

Vicky Shi  
2012 Smithsonian Folklife Festival  
*Campus and Community Program*

**Performing Artist Description: The UDC Jazz Ensemble**

The quintet, composed of piano, bass, drums, saxophone, and trumpet, comes from the University of the District of Columbia Jazz Ensemble. The UDC Jazz Ensemble owes its unique sound to the many compositions and arrangements jazz legend and former director Calvin Jones wrote especially for the group. After his death in 2004, nationally renowned pianist and former assistant director Allyn Johnson made a seamless transition as the new director of the ensemble. A product of the UDC Jazz Studies Program, the UDC Jazz Ensemble has made a name for itself both in and outside D.C. In addition to concert appearances at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and the D.C. jazz club Blues Alley, the ensembles have also been featured in concert at jazz festivals around the nation.