

University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Department of Music & Theatre Arts

presents:

DOWN BEAT

Award Celebration Concert

Receiving Down Beat Award the second time in three years!

Down Beat Award for "Best College Big Band" for Downbeat Magazine 1996 & 1998

Performed by:

Jazz
Ensemble I



Thursday • May 7
7:30 P.M.
Gantner Auditorium

Program

Limehouse Blues Arranged by Matt Harris
Jason Craft, piano
Kyle Newmaster, trumpet

Serenity Joe Henderson
Arranged by Slide Hampton
Clay Pufahl, tenor saxophone
Nick Poss, piano

A Timeless Vision Dennis Luginbill

I. Spirit of Peace

Clay Pufahl, tenor saxophone

II. Unity of Brotherhood

Kyle Newmaster, trumpet

Jim Buckley, bass

Ben Covi, trombone

III. Motivation of Inspiration

In the Still of the Night Arranged by Pat Williams

All Blues Vince Mendoza

Erik Christianson, tenor saxophone

Matt Franko, trombone

Intermission

Um Tip Curtido Michael Nelson
As played by the Hornheads

Lush Life Duke Ellington
Arranged by Dean Sorenson

Featuring: Bill Olson, baritone saxophone

Queen's Suite Duke Ellington

I. Sunset and the Mocking Bird

II. Lightning Bugs and Frogs

III. Le Sucrier Velour

IV. Northern Lights

V. The Single Petal of a Rose

VI. Apes and Peacocks

High Altitude Greg Owens

Featuring:

Matt Pivec, alto saxophone

Gene Power, alto saxophone

Program Notes

A Timeless Vision

"A Timeless Vision" is a three movement suite for jazz ensemble written in the style of Duke Ellington. This suite was specially commissioned for the 50th Anniversary of the Music Department at UW-Eau Claire.

The work features a variety of soloists and was composed to showcase the many strengths of the current ensemble. The first movement of the suite is a slow ballad in the Latin style. The movement starts with solo tenor saxophone that isolates the interval of a tritone. This interval is the basis for the entire work. The second movement features the trumpet section and is a medium-tempo blues. The third movement features the drums and entire ensemble in an up tempo tune that switches from AABA form to a blues. Each movement is written for a member of my family. Movement I is dedicated to my wife, Teresa, Movement II is dedicated to my son, Joseph, and Movement III is dedicated to my daughter, Annisa. (*D. Luginbill*)

The Queen's Suite

This recording consists of three extended pieces written for special occasions. The loveliest of the three, and indeed one of the most gorgeous of all the longer compositions in the Ellington book, is "The Queen's Suite." It's an Ellington-Strayhorn collaboration which commemorates the orchestra's appearance before Queen Elizabeth at a jazz festival in Leeds in 1958. Three exquisitely lyrical, evocatively entitled segments highlight the work: "Sunset and the Mocking Bird," "Le Sucrier Velour," and the splendid piano-and-bass duet, "The Single Petal of a Rose." (There's a story associated with this suite which is too good to go unnoted. With typically extravagant gallantry, Ellington recorded "The Queen's Suite" at his own expense, allowed just one copy to be pressed into vinyl, and had that unique album delivered to Her Majesty at Buckingham Palace. It wasn't until after Ellington's death that the suite was at last released.)

*** *The Second Down Beat Award in Three Years* ***

Jazz Ensemble I has earned its second national award in three years. The ensemble took top honors as "Best College Big Band" for 1998—as it did in 1996—in one of the most prestigious jazz contests in the country.

Down Beat magazine, the premier jazz publication in the United States, announced the honor in a spring 1998 edition which featured the magazine's annual student music award winners. For educational institutions this award is similar to the Grammy Awards—it is the highest possible honor a jazz program can receive, because of the reputation of the magazine issuing it.

Jazz Ensemble I
Robert Baca, Conductor

Saxophone

Matt Pivec, alto
Gene Power, alto
Clay Pufahl, tenor
Erik Christianson, tenor
Bill Olson, baritone

Trombone

Matt Franko
Ben Covi
Matt Hall
Andrew Jaeger
Tim Skutley

Bass

Tim Oas
Jim Buckley

Drums

Matt Kendziera
Jason Price

Trumpet

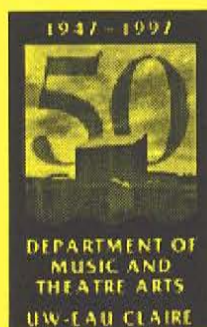
Matt Mealey
Josh Lehigh
Kyle Newmaster
Jeff Walk
Dave Burki

Piano

Jason Craft
Nick Poss

Guitar

Ethan Sobotta



Please respect the need for silence during performances. Our concerts and recitals are recorded. Coughing, beepers, electronic watches, careless handling of programs and other extraneous noises are serious distractions to performers and the audience. The use of cameras and recording equipment cannot be permitted.