

ORPHEUS CHAMBER ORCHESTRA // PROJECT 2026-27

February & March 2027

with **Branford Marsalis, saxophone & trumpet**

Since their landmark 2001 album collaboration titled *Creation*, the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and saxophonist Branford Marsalis have spent decades fine-tuning a connection that transcends stylistic labels. In their new project, they stir the American melting pot together.

Orpheus commissioned Javier Diaz to create a version for Orpheus' orchestra size, including a part for soprano and alto saxophones to allow Branford Marsalis to join the ensemble as a peer. The quintessential moment highlighting the intersection of American jazz and European classical music comes when the trumpet plays a sultry solo into the felt crown of a fedora hat (or a mute with a similar tone), a moment in which, according to Gershwin, "our American friend, perhaps after strolling into a café and having a couple of drinks, has succumbed to a spasm of homesickness." In this version, Branford Marsalis takes over trumpet solo parts adding his own improvisations as a soloist within the Orpheus orchestra.

M. Ravel: String Quartet in F major „Très rythmé“ (arr. Michi Wiancko)

J. Beal: Saxophone Concerto

E. Lecuona: Andalucía, Suite Espagnol (orch. Janina Norpoth)

G. Gershwin: An American in Paris (arr. Javier Diaz)

orchestration tbc

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