



Austin Zhang is a New York City/Dallas based band leader, composer, and saxophonist. As a young student, Zhang was selected as a member of many national programs such as the National YoungArts Foundation and Jazz Band of America. During this time, he had the opportunity to perform with George Garzone at the Newport Jazz Festival, Lewis Nash and John Clayton at the Vail Jazz Festival and to study with figures like Wynton Marsalis, George Garzone, Danilo Perez, Dick Oatts, and Ted Nash.

More recently, Zhang's seriousness and dedication to the music has helped him perform with Wycliffe Gordon, Terri Lyne Carrington, and Mino Cinelu. He was recognized as an outstanding performer in the 2017 Essentially Ellington competition and has performed with the Essentially Ellington Alumni big band at Jazz at Lincoln Center every year since. In 2018, he had a monthly residency in the Bar Next Door Emerging Artist Series and wrote a [piece](#) dedicated Joaquin "Guac" Oliver, a victim of the senseless Parkland, Florida school shooting. In 2019, he started [The Beehive Quartet](#), a chordless quartet that aims to celebrate individualism and challenge fundamentals that choke rather than push musical boundaries. Passionate about living with respect to people, animals, and the planet, Zhang uses his platform as an artist to advocate for social equity, veganism, environmental protection, and conscious living. He is currently studying at the Manhattan School of Music with saxophonist, Jaleel Shaw.

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