

COMPUTER

JAM

**Trumpet Virtuoso Wynton Marsalis
Explores the Newest Frontiers of
Music--In Concert with The Computer**

**A television proposal by George Olczak in association with
Paul Kaufman, Alvin H. Perlmutter Inc.**

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COMPUTER JAM----

This hour-long program documents the birth and performance of a new composition featuring Wynton Marsalis collaborating with composer Dexter Morrill. Using the most advanced technologies at Stanford's pioneering computer music center, Marsalis explores the newest frontiers of music: the creative interaction of man and machine. In an uniquely American adventure, Marsalis will blend jazz with high-technology. He will play his trumpet as well as command one of the most complex instruments ever made available to a performing artist.

The Quest--

We'll follow Wynton Marsalis as he discovers how advanced computer technologies can help him make music in new ways. His goal will be a live performance in Palo Alto. We travel with him from Manhattan to Stanford University, the birthplace of Silicon Valley. There he and composer Morrill will determine how to put these technologies to work in a new composition for trumpet and computer music.

The Challenge--

Marsalis has been publically critical of the use of synthesizers as gimmicks in popular music. Now he faces the challenge of making the technology work to advance the cause of serious music. the creative interaction of man and machine. Dexter Morrill begins his composition. Working with Marsalis, they prepare for the performance.

The Performance--

In the Frost Amphitheatre on the Stanford Campus, Marsalis gives the premier performance of the new work. We discover how succesful Marsalis and Morrill have been in pushing the frontiers of creative interaction between man and machine.

COMPUTER JAM is a program with broad international appeal to both jazz fans and classical music lovers. It will attract, as well, young persons interested in computers and music synthesizers.

Five time Grammy Award winner Wynton Marsalis has a world-wide following in jazz and classical music. As serious composers will continue to test the potential of computers, this program will be in demand for educational and historical use in markets here, in Europe and Japan.

In addition to the program itself, a separate performance music video is planned.

This is a first of it's kind program, one bound to attract widespread media attention. The program is the culmination of twenty-five years of research into developing the computer into a musical instrument. As the only person to have won a Grammy in both jazz and classical music, Wynton Marsalis is highly qualified to test the musical potentials of the computer era.

Blending jazz with high-technology computer music, **Computer Jam** is a uniquely American musical experience!

COMPUTER JAM-- Program Description

COMPUTER JAM is an hour-long program recorded on videotape. The program is in three parts or "acts," culminating in a final performance section lasting approximately twenty-five minutes.

Quest: We Meet The Artists and The Instruments

Marsalis. We see him in performance with his jazz group and on the classical concert stage. At twenty-three, he sits atop two musical worlds. Yet he unceasingly applies himself to learning more by taking classes at Julliard. He voices strong and controversial opinions about jazz and classical composition. He is searching for a way to integrate the computer's interactive capacities with the improvisational roots of jazz.

Morrill. A renowned composer of computer music, he has an extensive background in jazz. He is Professor of Music at Colgate University and is himself an expert brass player.

The Computer Music Center and John Chowning. A pioneer of computer music, John Chowning will provide the technical resources with which Morrill and Marsalis will create their composition.

We'll be there with Marsalis as Chowning reveals how advanced computer techniques can expand the musical vocabulary. We'll see how computers can synthesize the sound of existing instruments; create original musical sounds; process natural non-musical sounds; and how these tools can interact with the performing artist in real time.

The Challenge--

After the demonstration at Stanford, Marsalis and Morrill return to Manhattan to discuss how they will use the technology in a new composition for trumpet and computer music. Their goal is to perform the work later in the year in celebration of Stanford's Centennial.

Much work lies ahead. Marsalis has been publically critical of the use of synthesizers as gimmicks in popular music. Now he faces the challenge of making the technology work to advance the cause of serious music: the creative interaction of man and machine.

Dexter Morrill begins his composition. We observe his work with Marsalis as they prepare for the performance.

The Performance

In Frost Amphitheatre on the Stanford Campus, Marsalis gives the premier performance of the new work. A large audience first hears Wynton and his jazz group. Then, he is alone on stage, surrounded by synthesizers, and amplifiers. Monster speakers stand at the four corners of the Amphitheatre. In a uniquely American adventure, Marsalis will blend jazz with high-technology. He will play his trumpet and, using an array of sophisticated controls, command one of the most complex instruments ever made available to a performing artist.