



PRESERVATION HALL JAZZ BAND

Saturday, March 17, 2018 • 7:30 p.m. • Mark C. Smith Concert Hall • Von Braun Center

presented by the **Huntsville Symphony Orchestra**
Gregory Vajda, Music Director

At a moment when musical streams are crossing with unprecedented frequency, it's crucial to remember that throughout its history, New Orleans has been the point at which sounds and cultures from around the world converge, mingle, and resurface, transformed by the Crescent City's inimitable spirit and *joie de vivre*. Nowhere is that idea more vividly embodied than in the Preservation Hall Jazz Band, which has held the torch of New Orleans music aloft for more than 50 years, all the while carrying it enthusiastically forward as a reminder that the history they were founded to preserve is a vibrantly *living* history.

Preservation Hall Jazz Band marches that tradition forward once again on *So It Is*, the septet's second release featuring all-new original music. The album redefines what New Orleans music means in 2018 by tapping into a sonic continuum that stretches back to the city's Afro-Cuban roots, through its common ancestry with the Afrobeat of Fela Kuti and the Fire Music of Pharoah Sanders and John Coltrane, and forward to cutting-edge artists with whom they have shared festival stages from Coachella to Newport, including legends like Stevie Wonder, Elvis Costello, and the Grateful Dead, and modern giants like My Morning Jacket, Arcade Fire, and the Black Keys.

- BEN JAFFE** bass, tuba, percussion
- CHARLIE GABRIEL** tenor saxophone, clarinet
- CLINT MAEDGEN** tenor saxophone, percussion
- RONELL JOHNSON** trombone
- WALTER HARRIS** drums, percussion
- KYLE ROUSSEL** piano, Wurlitzer piano, organ
- BRANDEN LEWIS** trumpet

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