Faculty Jazz Recital

Antonio J. García
trombone, vocals, composition/arranging

with special guests
Mary Hermann García, vocals
The Nashville Avenue Stompers
VCU Jazz Orchestra I
VCU Greater Richmond High School Jazz Band

and via videorecording
VCU Commonwealth Singers
Dr. Erin Freeman, director

Sunday, February 17, 2019 at 4 p.m.
Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall
W. E. Singleton Center for the Performing Arts
Virginia Commonwealth University
922 Park Avenue I Richmond, VA

arts.vcu.edu/music
The VCU Jazz Students Fund

We hope that you will make a gift to the VCU Jazz Students Fund. The Fund helps advance the careers of future jazz musicians by providing scholarships, equipment, and travel funding for students/ensembles, plus fees for visiting artists. Your gift now at any of the following levels will help us secure these opportunities for our students: $1000+ (Jazz Orchestra), $500 - $999 (Big Band), $250 - $499 (Quartet), $100 - $249 (Duo), $1 - $99 (Soloist). For more information or to donate by credit card, visit go.vcu.edu/jazzfund. Or make your check payable to “VCU Foundation” and in the memo-area write “Jazz Students Fund” and mail it to Antonio Garcia, VCU Music, PO Box 842004, Richmond, VA 23284-2004.

VCU Jazz Faculty

Taylor Barnett: Jazz Arranging, Jazz History, Trumpet  
Emre Kartari: Small Jazz Ensemble  
J.C. Kuhl: Saxophone
Carlos Chafin: Affiliate Faculty (In Your Ear Studio)  
Tony Martucci: Drum Set, Small Jazz Ensemble
Victor Dvoskin: Bass  
Randall Pharr: Bass, Small Jazz Ensemble, Jazz Improvisation
Michael Ess: Guitar, Small Jazz Ensemble  
Rex Richardson: Trumpet
Antonio Garcia: Director of Jazz Studies, Trombone, Jazz Orchestra I, Small Jazz Ensemble, Jazz Theory, Music Industry  
Toby Whitaker: Jazz Orchestra II, Small Jazz Ensemble
Wells Hanley: Piano, Jazz Masterclass

VCU Jazz Calendar

(in part and subject to change)
Concerts are $7 advance; $10 at the door; free for VCU students and in the Concert Hall unless noted.

Fridays, 7-9 p.m. — “VCU Jazz at Emilio’s” at Emilio’s, 1847 West Broad Street, featuring VCU ensembles and other combos of VCU students. $5 minimum, all ages welcome.

Monday, February 18, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. — VCU Music Auditions.

Thursday, February 21, 7 p.m. — Prof. Tony Martucci Faculty Jazz Recital (drums). Admission free. Featuring alumnus, trumpeter, and EWI-performer Victor Haskins and alumnus/bassist Prof. Randall Pharr.

Tuesday, March 19, 8 p.m. — VCU Jazz Orchestra II.

Tuesday, April 9, 8 p.m. — VCU Jazz Orchestra I with drum set guest Matt Wilson.

Saturday, April 13, 6:40 p.m. — VCU Greater Richmond High School Jazz Band, Titan Jazz & Art Festival, Trinity Episcopal School, Richmond. Admission free.

Monday, April 29, 8 p.m. — VCU Small Jazz Ensembles. Admission free.

Saturday, May 4, 1 p.m. — VCU Greater Richmond High School Jazz Band. Admission free.

Get the inside story and advance word on VCU Jazz events by subscribing to the VCU Jazz E-Newsletter (free!) E-mail Prof. Garcia at ajgarcia@vcu.edu.

Looking for some other great music besides jazz? The VCU Music Department hosts hundreds of concerts each year, most of them free of charge! View our full schedule at go.vcu.edu/concerts.
and the Kai Winding Jazz Trombone Ensemble competition. He was an Illinois Coalition for Music Education coordinator and is Secretary of The Midwest Clinic Board and an Advisory Board Member of the Brubeck Institute. His newest book, *Jazz Improvisation: Practical Approaches to Grading (Meredith Music)*, explores avenues for creating structures that correspond to course objectives. His *Cutting the Changes: Jazz Improvisation via Key Centers* (Kjos Music) offers musicians of all ages the opportunity to improvise over standard tunes using just their major scales. Widely published in more than a dozen education and jazz periodicals, he is Co-Editor and Contributing Author of NAME’s *Teaching Jazz: A Course of Study* and has taught and guest-conducted in Canada, Europe, South Africa, Australia, The Middle East, and across the U.S. The partnership he created between VCU Jazz and the Centre for Jazz and Popular Music at the University of KwaZulu-Natal merited the 2013 VCU Community Engagement Award for Research. García is interviewed extensively within *Bonanza: Insights and Wisdom from Professional Jazz Trombonists* (Advance Music).

