

Lincoln Center's

January 24–March 27, 2018

# American Songbook

*Lead Support provided by PGIM, the global investment management business of Prudential Financial, Inc.*

The Program

Thursday, February 1, 2018, at 7:30 pm

Jalen N'Gonda

*This evening's program is approximately 75 minutes long and will be performed without intermission.*

*Please make certain all your electronic devices are switched off.*

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Endowment support provided by Bank of America

**This performance is made possible in part by the Josie Robertson Fund for Lincoln Center.**

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David Rubenstein Atrium

Additional support for Lincoln Center's American Songbook is provided by Rita J. and Stanley H. Kaplan Family Foundation, The DuBose and Dorothy Heyward Memorial Fund, The Shubert Foundation, Great Performers Circle, Chairman's Council, and Friends of Lincoln Center.

Public support is provided by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

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Artist catering provided by Zabar's and Zabars.com

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## **UPCOMING AMERICAN SONGBOOK EVENTS IN THE APPEL ROOM:**

*Wednesday, February 7, at 8:30 pm*

**Stew & The Negro Problem**

*Thursday, February 8, at 8:30 pm*

**Shelby Lynne & Allison Moorer**

*Friday, February 9, at 8:30 pm*

**Aaron Tveit**

*Saturday, February 10, at 8:30 pm*

**Rachel Bloom & Adam Schlesinger**

*Wednesday, February 14, at 8:30 pm*

**Lizz Wright**

*Thursday, February 15, at 8:30 pm*

**Justin Vivian Bond Sings The Carpenters**

*Friday, February 16, at 8:30 pm*

**The Blind Boys of Alabama**

*Saturday, February 17, at 8:30 pm*

**The Songs of Scott Frankel & Michael Korie**

*Randy Newman's performance, scheduled for March 26 in the Rose Theater, has been cancelled.*

The Appel Room is located in Jazz at Lincoln Center's Frederick P. Rose Hall.

For tickets, call (212) 721-6500 or visit [AmericanSongbook.org](http://AmericanSongbook.org). Call the Lincoln Center Info Request Line at (212) 875-5766 or visit [AmericanSongbook.org](http://AmericanSongbook.org) for complete program information.

Join the conversation: @LincolnCenter

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*We would like to remind you that the sound of coughing and rustling paper might distract the performers and your fellow audience members.*

*In consideration of the performing artists and members of the audience, those who must leave before the end of the performance are asked to do so between pieces. Flash photography and the use of recording equipment are not allowed.*

## Jalen N’Gonda



RYAN JAFARZADEH

Born in Maryland, Jalen N’Gonda chose the British city of Liverpool as the place where he would flourish as a musician. He began exploring music at age 11, inspired by his father’s collection of jazz, hip-hop, and soul records.

Since moving to Liverpool in 2014, Mr. N’Gonda has been playing gigs across the U.K. and beyond. He has sold out headline shows in London and Geneva, is breaking

into Spotify’s Viral Charts with his single releases, and is supporting touring acts such as Laura Mvula, Martha Reeves, and Lauryn Hill at the Montreal International Jazz Festival. In 2017 he played his first shows in the U.S., joining the lineup at Newport Folk Festival, New York City’s SummerStage Festival, and Pickathon.

Quickly emerging as a rich and measured new voice, Mr. N’Gonda draws from a complex personal and musical heritage. His family (in part of Zambian descent) is from Maryland, where Mr. N’Gonda was raised in a small town just outside Washington, D.C. In Liverpool, the realities of English life quickly broadened his horizons, leading to a cross-pollination of influences that can be felt in his early tracks.

With a full EP to follow in 2018, Mr. N’Gonda’s already warmly familiar tone is marking him out as one of the year’s most promising newcomers.

## American Songbook

In 1998, Lincoln Center launched American Songbook, dedicated to the celebration of popular American song. Designed to highlight and affirm the creative mastery of America’s songwriters from their emergence at the turn of the 19th century up through the present, American Songbook spans all styles and genres, from the form’s early roots in Tin Pan Alley and Broadway to the eclecticism of today’s singer-songwriters. American Songbook also showcases the outstanding interpreters of popular song, including established and emerging concert, cabaret, theater, and songwriter performers.

## Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, Inc.

Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts (LCPA) serves three primary roles: presenter of artistic programming, national leader in arts and education and

community relations, and manager of the Lincoln Center campus. A presenter of more than 3,000 free and ticketed events, performances, tours, and educational activities annually, LCPA offers 15 programs, series, and festivals including American Songbook, Great Performers, Lincoln Center Out of Doors, Midsummer Night Swing, the Mostly Mozart Festival, and the White Light Festival, as well as the Emmy Award-winning *Live From Lincoln Center*, which airs nationally on PBS. As manager of the Lincoln Center campus, LCPA provides support and services for the Lincoln Center complex and the 11 resident organizations. In addition, LCPA led a \$1.2 billion campus renovation, completed in October 2012.

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