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 such successful former students as Steve Wilson (sax, Chick Corea’s Origin); James Genus (bass, Saturday Night Live Band; recordings with Dave Douglas, Michael Brecker, Mike Stern and John Abercrombie); Victor Goines (sax/clarinet, Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra; director, Northwestern Jazz Studies); Alvester Garnett (drums, recordings with Abbey Lincoln, Cyrus Chestnut, James Carter); Mark Shim (sax, Blue Note recording artist, member of Terence Blanchard sextet); Al Waters (sax, featured with Ray Charles); Alvin Walker (trombone, Count Basie Orchestra), Daniel Clarke (pianist, Mandy Moore, k.d. lang); and Emre Kartari (drums; Jazz Department, Yasar University, Izmir, Turkey). For more information, please visit <www.jazz.vcu.edu>.

VCU Jazz Faculty

Taylor Barnett—Jazz Improvisation; John D’earth—Artist in Residence; Victor Dvoskin—Bass; Michael Ess—Guitar, Small Jazz Ensemble; Antonio García—Director of Jazz Studies, SJE, JO I, Trombone, Music Industry; Wells Hanley—Piano; Darryl Harper—Jazz History; Bryan Hooten—JO II, Jazz Theory, SJE; J.C. Kuhl—Saxophone; Tony Martucci—Drum Set, SJE; Randall Pharr—Bass; Doug Richards—Arranging; Rex Richardson—Trumpet; Marcus Tenney—SJE

VCU Jazz Calendar

All concerts $7 advance; $10 at the door; free with VCU student ID and in the Concert Hall unless noted.
T 3/24, 8p—VCU Jazz Orchestra II.
T 4/14, 8p—VCU Jazz Orchestra I with guest saxophonist Dick Oatts.
TH 4/16, 8p—VCU Small Jazz Ensembles. Admission free.
SAT 4/25, 6:40-7:30p—VCU Greater Richmond High School Jazz Band, Titan Jazz & Art Festival, Trinity Episcopal School, Richmond. Admission free.
SAT 5/16, 1p—VCU Greater Richmond High School Jazz Band. Admission free.
7p—Premiere of “Hanover Celebration,” composed by Antonio García, commissioned by Marshall Johnson in honor of the 25th Anniversary Year of the Hanover Concert Band (Karla Bloom, director). Fairmount Christian Church, 6502 Creighton Road in Mechanicsville, just off I-295. Admission will be to bring non-perishable food items to stock the shelves of the Mechanicsville Churches Emergency Fund.

Contact number for general concert/ticket information: (804) 828-6776, MWF 9 a.m-Noon.
Photography is not permitted during performances; all cellphones/pagers should be off.

Looking for some other great music besides jazz? The VCU Music Department hosts hundreds of concerts each year, most of them free of charge! Get on the VCU Music mailing list by e-mailing music@vcu.edu or calling (804) 828-1169.

Department of Music | School of the Arts | Virginia Commonwealth University
922 Park Avenue, Room 132, PO Box 842004, Richmond, VA 23284-2004
804-828-1166 | music@vcu.edu | www.arts.vcu.edu/music
Program

PSA/Sun City Groovin’

music by Antonio J. García

Hanover Celebration

I. Overture  II. Reflection and Renewal

commissioned by Marshall Johnson
in Honor of the 25th Anniversary Year of the Hanover Concert Band
(“soft” premiere)

Hanover Concert Band
Karla Bloom, Director

I Got Rhythm

George & Ira Gershwin, arr. Garcia
Antonio García, trombone, vocals, percussion

The Wayfarer’s Path

I. Journey  II. Challenge  III. Discovery  IV. Heritage

commissioned for Oakton High School (VA)
with assistance from The Wolftrap Foundation for the Performing Arts

VCU String Orchestra
Daniel Myssyk, Director
Kayla Tilghman, Sarah Agrios, Christian Diaz, Chanel Hurt, Patrick Keese, Leigh Lancaon, Max Lincoln, Alanna North, Marissa Resmini, violin; Melissa Miller, Caleb Paxton, viola; Jack Flores, Tyler Martin, Madison Erskine, Dylan Cloyd, cello; Drew Brunson, Chris Harrison, bass

Vocé

Ronaldo Boscoli & Roberto Menescal, arr. García
Mary Hermann García, vocals; Antonio García, trombone; Julia Nyunt, violin; Madison Bunch, flute; Doug Jemison, clarinet; Roger Pouncey, guitar; Macon Mann, piano; Kevin Eichenberger, bass; Cleandré Foster, percussion; Stefan LaRue, drums

VCU String Orchestra
Daniel Myssyk, Director

Centerpiece

music by Harry “Sweets” Edison, lyrics by Jon Hendricks
Mary Hermann García, vocals; Antonio García, trombone, vocals; Roger Pouncey, guitar; Macon Mann, piano; Kevin Eichenberger, bass; Stefan LaRue, drums

The Midwest Fest

commissioned by The Commission Project, Meet The Composer, & The Thelonious Monk Institute
for the Evanston Township High School Jazz Band (IL), dedicated to The 50th Midwest Clinic

VCU Greater Richmond High School Jazz Band
Antonio García, Director, Trombone
Saxes Charlotte Howell (alto); Noah Campbell (alto, clarinet); Spencer Cook & Connor Claytor (tenor); Spencer Culbertson (baritone)
Trumpets Jake Zaslav, Robert Williamson III, Yadunandan Pillai, & Matthew Hofman
Trombones Stephanie Young (VCU), Daniel Nunn, Andrew Elgin, & Nick Moore (bass)
Rhythm Christian Lewis (guitar); Ayinde Williams (piano); Pete Dennis (bass); Brian Connolly (drums)

