Imani Winds, the Grammy-nominated wind quintet, has taken a unique path in carving out a distinct presence in the classical music world with its dynamic playing, culturally poignant programming, adventurous collaborations, and inspirational outreach programs since 1997. With two member-composers and a deep commitment to commissioning new work, the group is enriching the traditional wind quintet repertoire while meaningfully bridging American, European, African, and Latin American traditions. From Mendelssohn and Stravinsky to Astor Piazzolla and Wayne Shorter, Imani Winds seeks to engage new music and new voices into the modern classical idiom.

The group served as the University of Chicago’s Don Michael Randel Ensemble-in-Residence from 2016-2018. This multi-faceted residency included in-depth collaborations with wind students, the chamber music department, composition majors, and the Hyde Park community, as well as featuring world premieres on the presenting arm of the University, the “UC Presents” series.

Imani Winds has performed in the nation’s major concert venues, including Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Kennedy Center, and Disney Hall, to name a few. In recent seasons, the group has traveled extensively internationally, with tours in China, Singapore, Brazil, Australia, New Zealand, and throughout Europe.

The group continues its Legacy Commissioning Project, in which the ensemble commissions and premieres new works for wind quintet written by composers of diverse musical backgrounds. Recent commissions include works by Vijay Iyer, Simon Shaheen, Jason Moran, Mohammed Fairouz, and Frederic Rzewski. Imani Winds’ member Jeff Scott recently wrote a concert-length new work for the group, jazz trio, and string quartet entitled The Passion, which musically explores the idea of a fictitious meeting between J.S. Bach and John Coltrane.

In the summer of 2010, the ensemble launched its annual Chamber Music Festival. The program, set on the campus of Mannes School of Music, brings together young instrumentalists and composers for an intense exploration and performance of traditional and new chamber music compositions. Now in its 8th year, the participants have gone on to successes around the world.

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**Program**

**Old Made New**

Jeff Scott (1967-)
Startin Sumthin

Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov (1844-1908); arr. Jonathan Russell
Scheherazade

Astor Piazzolla (1921-1992); arr. Jeff Scott
Contrabajissimo

**Intermission**

György Ligeti (1923-2006)
Sechs Bagatellen
  Allegro con spirito
  Rubato. Lamentoso
  Allegro grazioso
  Presto ruvido
  Adagio. Mesto
  Molto vivace. Capriccioso

Reena Esmail (1983-)
The Light is the Same (Commissioned by Lied Center of Kansas)

Valerie Coleman (1970-)
Tzigane

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**Featuring**

Julietta Curenton, flute
Jeff Scott, french horn, composer
Mark Dover, clarinet
Toyin Spellman-Diaz, oboe
Monica Ellis, bassoon

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Program and personnel subject to change.
As a courtesy to the artists, please remain seated until they have left the hall.
Imani Winds appear by arrangement with Arts Management Group, Inc.