Regarding *Jazz Improvisation: Practical Approaches to Grading*, Darius Brubeck says, “How one assesses turns out to be a contentious philosophical problem with a surprisingly wide spectrum of responses. García has produced a lucidly written, probing, analytical, and ultimately practical resource for professional jazz educators, replete with valuable ideas, advice, and copious references.” James Aebersold offers, “This book should be mandatory reading for all graduating music ed students.” About *Cutting the Changes*, saxophonist David Liebman states, “This book is perfect for the beginning to intermediate improviser who may be daunted by the multitude of chord changes found in most standard material.” Of his jazz curricular work, Standard of Excellence states: “Antonio García has developed a series of Scope and Sequence of Instruction charts to provide a structure that will ensure academic integrity in jazz education.” Wynton Marsalis emphasizes: “Eight key categories meet the challenge of teaching what is historically an oral and aural tradition. All are important ingredients in the recipe.” The *Chicago Tribune* has highlighted García’s “splendid solos… virtuosity and musicianship…ingenious scoring…shrewd arrangements…exotic orchestral colors, witty riffs, and gloriously uninhibited splashes of dissonance…translucent textures and elegant voicing” and cited him as "a nationally noted jazz artist/educator…one of the most prominent young music educators in the country." Down Beat has recognized his “knowing solo work on trombone” and “first-class writing of special interest.” The *Jazz Report* has written about the “talented trombonist,” and *Cadence* noted his “hauntingly lovely” composing as well as CD production “recommended without any qualifications whatsoever.” Phil Collins has said simply, “He can be in my band whenever he wants.”

Previous to VCU, García served as Coordinator of Composers at Northwestern University, where he taught jazz and integrated arts, was Jazz Coordinator for the National High School Music Institute, and for four years directed the Vocal Jazz Ensemble. Formerly the Coordinator of Jazz Studies at Northern Illinois University, he was selected by students and faculty there as the recipient of a 1992 “Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching” award and nominated as its candidate for 1992 CASE “U.S. Professor of the Year” (one of 434 nominees nationwide). He was recipient of the VCU School of the Arts’ 2015 Faculty Award of Excellence. Visit his website at www.garciamusic.com.

This recital would not have been possible without the time and effort lent by all performing on today’s program, as well as the ongoing work of my VCU Music Faculty and Staff colleagues, especially Curt Blankenship (VCU Music Facilities Manager). I am grateful to them for their professional and personal support.
VCU Greater Richmond High School Jazz Band
Antonio García, Director

Saxophones: Thomas Moore, Paige Canning (alto), Daniel Lotti (tenor),
            David McCracken (tenor), Reese Tunstall (baritone)
Trumpets: Matt Hazelgrove, Olivia Ellsworth, John Stanger, Jordan Goodrich,
            Elijah Chacha, Carter King
Trombones: Luke Chesley, Jack Hendricks, Chris Stone, Amaya Royster,
            Andrew Culbertson (bass)
Rhythm: Ben Slone (guitar), Stephen Brown (piano), Christopher O'Leary (bass),
        Josef Kuhn & Rali Waters (percussion)

VCU Commonwealth Singers (Spring 2018 Video)
Dr. Erin Freeman, Director
Kevin Mann and Trevor White, soloists

Soprano: Hailey Broyles, Sarah Dobson, Haleigh Evano, Abigail Graham,
Cathern Hazlewood, Jasmin Ward, Colleen Christman, Renee McGowan,
Yasmine Uriah Scott, Savannah Whittenburg, Nytic Zacarias

Alto: Lida Bourhill, Georgia Cotter, Samantha Garcia, Jennifer Snyder,
Hayleigh Wilson, Paige Melton, Kristen Melzer, Janey Silas

Tenor: Collin W. Alois, Micah Baldwin, Evan Heiter, Kirk McIntosh,
Matt Evangelisto, Kevin Mann, Keene Mendenhall, Conner Terrell

Bass: Jack Anderson, Calvin Bremer, Brian C. Donovan, Cannon West,
      Trevor White, Jonathan Carr, Ricky Williams, Andrew Wingfield

VCU Jazz Orchestra I
Antonio García, Director

Saxophones: Griffin Sisk (alto, soprano, baritone), Evan Varney (alto, tenor),
            Michael Bradley (tenor, flute), Thomas Levine (tenor, clarinet),
            Cory Carter (baritone, tenor, flute)

Trumpets: Robert Williamson III, Nathan Rhodes, Noah Mendoza,
           Sam Colacino, Rhys Edwards

Trombones: Tye Profit, Bryan Gonzalez, Jenna Higgins, Noah Mason (bass)
Rhythm: Richard Albright (guitar), George Macdox (piano),
        Jimmy Trussell (bass), DeSean Gault (drums)

Jazz Studies at Virginia Commonwealth University

The VCU Jazz Studies program provides its students outstanding opportunities to pursue jazz performance and writing, as evidenced in part by alumni who have performed with such artists as Chick Corea, Wynton Marsalis, Abbie Lincoln, Ray Charles, Count Basie Orchestra, Mandy Moore, k.d. lang, Bon Iver, and Foxygen; have appeared on Saturday Night Live, Conan O'Brien, The Daily Show, The Colbert Report, and David Letterman; have composed film, TV, and video-game scores; and who are superb educators, composers, and performers throughout local, national, and international venues. For more information, please visit jazz.vcu.edu; e-mail Prof. Garcia at ajgarcia@vcu.edu.