Intermission

N’Awlins Medley

I. If Ever I Cease To Love  II. Down By The Riverside  III. Top of the Mart  IV. Crawfish Boil

in celebration of John Mahoney

The 804 Jazz Bones
Antonio García, Bryan Hooten, & Reggie Pace, trombone; Stefan Demetriadis, bass trombone; with Stefan LaRue, drums

Song for Everyone (Ingoma Yabantu)

commissioned by Virginia Commonwealth University
in Honor of its Partnership with the University of KwaZulu-Natal

UKZN AsiHambe Jazz Ensemble
Thobeka Langa (voice), Bethual Thoane (guitar), Sibusiso Mashiloane (piano), Ildo Nandja (bass), Bryan Stone (drums), with Prof. George Mari (trumpet)
Prof. Neil Gonsalves, Director
They Can't Take That Away From Me  George & Ira Gershwin, arr. García
Rachel Pietri, vocals

Blues for Leiden  Allen Wittig*

VCU Jazz Orchestra I
Antonio García, Director, Trombone

Saxes    Trey Sorrells (alto, soprano, flute, alto flute),
         Cody Reifsteck (alto, tenor, bass clarinet),
         Doug Jemison (tenor, flute, alto flute, clarinet),
         Logan Beavet (tenor),
         Alfredo Santiago (baritone, flute, bass clarinet)
Trumpets    Stephen Moser, Marc Roman,
             Matt Dixon, Zack Forbes
Trombones, Gabriel Luciano-Carson, Colleen Trempe,
         Stephanie Young, Michael Dickenson (bass)
Rhythm      Roger Pouncey (guitar), Macon Mann (piano).
             Kevin Eichenberger (bass), Cleandre Foster (drums)

• VCU Jazz alumnus

More than 1900 people get the inside story and advance word on VCU Jazz events by subscribing to the VCU Jazz E-Newsletter. It's free! Just e-mail Prof. García at <ajgarcia@vcu.edu> and ask to be added to the list. You'll find out there's much more to VCU Jazz than even the concerts you enjoy!

Please join us in the lobby afterwards to say hello!

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, Concert Hall Manager. I am grateful to them for their professional and personal support.

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). Please make your checks payable to the “VCU Jazz Students Fund” and mail them to Antonio García, VCU Music, PO Box 842004, Richmond, VA 23284-2004.
Notes on “Hanover Celebration”

Marshall Johnson sought a two-movement, thematic work totaling five minutes: the first movement more traditional, the second with more of a playful nature, and the option to perform them separately or together. I was immediately drawn to the potential of the centuries-old musical tradition of crafting a musical theme out of the initials of a name—in this case, “HCB.” While C and B parallel musical scale-tones, H would often be assigned the pitch A or Ab (i.e., following the pitch and letter G). Thus the opening theme of the Overture focuses on these pitches in a Movement that opens in the key of C and then travels through numerous key centers via a rising bass-line portraying the upbeat nature of the band. In Reflection and Renewal, C but especially A and Ab are the hooks; and since the Movement is based in the key of F, the pitches A and Ab provide bluesy opportunities within the music.

Founded in 1989, the Hanover Concert Band is celebrating its 25th year. A community band of dedicated amateur musicians, HCB performs throughout Hanover county and the greater Richmond metro area as the “Musical Ambassadors of Hanover County” under the direction of Karla Bloom. Musicians of all ages are welcome to join the band. Its own funding comes from donations and gifts: as a 501(c)3 organization, donations are welcome and greatly appreciated. In 2007 the band received the Hanover County Commitment to Community Award, and in 2014 HCB was honored by Hanover County for the band’s 25 years of volunteer service to the community. For more information, visit <www.hanoverconcertband.org>; or contact Marshall Johnson at (804) 789-0536, <MJohl05055@aol.com>.

Mary Hermann García is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Counselor Education at VCU. She holds a Juris Doctor in Law, a Ph.D. in Counselor Education, and is a licensed attorney and a licensed professional counselor. She has been a participant in VCU’s Grace Harris Leadership Institute, the recipient of the VCU School of Education 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 recently released her debut CD of bossa novas in Portuguese plus swing, ballad, and blues tunes: Joy Spring. Visit <www.maryhermanngarcia.com>.

The 804 Jazz Bones are tenor trombonists, composer/arrangers, bandleaders, and educators in Richmond. Stefan Demetriadis, Reggie Pace, and Antonio García are frequent bass trombonists; and Bryan Hooten has also performed on the instrument. Stefan is also an accomplished tubaist. Formed by García, their initial relationship stems from VCU, where Stefan studied, Reggie and Bryan are alumni, Tony and Bryan are faculty, and three of the four performed in the VCU JO I (excepting Tony, its current director) and are members of the No BS! Brass. Credits include Stefan, Reggie, and Bryan also include tours, national airplay, soundtracks, The Commonwealth Winds, The Mingus Awareness Project, Fight the Big Bull, Matthew E. White, Ombak, Bon Iver, and teaching private students as well as instructing at numerous schools in the Richmond region. For more information about The 804 Jazz Bones, e-mail Tony at <ajgarcia@vcu.edu>.