

University of Maryland School of Music Presents  
**JAZZ COMBOS CONCERTS**  
**UMD Jazz**



Wednesday, November 6, 2024 • 7:30PM  
Thursday, November 7, 2024 • 7:30PM

LEAH M. SMITH HALL  
AT THE CLARICE SMITH PERFORMING ARTS CENTER



**SCHOOL OF  
MUSIC**

University of Maryland School of Music  
Presents

## JAZZ COMBOS CONCERT, PART 1

Wednesday, November 6, 2024 • 7:30PM

### UMD JAZZ COMBOS

Mark Williams, Director of Jazz Studies

#### The Leigh Pilzer Combo

<i>The Back Beat</i> .....	Horace Silver
<i>Silver's Serenade</i> .....	Silver
<i>Filthy McNasty</i> .....	Silver
<i>Monkeyin' Around With Monk</i> .....	Silver
<i>The Preacher</i> .....	Silver

This program features the music of pianist and composer Horace Silver (1928–2014), one of the most significant musicians of the hard bop era. After co-founding the Jazz Messengers with drummer Art Blakey, Silver formed his own iconic quintet. He was a prolific composer whose finely crafted arrangements included composed figures for piano, bass and drums supporting harmonized and contrapuntal horn textures, giving his quintet a full, rich sound.

**The Tom Baldwin Combo**

<i>Jordu</i> .....	Duke Jordan Arr. Michael Philip Mossman
<i>Repetition</i> .....	Neal Hefti Arr. Steve Brown
<i>Yearnin'</i> .....	Oliver Nelson Arr. Tim Whalen
<i>Have You Met Miss Jones?</i> .....	Richard Rodgers Arr. Michael Philip Mossman
<i>Oleo</i> .....	Sonny Rollins Arr. Tom Baldwin

**UMD Graduate Fellowship Jazz Combo**

<i>Updown</i> .....	Deante Haggerty-Willis
<i>Notice Me, Lotus</i> .....	Rohan Gabay
<i>Word</i> .....	Katriyon Lejybran Jevante McKie
<i>Bryan's Tune</i> .....	Bryan Mills

This program features all original compositions by the acclaimed inaugural Graduate Fellowship Jazz Combo of The University of Maryland School of Music. Renowned as the premier jazz combo at UMD, this group is dedicated to fostering community connections and pursuing the pinnacle of musical artistry.

**LEIGH PILZER** is a Washington, D.C.-based saxophonist, arranger and educator. She has toured extensively as a member of both the Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Orchestra and The DIVA Jazz Orchestra and often performs with the National Symphony Orchestra in concert at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and on the orchestra's nationally televised PBS holiday specials. She is also a bandleader, fronting the Leigh Pilzer Startet, her all-star quartet/quintet; organ group Leigh Pilzer's Low Standards; and her latest project, Leigh Pilzer's Seven Pointed Star. Pilzer has presented her groups to enthusiastic audience response at top venues including Blues Alley, Keystone Korner, the DC Jazz Festival, the National Gallery of Art Sculpture Garden and the Atlas Performing Arts Center, to name a few.

Pilzer is a gifted composer and arranger whose work is included in the libraries of the SJMO and DIVA as well as military, college and professional jazz ensembles throughout the country. DIVA has recorded a number of Pilzer's arrangements, including her original composition "East Coast Andy," the opening track on *The DIVA Jazz Orchestra 25th Anniversary Project*. Pilzer's recent release *Beatin' the Odds*, awarded three and a half stars by DownBeat, features her seven-piece band playing her original compositions and arrangements. All About Jazz deemed it "handsomely written straight-ahead contemporary jazz, ardently performed."

Pilzer holds a doctorate from George Mason University, two master's degrees from the University of Maryland, College Park and a bachelor's degree from the Berklee College of Music. She has served on faculty at the University of Maryland, Towson University and George Mason University, teaching Jazz Theory; Jazz Arranging; Jazz History; and Fundamentals of Rock, Blues and Jazz. She also is an in-demand guest clinician, conductor and presenter.

Jazz bassist, educator and composer **TOM BALDWIN** has been one of the most in-demand musicians in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area for 30 years. Baldwin has taught at the University of Maryland since 1996, and appears on over 50 CDs as a side man. He has been lauded for his "impeccable intonation and accuracy" (Vic Juris), "incredible beat" ("Tootie" Heath), "superb musical instincts" and "phenomenal consistency" (A.J. Collins).

Baldwin earned a bachelor of music degree in jazz studies at Ithaca College before returning to his hometown of Baltimore. In 1995, he won second place in the prestigious Thelonious Monk International Bass Competition. Since then, Baldwin has performed and recorded with scores of top jazz artists. A partial list includes instrumentalists Eric Alexander, Peter Beets, Gene Bertoncini, Marc Copland, Stanley Cowell, George Garzone, Tootie Heath, Fred Hersch, Tim Hagans, Roger Humphries, Lee Konitz, Harold Mabern, James Moody, Walt Weiskopf and James Williams, as well as vocalists Anne Hampton Calloway, Michael Feinstein, Eartha Kitt, Stacey Kent, Bernadette Peters and Kenny Rankin.

Some of Baldwin's more notable recordings include his self-produced "Glom On To This," which features all original compositions and arrangements. Steve Herberman's "Ideals" from 2009 resided on the Jazzweek national airplay chart for 28 weeks and peaked at number 10. Tony Martucci's "Life In Hand," with pianist Marc Copland, features three of Tom's compositions and was voted by the Washington Post among the best of 2011. Two more Baldwin originals appear on 2014's "Angel Eyes" by the Grammy winning Afro Bop Alliance. More recently, a series of performances with Dutch pianist Peter Beets culminated with the 2019 release "Our Love Is Here To Stay" and a tour of Holland.

