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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 20, 2022

WYNTON MARSALIS AND JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER ORCHESTRA TO DEBUT "MIDDLE EAST MEDITATIONS" AT THE SHELDON WITH NASEER SHAMMA

ST. LOUIS – The Friends of The Sheldon present *Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis featuring Naseer Shamma, oud*, Sunday, January 29, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. in the perfect acoustics of the Sheldon Concert Hall. This special concert benefits Sheldon Educational Programs, which, serve over 70,000 St. Louis area students each year.

Wynton Marsalis has invited the revered Iraqi oud virtuoso, composer, educator, musicologist and UNESCO Artist for Peace **Naseer Shamma** on tour for the world premiere performances of a new collaboration, *Middle East Meditations*, which will feature new works arranged by Marsalis, Shamma and Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra (JLCO) members.

The JLCO comprises 15 of the finest jazz soloists and ensemble players today. Under Music Director Wynton Marsalis, the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra performs a vast repertoire, from rare historic compositions to Jazz at Lincoln Center-commissioned works, including compositions and arrangements by Duke Ellington, Thelonious Monk, Mary Lou Williams, Benny Goodman and many others.

Known for being one of the world's greatest oud (an ancient Middle Eastern stringed instrument) virtuosos, **Naseer Shamma** has also received numerous awards for his contributions to promoting and advancing the oud and Arabic music all over the world.

Patron tickets for this special evening are Sold Out! Call The Sheldon at 314-533-9900 or visit <u>TheSheldon.org</u> for more information.

Concert-only tickets are \$66 orchestra / \$56 balcony 1 / \$46 balcony 2, and are on sale now through MetroTix at 314-534-1111 and through The Sheldon's website at <u>TheSheldon.org</u>, For more information, call The Sheldon at 314-533-9900 or visit <u>TheSheldon.org</u>.

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Sponsored by Keith Grady, Dr. Thomas and Cynthia Siler, Daniel & Henry Co., and Cindy & John Wallach

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