

Jazz Appreciation Month

Every April is Jazz Appreciation Month, an annual affirmation of jazz: in short, a month-long JAM! At its core, JAM is about education and the involvement of communities and cultural institutions in celebrating jazz.

Consider what the VCU Jazz Students Fund (founded in that same year of 2001) has already meant to our students. This academic year we hosted vocalist Rei Alvarez; saxophonists Jeff Antoniuk, Claire Daly, and Luis Hernandez; trumpeters Ingrid Jensen, Ron McCurdy, and Bria Skonberg; guitarists Steve Herberman and John Lee; pianist Yuma Sung; bassists Tom Baldwin and Noah Jackson; drummer Julius Rodriguez; and percussionist John Santos; plus newly commissioned works by alumni arrangers and guest-performances by adjunct faculty.

Most of these events would not have been possible without the support of the Jazz Students Fund—nor various equipment, musical arrangements, and other needs. And last November's jazz concert saw nearly \$10,000 in scholarship and financial support go to our students! Celebrate Jazz Appreciation Month by contributing to the future of jazz education in Richmond: join the VCU Jazz Students Fund. Your gift now at any level will help us secure these opportunities for our students. For more information or to donate by credit card, visit go.vcu.edu/jazzfund. Or make checks payable to the "VCU Jazz Students Fund" and mail to Antonio García, VCU Music, PO Box 842004, Richmond, VA 23284-2004. For more information about the VCU Jazz Studies Program, visit jazz.vcu.edu or contact Prof. Antonio García at ajgarcia@vcu.edu, (804) 827-0699. And "thank you" to all our current contributors to the VCU Jazz Students Fund!

VCU Jazz Calendar

Concerts are free and take place in the Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall unless noted.

- Thu. 4/20, 7:45 p.m. — **Jazz Orchestra I, Ella Fitzgerald Music Festival**, Downing-Gross Cultural Arts Center, Newport News. Admission free.
Sat. 4/22, 6:40-7:30 p.m. — **VCU Greater Richmond High School Jazz Band, Titan Jazz & Art Festival**, Trinity Episcopal School, Richmond. Admission free.
Mon. 5/1, 8 p.m. — **VCU Small Jazz Ensembles**.
Sat. 5/6, 1 p.m.—**VCU Greater Richmond High School Jazz Band**.

Stay in the loop — join our mailing lists to receive our free e-newsletters!
VCU Jazz E-Newsletter: E-mail ajgarcia@vcu.edu
VCU Music General E-Newsletter: E-mail music@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! Learn more at arts.vcu.edu/music/events.

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DEPARTMENT OF **MUSIC**

VCU Jazz Orchestra I *Antonio J. García, director*

with guest soloist
Ingrid Jensen
trumpet

CELEBRATING THE 16TH ANNUAL



Jazz Appreciation Month

Tuesday, April 11, 2017 at 8 p.m.

Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall
W. E. Singleton Center for the Performing Arts
Virginia Commonwealth University
922 Park Avenue | Richmond, VA

arts.vcu.edu/music

vcuarts
 **VCU**

Program

- Ya' Gotta' Try.....Sammy Nestico
I'm Beginning to See the Light.....music by Duke Ellington, Harry James,
Johnny Hodges; lyrics by Don George; arr. Quincy Jones
Paige Melton, vocals
- Gentle Piece.....Kenny Wheeler
Man in the Black Hat.....Jon Wikan
- Intermission —
- Forever Grateful.....Mark Mekhail*
At Sea Suite.....Ingrid Jensen, arr. Fred Sturm
Sail Away.....Tom Harrell, arr. John MacLeod
Groove Merchant.....Thad Jones

* = world premiere

VCU Jazz Orchestra I

- Saxes:** Nathanael Clark (alto, soprano), Jason Kincy (alto, clarinet),
Chet Frierson (tenor, soprano, flute, clarinet),
Michael Bradley (tenor), Griffin Sisk (baritone)
- Trumpets:** Cameron Bessicks, Hamed Barbarji, Nathan Rhodes,
Jack Beckner, Richie Cole
- Trombones:** Ben Culver, Stephanie Young, Bryan Gonzalez,
Darius Carter (bass)
- Rhythm:** David Roberts (guitar), Mark Mekhail (piano), Ben Kelly (bass),
Nick Davidson (drums, timbales)

*Please silence cell phones and other electronic devices.
Photography and recording (audio/video) are prohibited.*

VCU Jazz Faculty

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|---|--|
| Taylor Barnett: Jazz Improvisation,
Trumpet | Wells Hanley: Piano, Jazz Masterclass |
| Carlos Chafin: Affiliate Faculty (In Your
Ear Studio) | Darryl Harper: Jazz History |
| Reginald Chapman: Small Jazz Ensemble | Emre Kartari: SJE |
| Steven Cunningham: Jazz Orchestra II | J.C. Kuhl: Saxophone |
| Victor Dvoskin: Bass | Tony Martucci: Drum Set, SJE |
| Michael Ess: Guitar, SJE | Randall Pharr: Bass, SJE |
| Antonio García: Director of Jazz Studies,
Trombone, Jazz Orchestra I, SJE, Jazz
Theory, Music Industry | Doug Richards: Arranging |
| | Rex Richardson: Trumpet |

Our Guest Artist

Ingrid Jensen has been hailed as one of the most gifted trumpeters of her generation. After a teaching in her early twenties as the youngest professor in the history of the Bruckner Conservatory in Linz, Austria, Ingrid settled in New York City in the mid-1990s. There she joined the innovative jazz orchestras of Maria Schneider and Darcy James Argue. She won the Carmine Caruso Trumpet Competition in 1991 and has twice served on the judges' panel. More recently, Ingrid has been performing with the Grammy-winning Terri-Lyne Carrington and her Mosaic Project. One of her most frequent and closest collaborators is her sister, saxophonist and composer Christine Jensen, with whom Ingrid is a featured soloist on the Christine Jensen Jazz Orchestra's JUNO award-winning album *Treelines* (2011) and its successor, *Habitat* (2013). Ingrid and Christine just released *Infinitude* (2016), a new album with their small-group venture featuring guitarist Ben Monder. Ingrid's recent electric project, *Kind of New*, with keyboardist Jason Miles, has led to collaborations with Joe Lovano and Lionel Loueke. We are delighted that she has come our way to share in her music and ours! Visit ingridjensen.com.

Jazz Studies at Virginia Commonwealth University

The VCU Jazz Studies program provides students with outstanding opportunities to pursue jazz performance and writing. VCU Jazz alumni have experienced great success, including: 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; formerly Jazz Department, Yasar University, Izmir, Turkey). For more information visit jazz.vcu.edu.

VCU Jazz CDs on Sale in the Lobby

VCU Jazz's eighth album, "Leap of Faith" was recorded live in the U.S. and South Africa as part of the initial year of VCU Jazz's collaborative project with the University of KwaZulu-Natal (Durban, South Africa). The CD features students and faculty from VCU and UKZN in various combos, plus performances by guest artists Plunky Branch (sax) and Madala Kunene (guitar and vocals), four newly commissioned compositions, and many new arrangements from the first year of our exchange project, "A Jazz Bridge to Greater Understanding," funded by grants from VCU's Global Education Office and VCUarts and spanning three years. Also available is VCU Jazz's album "Front Burner," also recorded entirely live, featuring the Jazz Orchestra I, a Small Jazz Ensemble, the Faculty Jazz Septet, and guests John Riley (drums) and Taylor Barnett and Graham Breedlove (trumpet). All proceeds from CD sales benefit the VCU Jazz Students Fund.