



**AuxIn: Connected!**  
**Channeling Charles Mingus**

January 25, 2023 | 7:30 PM  
Epiphany Center for the Arts

Angelo Hart, piano  
Jake Wark, sax  
Ben Dillinger, bass  
Tommaso Moretti, drums

## **AuxIn: Connected! Channeling Charles Mingus**

**Curated by Angelo Hart**

*“Charles Mingus is one of the great composers, musicians, and visionaries of all time. In jazz, he paved a path for musicians and composers to explore new and exciting veins of creative and improvisational music. This night of music will be a celebration of the creative genius that is Charles Mingus. All pieces are inspired by a Mingus composition, album, or by his creative vision. The quartet includes me on piano, Jake Wark on sax, Ben Dillinger on bass, and Tommaso Moretti on drums. In this performance, we are striving to create an organic and flowing conversation between musicians. One characteristic of Charles Mingus's arrangements is group or collective improvisation. We see it in many of his different groups. The quartet will embody Mingus's approach to this while trying to capture the spirit of Mingus himself.”*

-Angelo Hart

We are grateful to the First Nations' Council of the Three Fires—the Odawa, Ojibwe and Potawatomi—for their curation of this land that we share and upon which we hold this concert of sound-based time art.

Fulcrum Point presents the complete spectrum of new art music from traditional composition and electroacoustic music to free improv and Fluxus Events.

This program explores the confluence of creativity between extraordinary improvisers. This is truly a singular event in which these artists will spontaneously create music through deep listening, collaboration, improvisation, and variation based on the stylistic elements of the music of the late, great Charles Mingus.

We hope you'll visit [www.fulcrumpoint.org](http://www.fulcrumpoint.org) to learn more about our upcoming programs celebrating Fulcrum Point's 25th anniversary season.

Stephen Burns

*Founder and Artistic Director*

Fulcrum Point New Music Projectvfc

# Biographies



## Angelo Hart:

Angelo Hart has always had a unique and expressive approach to his instrument. Angelo has spent personal time studying jazz and classical legends such as Thelonius Monk, Art Tatum, Cecil Taylor, Oscar Peterson, Keith Jarrett, Herbie Hancock, Chick Corea, Debussy, Liszt, Chopin, Beethoven, and many more. Time spent with the great educators and musicians in Chicago, along with his natural innovative musicianship has molded him into the great musician that he is today. He approaches the piano with command and finesse, displaying a unique relationship and connection between the two of them.



## Jake Wark:

Jake Wark is a saxophonist and composer who has been active in Chicago's creative music community since 2014 when he relocated from upstate New York. He can be heard in numerous groups as a sideman and collaborator, including Javier Red's Imagery Converter, whose first release, Ephemeral Certainties, was included in an NPR Jazz Critics' Poll list of the best debuts of 2019. Jake has released two albums as a leader: 2020's Scrawl, featuring Angel Bat Dawid, Jakob Heinemann, and Adam Shead, and 2017's Tremor, with Drew Gress and Phil Haynes.



## Ben Dillinger

Ben Dillinger is an upright and electric bassist, composer, and educator who has been working professionally in Chicago for the past 10 years. His formal training is in jazz performance and composition but has also performed in many different musical settings including classical, musical theater, rock, and popular music. As an educator, he has taught at Roosevelt University, Morton College, and The Chicago High School of Performing Arts (ChiArts), both in private lessons and in a classroom setting.



## Tommaso Moretti

Tommaso Moretti is a drummer, composer, and educator born and raised in Italy where he began to play drums at the age of 10. His musical career started when he moved to Rome and became part of the city's vibrant music scene. Between 2004 and 2013 he released albums and toured internationally with 4 different bands: Thranth, an avant/rock quartet, Tribaco a punk/jazz trio, The Orange Man Theory a noise-core combo

and Underdog an indie jazz rock/world music ensemble. Busy as a musician and music educator in Italy he also cultivated international collaborations in Chicago (where he founded the math/rock band Tasty Gasoline and became part of Ben Lamar Gay's project Tones for Tales) and in London where he joined (Tribraco) the "Match and Fuse" project (a European network of experimental musicians and bands promotion).

In late 2013 he relocated to Chicago where he is now freelancing as a jazz drummer and educator. In 2017 with the band Bottle Tree he released an album on the International Anthem record label. In December 2017 he released his first album as a leader "SemoComeSemo" on the Amalgam record label. Since 2018 he has been performing in European jazz festivals such as North Sea, Willisau, Berlin, and London Jazz fest with the Ben Lamar Gay quartet. In 2022 Tommaso released his second album "Inside Out" (Bace records) which has been positively reviewed by international specialized press like DownBeat, Stereophile, Jazziz, BandCamp. He is currently part of the following Chicago-based music projects: Rob Frye Exoplanet, Ben Lamar Gay quartet, Eric Hines Pan Dulce, Kevin, and Hell group, Chicago Samba. Among many others he experienced playing with musicians such as Renè Baker, Pharez Whitted, Mai Sugimoto, Ernest Dawkins, Greg Ward, Matt Piet, Aaron M Frison (Coultrain), and Jaime Branch.



Created in 1998 by Stephen Burns, **Fulcrum Point New Music Project** pushes the boundaries of the musical experience globally by supporting new compositions, creating and performing new music experiences, and educating audiences to imagine the possibilities of music. Its programs are influenced by popular culture, literature, film, dance, jazz, Latin, and world music. Through multi-disciplinary programs, Fulcrum Point encourages audiences to make cross-cultural connections between new music, art, and technology, gaining greater insight into today's diverse world. Fulcrum Point's *AuxIn: Connected* and *Discoveries: Hear & Be Heard* are co-curated by Caitlin Edwards and Angelo Hart.

#### **Fulcrum Point New Music Project staff**

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Monica Benson, Executive Director

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