

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



**MARCUS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER TO OFFER VIRTUAL CONCERT
'THE SOUNDS OF DEMOCRACY'**

FEATURING

JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER ORCHESTRA SEPTET WITH WYNTON MARSALIS

OCTOBER 30 AT 6PM

TICKETS ON SALE OCTOBER 9, 2020 at 11am

[MILWAUKEE, WI] (OCTOBER 8, 2020) – Marcus Performing Arts Center announced today that it will join Performing Arts Centers from around the world to present the concert event, ***THE SOUNDS OF DEMOCRACY*** on October 30th. Tickets will go on sale **October 9th at 11am CST**.

Tickets for ***The Sounds of Democracy*** are \$10 per household and are available at **MarcusCenter.org**. Tickets include access to the concert beginning at 6pm on Friday October 30 through midnight on November 3. Proceeds from ticket sales will support **the Marcus Center's mission to connect our community to the world through the transformative power of the live performing arts**.

The Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra Septet's performance of "The Sounds of Democracy" aims to entertain, inspire, and uplift audiences with the full vigor, vision, and depth of America's music.

Led by trumpeter/composer Wynton Marsalis and featuring seven of jazz's finest soloists, the concert's unique repertoire celebrates jazz's embodiment of freedom and democracy.

The evening will feature the premiere of *The Democracy Suite*, a new Marsalis composition written during the ongoing Covid-19 crisis as a response to the political, social, and economic struggles facing our nation. *The Democracy Suite* is a swinging and stimulating instrumental rumination on the issues that have recently dominated our lives as well as the beauty that could emerge from a collective effort to create a better future.

This concert was filmed on September 27, 2020 at Frederick P. Rose Hall in New York City in accordance with the New York State Department of Health Interim Guidance on Media Production.

Kendra Whitlock-Ingram, President and CEO of the Marcus Center states "In these unprecedented times, the Marcus Center recognizes how important it is to keep us all connected through the arts. We are thrilled to be able to share this amazing concert experience with the Milwaukee community and to continue our relationship with the Jazz at Lincoln Center and Wynton Marsalis."

ABOUT JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER

Jazz at Lincoln Center is dedicated to inspiring and growing audiences for jazz. With the world-renowned Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra and a comprehensive array of guest artists, Jazz at Lincoln Center advances a unique vision for the continued development of the art of jazz by producing a year-round schedule of performance, education, and broadcast events for audiences of all ages. These productions include concerts, national and international tours, residencies, weekly national radio programs, television broadcasts, recordings, publications, an annual high school jazz band competition and festival, a band director academy, jazz appreciation curricula for students, music publishing, children's concerts and classes, lectures, adult education courses, student and educator workshops, a record label, and interactive websites. Under the leadership of Managing and Artistic Director Wynton Marsalis, Chairman Clarence Otis, and Executive Director Greg Scholl, Jazz at Lincoln Center produces thousands of events each season in its home in New York City, Frederick P. Rose Hall, and around the world. For more information, visit jazz.org.

ABOUT WYNTON MARSALIS

Wynton Marsalis (*Trumpet*) is the managing and artistic director of Jazz at Lincoln Center and a world-renowned trumpeter and composer. Born in New Orleans, Louisiana in 1961, Marsalis began his classical training on trumpet at age 12, entered The Juilliard School at age 17, and then joined Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers. He made his recording debut as a leader in 1982, and has since recorded more than 60 jazz and classical recordings, which have won him nine Grammy Awards. In 1983 he became the first and only artist to win both classical and jazz Grammys in the same year and repeated this feat in 1984. Marsalis is also an internationally respected teacher and spokesman for music education, and has received honorary doctorates from dozens of U.S. universities and colleges. He has written six books; his most recent are *Squeak, Rumble, Whomp! Whomp! Whomp!*, illustrated by Paul Rogers and published by Candlewick Press in 2012, and *Moving to Higher Ground: How Jazz Can Change Your Life* with Geoffrey C. Ward, published by Random House in 2008. In 1997 Marsalis became the first jazz artist to be awarded the prestigious Pulitzer Prize in music for his oratorio *Blood on the Fields*, which was commissioned by Jazz at Lincoln Center. In 2001 he was appointed Messenger of Peace by Mr. Kofi Annan, Secretary-General of the United Nations, and he has also been designated cultural ambassador to the United States of America by the U.S. State Department through their CultureConnect program. Marsalis was instrumental in the *Higher Ground Hurricane Relief* concert, produced by Jazz at Lincoln Center. The event raised more than \$3 million for the Higher Ground Relief Fund to benefit the musicians, music industry-related enterprises, and other individuals and entities from the areas in Greater New Orleans who were affected by Hurricane Katrina. Marsalis helped lead the effort to construct Jazz at Lincoln Center's home—Frederick P. Rose Hall—the first education, performance, and broadcast facility devoted to jazz, which opened in October 2004.

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ABOUT THE MARCUS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Established in 1969, the Marcus Performing Arts Center is the premier performing arts community gathering space in Southeastern Wisconsin. As the Marcus Center celebrates its 50th year, it continues to build bridges between diverse members of our community through high-quality arts entertainment in the region and the state. The touring Broadway series, sponsored by Johnson Financial Group, is recognized as bringing the best of Broadway entertainment to Milwaukee for the past 20 years and provides opportunities to educate, entertain and engage audiences. The Marcus Center is also the home to the Milwaukee Ballet, Florentine Opera, First Stage, Black Arts MKE plus a variety of other important community and family events throughout the year. For more information about events visit the Marcus Center website at www.MarcusCenter.org. The Marcus Center is a private non-profit 501(c) 3 corporation and is a dedicated veterans memorial in Milwaukee.

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