

The University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
Department of Music Presents

JAZZ ENSEMBLE I

Robert Baca, Director

IN MEMORIAM

Buddy Rich (1917-1987)



Performing the Music of The Buddy Rich Band
and other selections

*Featuring
Ron Keezer
on Drum Set*

Monday, May 4, 1987

8:00 pm

Gantner Concert Hall

PROGRAM

Lover Bop

Dominic Spera

Soloists: Scott Davis, Guitar
Andy Classen, Trumpet
Dave Freier, Tenor Saxophone

Wynt-on

Geoff Keezer

Soloist: Geoff Keezer, Piano
Rich Morgan, Trumpet

Theme and Variations

Dominic Spera

Soloists: Dave Freier, Tenor Saxophone
Rich Morgan, Trumpet
Cheryl DeMars, Trombone
Nate Johnson, Alto Saxophone

Love Story

Arr. Andy Classen

Featuring: *Robert Baca

Elegy (In Memory of Sam Jones)

Rufus Reid

Featuring: Alan Hager, Bass

Soloists: Nate Johnson, Alto Saxophone
Dave Freier, Tenor Saxophone
Rich Morgan, Trumpet

INTERMISSION

(Music supplied by the Al Hager Combo)

Love For Sale

Cole Porter

Soloists: Karl Finseth, Alto Saxophone
Dave Freier, Tenor Saxophone
Andy Classen, Trumpet

Norwegian Wood

John Lennon & Paul McCartney

Arr. Bill Holman

Soloists: Cheryl DeMars, Trombone
Nate Johnson, Alto Saxophone

Mr. Fonebone

Bob Mintzer

Soloists: Richard Morgan, Trumpet
Darren LeBrun, Tenor Saxophone

Trio Tune
(To be announced)

Time Check

Don Menza

Soloists: Darren LeBrun, Tenor Saxophone
Scott Davis, Guitar

Rockin' In Rhythm

Duke Ellington
Arr. Bill Cunliff

Soloists: Darren LeBrun, Tenor Saxophone
Alan Hager, Bass
Dave Freier, Tenor Saxophone
Geoff Keezer, Piano

West Side Story Medley Arr. Bill Reddie
(Overture, Cool, Something's Coming, Somewhere)

Soloists: *Rod Hudson, Trombone
Dave Freier, Tenor Saxophone

All selections during second half of program feature
Ron Keezer on Drum Set.

*Faculty Member

BUDDY RICH

The styles of jazz drumming in ensemble and solo have become more and more diversified over the last several years due to, in a large part, the energy created by Buddy Rich. Buddy Rich's rhythmic intricacy in jazz drumming was able to enchant the average listener as well as stimulate the senses of the jazz purest. The mention of his name evokes enthusiasm, raw energy, rebellion and excitement. Starting in vaudeville as a tap dancer and singer at age 1 1/2, and being billed as "Baby Traps the Drum Wonder" at age 2, his energy and enthusiasm led him to be a popular sideman with famous big bands like Artie Shaw and Tommy Dorsey. He later graduated to lead a small jazz combo before starting his own big band. Even in his later years he would often play a small group selection and sometimes sing during the second half of a big band concert. He considered himself one-quarter singer and three-quarters drummer. In recent years, while most other big bands have either disbanded or play infrequently, Buddy Rich's band was still performing 52 weeks out of the year. He has created a moving force in jazz with his private bag of talent which can never be imitated. His death marks the end of a great era in jazz. We will all miss him.

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE
JAZZ ENSEMBLE I
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Trumpets

Andy Classen
Joe Kasparek
Pierre Allard
Mike Larson
Rich Morgan

Trombones

Cheryl DeMars
Travis Christopherson
Jim Keesler
Dave Haroldson

Guitar

Scott Davis

Bass

Al Hager

Saxophones

Alto:

Nate Johnson
Karl Finseth

Tenor:

Dave Freier
Darren LeBrun

Baritone:

Mary Szymanski

Piano

Mike Fenton
Geoff Keezer

Drums

Craig Villars
Chris Weise

The Jazz Program at The University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

UW-EC has four large Jazz Ensembles and ten Jazz Combos that perform regularly on and off campus. In order to learn jazz style and improvisation many students play in both groups. The wide range of repertoire includes historical swing, bebop, mainstream, fusion, and avant-garde. The music is chosen for pedagogical purposes as well as for providing a thorough knowledge of literature for those students who wish to pursue a professional playing career. We are also advocating jazz arranging and composition by performing original works written by students on our concert series.

Numerous artists appear as soloists with the Jazz Ensembles and present master classes and clinics for the students. This year clinicians included Dominic Spera and Rufus Reid, who were our guests at the 20th Annual Jazz Festival in March, along with many regional and local artists. These clinicians help the students learn techniques of jazz that cannot be found in a textbook and make them aware of opportunities available in areas of performance.

UW-EC hosts one of the nation's oldest and largest jazz festivals. Over 90 college and high school bands attended this year. Next year promises to be even larger with the addition of vocal jazz on Sunday and a lecture/concert by Wynton Marsalis and his ensemble on Thursday night, March 24, 1988. (Get your tickets early!) UW-EC students play a large part in the organization of this festival as well as receiving personal attention with the clinicians while they are working with our bands.

UW-EC graduates have performed with Count Basie, Maynard Ferguson, Pat Metheny, Lyle Mays, Paul Anka and Andy Williams among others. Other students have pursued employment in touring companies and Broadway pit orchestras. Many students have pursued professional careers in cities such as New York and Los Angeles as arrangers and free lance musicians.

Overall, students have profited as music teachers from taking advantage of the wide variety of quality instruction in the jazz program and other music areas at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.

All concerts and recitals are recorded. Please respect the need for silence during all concerts. Coughing, careless handling of programs and papers, and electronic watches or beepers are a serious distraction to performers and audience. The use of cameras or recording equipment cannot be permitted.