



# Yusef Lateef

**Blues & Romance**

[Ayesha Lateef](#), moderator  
[Charlie Apicella](#), guitar, medal drum  
[Alexis Marcelo](#), piano  
[Avery Sharpe](#), bass

2020 saw the centennial of the birth of this timeless American master.

This two-hour program frames **Yusef Lateef** as a trail-blazing American composer, band leader, performer, and educator.

*His blues roots run deep and were often presented alongside his expressions of romantic love. His interpretations of standard ballads like My Funny Valentine and Love Theme From Spartacus contrast well his firey blues compositions.*

*Among his pioneering contributions were his use of indigenous sounds, instruments, and techniques. His compositions draw upon the pan-ancestral landscape of blues the world over.*

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## **Set one**, 35 minutes:

panel discussion/listening session

We listen to two of Lateef's classic recordings and discuss the musical, historical, and cultural impact of his work. Includes Q&A and audience participation.

## **Set two**, 75 minutes:

Concert presenting the compositions of Yusef Lateef and spontaneous improvisation.