bernstein, reflects her most personal contribution to date.

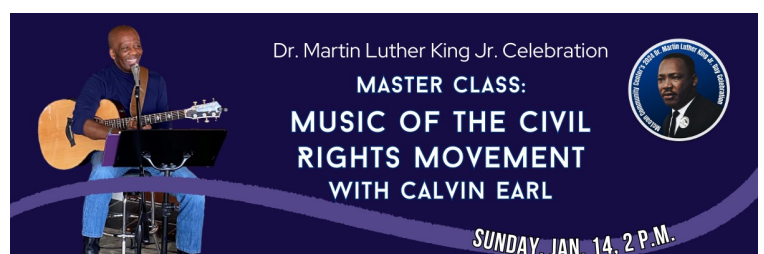


Originally from Dallas, TX, and now living in New York City, **Tahira Clayton** is known for her soulfully honest vocal delivery and charismatic stage presence. A strong lyricist and storyteller, Tahira has performed nationally and internationally as a band leader and featured vocalist. In 2022, Tahira headlined IMG Artists "Bessie, Billie, Nina: Pioneering Women in Jazz," a national tour, alongside Charenee Wade and Vanisha Gould, music directed by Carmen Staaf. In October 2022, Tahira fronted the Caili O'Doherty Quintet throughout the country of

Georgia on an American Music Abroad tour as a cultural diplomatic ambassador for the United States. In January 2023, Tahira intermittently joined Jazz at Lincoln Center Presents: "Songs We Love," a national tour, music directed by Riley Mulherkar. In May 2023, Tahira joined Jazz at Lincoln Center Presents: "Sing and Swing" for a residency in Saudi Arabia with trumpeter and vocalist Benny Benack III. Tahira has led her own groups and performed in prestigious venues such as Dizzy's Coca Cola Club (Jazz at Lincoln Center), Sony Music Hall, Tribeca Performing Arts Center, The 55 Bar, Minton's Playhouse, The Rainbow Room, Cornelia Street Café, the Cell Theater, the Jazz Showcase (Chicago) and the DC Jazz Festival, and in 2021 she opened for Alicia Keys in Antibes, France. As well as being an in-demand bandleader and performer, Tahira is a sought-after side-woman, lending her voice to numerous original music recording projects,

performances and songwriting collaborations. A 2015 graduate of the University of North Texas Jazz Studies Program, Tahira has performed and participated in master classes of many of the genre's greats. Tahira's debut album of all original compositions, "Wait, Till Now," was a fully crowd-sourced project, funded by fans and peers. In addition to her performing and recording, Tahira currently serves as the vice president and is a founding board member of the Women in Jazz Organization (WIJO), based in NYC. She also serves as program director for WIJO's mentorship program, WIJO Mentors.

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