

# CU ★ PRESENTS

2022-23 Season



College of Music  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

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- Photography and video recordings of any type are strictly prohibited during the performance.
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**CU ★ PRESENTS** is the home of performing arts at the University of Colorado Boulder.



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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

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## 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 Iles**, 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, Iles 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

### Trombone

Nathan Bitter  
Jack Bendure  
Kyle Nakaji  
Carl Enger

### Bass

Eddie Ness

### Drums

Nathan Burak  
Joshua Contreras

### Guitar

Judah Davis

### Trumpet

Rafael Castillo  
Amruta Divekar  
Thomas Nance  
Madison Sinan

### Piano

Caleb Kovar

## Concert Jazz Ensemble

### Saxophone

Camden Johnson  
Yohann Nickerson  
Pablo Beltran  
Jonas Shofler  
Alex Loran

### Trombone

Grayson Stewart  
Gabe Harrison  
Ethan Van Oss  
Melvin Sasillas Muñoz

### Bass

Will Pavilonis

### Bass/Vocals

Maya Napalilo

### Guitar

Carlos Taal

### Drums

Alejandro Castano

### Trumpet

Sean Applebee  
Emilie Hartrampf  
Ian Perrat  
Jesus Najera

### Piano

Eli Baumgarten

# CU ★ PRESENTS



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As of Jan. 2, 2023

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