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PERCUSSIONIST JASON MARSALIS BRINGS HIS VIBES QUARTET TO OPEN THE SHELDON JAZZ SERIES

ST. LOUIS – The Sheldon presents **Jason Marsalis Vibes Quartet**, Saturday, October 1 at 8 p.m. in the perfect acoustics of the Sheldon Concert Hall. The youngest of the New Orleans' Marsalis jazz dynasty, percussionist Jason Marsalis returns to The Sheldon as leader of his Vibes Quartet, backed by bassist Will Goble, pianist Austin Johnson and drummer David Potter. The progressive group makes contemporary jazz relevant for a new generation of musicians and fans.

Known for his prodigal drumming and his work with the great pianist Marcus Roberts, Marsalis has fine-tuned his playing of modern jazz over the years. However, with the release of *In A World of Mallets*, and his recognition as the 2013 rising star winner in the *Downbeat Magazine* annual critics poll, listeners are now recognizing him for his unique sound on the vibraphones. Marsalis also plays marimba, glockenspiel, tubular bells and xylophone on the album as he expands on his unique playing style.

Drawing from a wide range of influences, Marsalis performs original music as well as many hidden gems in jazz literature and beyond. His knack for selecting compositions that cover a wide range of moods, rhythms and emotions, engages the audience and offers surprises around every turn. As a drummer, Marsalis continues to perform frequently with his brothers (Wynton, Branford and Delfayo) and father Ellis, as well as Marcus Roberts, John Ellis and Double Wide, the Scan-Am Quartet, and others. As a vibraphonist, he commonly joins Shannon Powell and other New Orleans musicians on the bandstand, and tours as the featured soloist with the Lionel Hampton Tribute Orchestra.

Single tickets are \$40 orchestra/\$35 balcony 1/\$25 balcony 2/\$15 student. Tickets are on sale now through MetroTix at 314-534-1111, through The Sheldon's website at TheSheldon.org, or in person at The Fox Theatre Box Office, 534 N. Grand Blvd. For a VIP concert experience, All-Access tickets are available by calling 314-533-9900, ext. 17. For more information, call The Sheldon at 314-533-9900 or visit TheSheldon.org.

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