Baldwin teaches jazz bass and coaches jazz combos at the University of Maryland, College Park where his arrangements are often performed by his student groups. He is also a frequent faculty member at Maryland Summer Jazz camps, and a clinician/adjudicator for regional festivals and workshops.

**THE LEIGH PILZER COMBO**

Isaac Canel, tenor saxophone  
Ashley Hsu, clarinet  
Landon Stone, trumpet  
Owen McWilliams, guitar  
Aaron Jung, piano  
Evan Nowaskey, bass  
Étienne Meléndez-Santiago, drums

**THE TOM BALDWIN COMBO**

Evan Hancock, trumpet  
Andrew Hong, alto saxophone  
Tycho Stephenson, baritone saxophone  
Andy Lingenfelter, guitar  
Will Morgan, guitar  
Kelly Perez, bass  
Katriyon Lejybran Jevante Mekie, drums

**UMD GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP JAZZ COMBO**

Bryan Mills, tenor saxophone  
Deante Haggerty-Willis, guitar  
Rohan Gabay, bass  
Katriyon Lejybran Jevante McKie, drums

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Presents

## JAZZ COMBOS CONCERT, PART 2

Thursday, November 7, 2024 • 7:30PM

### UMD JAZZ COMBOS

Mark Williams, Director of Jazz Studies

#### The Liam Hurlbut Combo

*I Mean You* ..... Thelonious Monk

*Catavento* ..... Milton Nascimento

*Mo' Joe* ..... Joe Henderson

*A Night In Tunisia* ..... Dizzy Gillespie

#### The Gerry Kunkel Combo

*Music from post-WWII to the '60s: A time of peace, freedom and awakening.*

*Four Brothers* ..... Jimmy Giuffre

*Peri's Scope* ..... Bill Evans

*Jinriksha* ..... Joe Henderson

*Emily* ..... Johnny Mandel  
Johnny Mercer

*Conception* ..... George Shearing

*Freedom Jazz Dance* ..... Eddie Harris

**LIAM HURLBUT** is a saxophonist, composer-improviser and educator. For the past 10 years, he has worked as a freelancer and bandleader based in Baltimore. There, he had the foundational experience of participating in the improvisation collective Out of Your Head, through which he had the opportunity to meet and work with some of the most creative musicians in the city.

In addition to his work as an in-demand freelancer, Hurlbut led the free-jazz fusion band Ephemera Quartet, which performed his original works at many venues in Baltimore and released an EP entitled “Energy Music” in 2018. In 2016, he co-lead the free-jazz fusion unit Time Toss, with whom he also performed original works and toured. Recently, through a grant from Arts for All, he recorded an album with a new sextet dedicated to the music of Duke Ellington, Thelonious Monk and John Coltrane, which is planned for release in early 2025.

As an educator, he has primarily taught private lessons to saxophone and clarinet students and taught group classes for these instruments at the Park School of Baltimore.

He holds a bachelor of music from Towson University and is currently pursuing a master’s degree in jazz studies at the University of Maryland, College Park.

**GERRY KUNKEL** is known for his versatility as a guitarist and has performed extensively in the jazz, contemporary and classical music fields. His performance credits include performances with Aretha Franklin, Audra MacDonald, Joshua Bell, the Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Orchestra, Seth MacFarlane, Jessye Norman, the National Symphony Orchestra, Boys II Men, Diane Reeves, Clark Terry, Ron Carter, Patrice Rushen, Joss Stone, Grover Washington, Jason Alexander, Martina McBride, the Kennedy Center Opera House Orchestra, the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Terrell Stafford, Terri-Lynn Carrington, Frank Wes, David “Fathead” Newman, Bernadette Peters, Mike Crotty, Harold Jones, Eric Reed, Natural Bridge, the Chris Vadala Quintet and many others.

His theater credits include *Footloose* and the world premiere of *The Watsons Go To Birmingham* – 1963 at the Kennedy Center; *Fun Home* at Baltimore Center Stage; *Newsies* and *Anything Goes* at Arena Stage; *Cabaret* at Olney Theatre Center; *Timon of Athens*, *Man of La Mancha* and *Kiss Me Kate* at Shakespeare Theatre; *Showboat* at the Kennedy Center with the Washington Opera; *Ragtime* at the Kennedy Center and Ford’s Theatre; *Mamma Mia*, *West Side Story* and *Chicago* at Wolf Trap and the National Theatre; *42nd Street* and *Spamalot* at the National Theatre; *Spring Awakening* at Round House Theatre; *The Full Monty*, *Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Chita Rivera*, *All That Jazz*, *Chess*, the world premiere of the musical *Beaches* at Signature Theatre in Virginia; *Spin*, *Tracie Olivera*, *I am Nova*, *Sunset Boulevard*, and many others. He shares all of this experience with his students to prepare them for a life filled with music.

**THE LIAM HURLBUT COMBO**

Elijah Doyle, trumpet  
Joshua Griffin, tenor saxophone  
Ashley Baker, tenor saxophone  
Joseph Bayote, tenor saxophone  
Ufondu Obianuka, bass trombone  
Jeremiah Awoseye, piano  
Aadhitya Ashok, piano  
Jaehong Ahn, guitar  
Henry Sheppard, bass  
Zachary Dupont, drums

**THE GERRY KUNKEL COMBO**

Liam Hurlbut, saxophones  
Graham Gleockler, alto saxophone  
William Hammon, tenor saxophone  
Hobbs Pincus-Miller, piano  
Henry Sheppard, guitar  
Carter Falkenstein, acoustic bass  
William Valdes, drums