About the Artists

Mary Hermann Garcia is an Associate Professor in the Department of Counseling and Special Education at VCU. She holds a Juris Doctor in Law, a Ph.D. in Counselor Education, and is a licensed attorney, a licensed professional counselor, and a certified school counselor. She has been a participant in VCU's Grace Harris Leadership Institute, the recipient of the VCU School of Education Excellence Award for her research, teaching, and leadership and the Charles P. Ruch Award for Excellence in Teaching, and has been listed multiple times in Who's Who Among America's Teachers. Mary has performed at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Ginter Gardens, the University of Richmond, in New York City, Denver, and Puerto Rico and has released her debut CD of bossa novas in Portuguese plus swing, ballad, and blues tunes: Joy Spring. Visit www.maryhermanngardncia.com.

The Nashville Avenue Stompers is an ensemble formed by Antonio Garcia to perform traditional New Orleans jazz. With current members (and VCU Jazz alumni) Myrick Crampton, Victor Haskins, Stefan Demetriades, Joe Lubman, and C.J. Wolfe, the group in whole or part has performed at events ranging from weddings to funerals, in nearly all styles to "Laissez Les Bons Temps Rouler." Let The Good Times Roll! Today we welcome alumni Nick Skinner to the stage.

About "Open Minds, Closer Thoughts" (from the April 6, 2018 premiere): Incarcerated individuals are far from our thoughts, almost literally the last thing on our minds. It's easier to go about our daily lives that way. But if we're going to reduce crime, we have to deal with its root causes in our community—locally and beyond. Dr. David Coogan's book inspired me to focus "closer thoughts" on these causes—and on the hope for individual and community redemption—in my own "open mind," our students', and yours. These issues are not distant: if you don't have family members, friends, and neighbors whose lives have been darkened by drug abuse, child abuse, or resultant crimes, you are extraordinarily fortunate. It is as a society we're going to lessen the number of citizens victimized by crime, we have to understand better the tragic path their offenders took to jail; we can't ignore this city within a city. Once inmates have served their time, they become our neighbors; so addressing crimes' causes before the act takes place is in everyone's best interests. I am grateful to Drs. Freeman and Coogan, his contributing authors, the Commonwealth Singers, and VCUarts for the opportunity to create and share this music.

Antonio Garcia is a Professor of Music and Director of Jazz Studies at Virginia Commonwealth University, where he directs the Jazz Orchestra I, instructs jazz and music-business courses, and founded a B.A. Music Business Emphasis. An alumnus of the Eastman School of Music and of Loyola University of the South, he has received commissions for jazz, symphonic, chamber, film, dance, and solo works from Meet The Composer, The Commission Project, The Thelonious Monk Institute, and regional arts councils; composition/arrangement honors include IAJE (jazz band), ASCAP (orchestral), and Billboard Magazine (pop songwriting); and his music has aired over National Public Radio and CBS-TV. His scores for independent films have screened across the U.S. and in Italy, Macedonia, Uganda, Australia, Colombia, India, Germany, Brazil, Hong Kong, Mexico, Israel, Taiwan, and the United Kingdom. A Bach/Selmer clinician, he has freelanced as trombonist, bass trombonist, or pianist with over 70 nationally renowned artists including Ella Fitzgerald, George Shearing, Mel Tormé, Billy Eckstein, Doc Severinsen, Louie Bellson, Dave Brubeck, and Phil Collins—and has performed at the Montreux, Nice, North Sea, Pori, New Orleans, and Chicago Jazz Festivals. He has performed internationally as a scat-singer, is the only individual to have directed all three genres of Illinois All-State jazz ensembles—combo, vocal jazz choir, and big band—and is the recipient of the IllinoisMEA's 2001 Distinguished Service Award. He has produced recordings or broadcasts of Wynton Marsalis, Gene Bertoncini, Jim Pugh, Dave Taylor, Susannah McCorkle, Sir Roland Hanna, and the JazzTech Big Band.

Mr. Garcia is International Trombone Association Journal Associate Jazz Editor, IAJE Jazz Education Journal Past Editor, IAJE-IL Past President, and past International Co-Chair for Curriculum and for Vocal/Instrumental Integration. He serves as a Network Expert (for Improvisation Materials) for the Jazz Education Network and has served as adjudicator for the ITA's Frank Rosolino, Carl Fontana, and Ruth Jazz Trombone Scholarship competitions.