CU 🖈 PRESENTS

2022-23 Season



College of Music UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

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CU > PRESENTS is the home of performing arts at the University of Colorado Boulder.

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The mission of the University of Colorado Boulder College of Music

is to inspire artistry and discovery, together.



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Thompson Jazz Big Bands

Artist residency with Dave Holland Special guests: Nikki Iles and Nick Smart

7:30 p.m., Friday, April 28, 2023 Grusin Music Hall

Program

THOMPSON LATIN JAZZ BAND Directed by Victor Mestas

Wild Oak

Nikki Iles

Ario

Dave Holland

Red Ellen

Nikki Iles

Hush

Nikki Iles

Cosmosis

Dave Holland

THOMPSON CONCERT JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Directed by Paul Romaine

Razor's Edge

Dave Holland arr. Jim McNeely

"2005" Suite

Kenny Wheeler

The Empty Chair

Dave Holland arr. Jim McNeely

Personnel

Text that is bold and underlined is a hyperlink and can be clicked or tapped for more information.

Victor Mestas, director Paul Romaine, director

Dave Holland, bass

Dave Holland is a bassist, composer and bandleader whose passion for musical expression of all styles and dedication to creating consistently innovative music ensembles have propelled a professional career of more than 50 years and earned him top honors in his field including multiple Grammy awards and the title of NEA Jazz Master in 2017. Holland stands as a guiding light on acoustic and electric bass, having grown up in an age when musical genres—jazz, rock, funk, avant-garde, folk, electronic music and others blended freely together to create new musical pathways. He was a leading member of a generation that helped usher jazz bass playing from its swing and post-bop legacy to the vibrancy and multi-discipline excitement of the modern era, extending the instrument's melodic, expressive capabilities. Holland's virtuosic technique and rhythmic feel, informed by an open-eared respect of a formidable spread of styles and sounds, is widely revered and remains much in demand. To date, his playing can be heard on hundreds of recordings, with more than thirty as a leader under his own name.

Nikki lles, piano

Nikki Iles, jazz pianist and composer, was a founder member of the innovative Creative Jazz Orchestra–working with Anthony Braxton, Mike Gibbs, Vince Mendoza and Mark-Anthony Turnage. Her busy freelance career has found her playing with Peter Erskine (CJO), Kenny Wheeler, Art Farmer, Julian Arguelles, Stan Sulzmann, Norma Winstone, Dave Holland, TinaMay, Tony Coe, Joe Locke and Rufus Reid. Although well known as a pianist, composition remains a major part of her musical life with commissions including The London Sinfonietta, The London Philharmonic's Renga and The National Youth Jazz Orchestra. With a parallel career as a widely respected teacher, lles is professor of jazz piano at the Royal Academy of Music and Middlesex University and gives masterclasses around the world. She has been a driving force behind the jazz syllabus at the ABRSM and continues to publish with Oxford University Press.

Nick Smart, trumpet

Head of Jazz at the Royal Academy of Music, Nick Smart is an internationally renowned jazz educator, trumpeter and musical director who has given guest masterclasses and performances around the world. In 2013 he won the prestigious Parliamentary Award for Jazz Education. In the U.K. he is recognized as one of the leading musicians on the London jazz scene, where as well as being in regular demand as a sideman to players of all generations, he continues to record and tour with his own projects.

In 2005 Smart released his debut album *Remembering Nick Drake* to critical acclaim. The album featured Smart's arrangements of Nick Drake's music played by an all star line-up including John Parricelli, Paul Clarvis, Christine Tobin and Stan Sulzmann, amongst others. It was described by Straight No Chaser magazine as "...a future classic because it really captures all that is best about British jazz...." and by John Fordham in Jazz UK as "...fascinating music devoted to a fascinating inspiration." In December 2008 Smart released his highly praised trio album *Remembering Louis Armstrong* featuring Hans Koller and Paul Clarvis. His latest band, Nick Smart's Trogon, merges contemporary jazz sounds with Afro Cuban concepts and is due for release on Babel Records in November 2013.

His versatility as a trumpet player has allowed him to perform alongside many international jazz stars including George Russell, Bob Brookmeyer, John Hollenbeck, the New York Voices, Mike Gibbs and Dave Douglas, as well as most of the leading names on the U.K. jazz scene. Amongst other things, Smart is currently a member of the Kenny Wheeler Big Band, in a new quartet from saxophonist Stan Sulzmann and just recorded for the new album of vocalist Christine Tobin in her interpretations of Leonard Cohen songs. As an acclaimed musical director of large ensembles, Smart conducts the Stan Sulzmann Big Band (Neon Orchestra) and the Troyka large ensemble, "Troykestra". He also performs internationally as the regular soloist with the James Taylor Quartet.

Special thanks

The students and faculty of Thompson Jazz Studies are enormously grateful to Jack and Jeannie Thompson, whose vision and generosity has made this very special residency possible. This residency has also been made possible through a Roser Artist Grant. Finally, many thanks to the staff at the College of Music for their tireless behind-the-scene work in helping bring this event to fruition.

Thompson Latin Jazz Band

Saxophone

Greg Barth Cian Krueger Jonah Sutinen Georgia Hastie Will Foster

Trumpet Rafael Castillo Amruta Divekar Thomas Nance

Madison Sinan

Trombone Nathan Bitter Jack Bendure Kyle Nakaji Carl Enger

Guitar Judah Davis

Piano Caleb Kovar Bass Eddie Ness

Drums Nathan Burak Joshua Contreras

Concert Jazz Ensemble

Saxophone Camden Johnson Yohann Nickerson Pablo Beltran Jonas Shofler Alex Loran

Trumpet

Sean Applebee Emilie Hartrampf Ian Perrat Jesus Najera

Trombone

Grayson Stewart Gabe Harrison Ethan Van Oss Melvin Sasillas Muñoz

Guitar

Carlos Taal

Piano Eli Baumgarten **Bass** Will Pavilonis

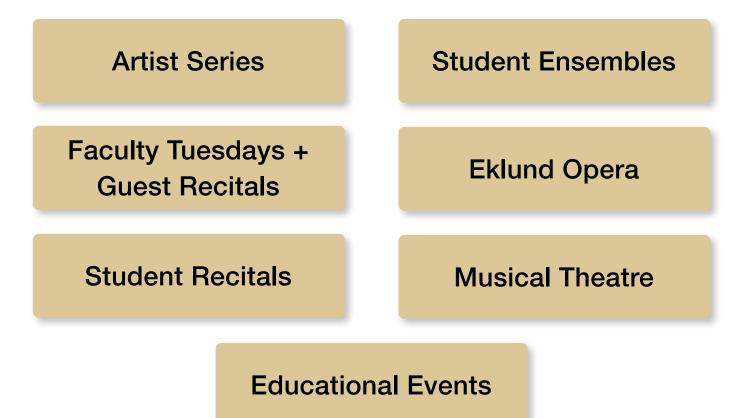
Bass/Vocals Maya Napalilo

Drums Alejandro Castano

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* Deceased

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