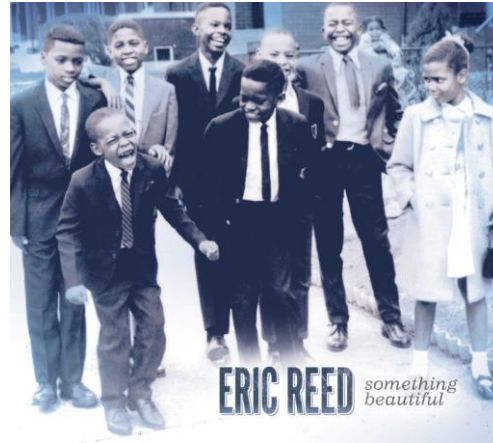
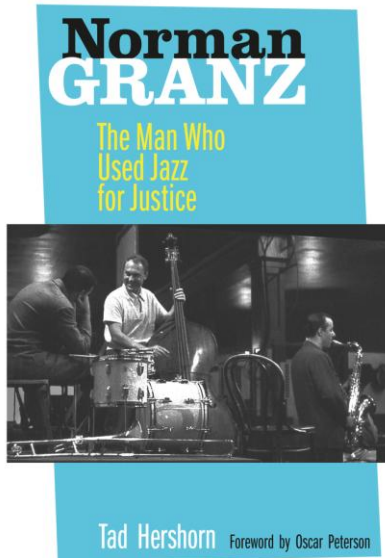


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: SEPTEMBER 21, 2011



THREE FREE LISTENING PARTIES THIS OCTOBER
Author Tad Hershorn, Pianist Eric Reed, and
Vocalist Gretchen Parlato Talk with
Jazz at Lincoln Center's Ken Druker

Who/What:

Jazz at Lincoln Center hosts three free listening parties this October:

- Thursday, Oct. 6 – Author Tad Hershorn discusses his new book *Norman Granz: The Man Who Used Jazz for Justice* (University of California Press)

“Any book on my life would start with my basic philosophy of fighting racial

prejudice. I loved jazz, and jazz was my way of doing that,” Norman Granz told Tad Hershorn during the final interviews given for this book. Granz, who died in 2001, was iconoclastic, independent, immensely influential, often thoroughly unpleasant—and one of jazz’s true giants. Granz played an essential part in bringing jazz to audiences around the world, defying racial and social prejudice as he did so, and demanding that African-American performers be treated equally everywhere they toured. In this definitive biography, Hershorn recounts Granz’s story: creator of the legendary jam session concerts known as Jazz at the Philharmonic; founder of the Verve record label; pioneer of live recordings and worldwide jazz concert tours; manager and recording producer for numerous stars, including Ella Fitzgerald and Oscar Peterson.

- **Tuesday, October 25 – Pianist Eric Reed discusses and performs songs from his new CD, *Something Beautiful* (WJ3 Records)**

Award-winning pianist and composer Eric Scott Reed began playing the piano at age two and was performing in his father’s Baptist church in Philadelphia by age five. After study at Philadelphia’s Settlement Music School and Los Angeles’ Colburn School of Arts, Reed embarked upon a professional career that has taken him all over the world. His credits include Wynton Marsalis, Jessye Norman, Quincy Jones, Patti Labelle and others. Reed has taught at The Juilliard School of Music and gives master classes and lecture demonstrations on the history of music. His other musical ventures include over 20 recordings as a leader, scoring for Eddie Murphy’s comedy, “Life;” and musical direction for the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. Currently Reed is in residence with the Ebony Repertory Theatre of Los Angeles, as musical director of Regina Taylor’s “Crowns.” In 2011, Reed was named in the “Rising Star, Piano” category in *Downbeat* magazine’s 59th Annual International Critics Poll.

Something Beautiful marks Reed’s 20th CD as a leader- a milestone for a musician of the pianist’s young age. The recording exemplifies Reed’s extraordinary songwriting and ability to deftly re-imagine some of the most remarkable tunes in the jazz, gospel and pop idioms. On this new recording, Reed, one of today’s most innovative jazz pianists, is joined by bassist Reuben Rogers and drummer Rodney Green who serve as the ideal match for Reed’s intense and urging style.

- **Thursday, October 27 – Vocalist Gretchen Parlato discusses her latest CD, *The Lost And Found* (ObliqSound)**

Gretchen Parlato’s 2009 sophomore breakthrough, *In a Dream*, signaled the arrival of an incredibly inventive modern jazz singer. Her follow-up, *The Lost and Found*, demonstrates that she has staying power. *In A Dream* garnered international acclaim with *Billboard* magazine hailing it as “the most alluring jazz vocal album of 2009”; it also made it onto the top year-end polls for *Jazz Times*, *The Boston Globe*, *Village Voice*, and NPR. *The Lost and Found* debuted at #1 on iTunes where it remained for 5 weeks and was featured on every major NPR program. It shows immediate weight and intensity, exposing a greater dynamic range. “I feel like I stepped out

of my own way and allowed myself to be more revealing and vulnerable through the music," reflects Parlato.

Revealing a seamless, crystalline, and more importantly, personal voice, Parlato says that the overall theme of *The Lost and Found* is about accepting opposition and embracing the ebbs and flows of life. "One day we may think we've found all the answers, and then something suddenly happens that makes us feel completely lost as though nothing makes sense. This is life. Accepting that we are always in transition without attaching a judgment to the experience is freeing. We are always the lost and found."

For more information on this series visit jalc.org/listeningparty.

Where:

Nesuhi Ertegun Jazz Hall of Fame at Frederick P. Rose Hall, home of Jazz at Lincoln Center, Broadway at 60th Street, New York, NY.

How:

Events start at 7pm and are free and seating is open to the public on a first come, first served basis. Doors open at 6:30pm.

Sponsorship:

Jazz at Lincoln Center proudly acknowledges its major corporate partners: Bloomberg, Brooks Brothers, Centric, The Coca-Cola Company, Con Edison, Entergy, Harman, HSBC, Related, and SiriusXM.

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High resolution photos available upon request.

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