Jazz Guitar Ensemble

Guitar
Jarret Myers
René Hagedorn
Marlow Valentin
Sean Carbone
Charles Jaeger
Julian Maynard
Brian Helsten
Ryan Rufo
Ryne Weir

Bass
Breit Miller

Drums
Carl Collison

Latin Jazz Ensemble

Trumpet
Hazen Mayo

Trombone
Nick Veslany
Max Acree

Saxophone
Juan Carlos Mata-Alvarez

Piano
Uli Geissendorfer
Halsey Harkins

Percussion
Daniel Alameda
Austin Pooley

Bass
R.J. Reyes

Drums
Gyasi Greer
Latin Jazz Ensemble

Egberto Gismonti (b. 1947)
arr. by Daniel Alameda

Ray Barretto
(1929–2006)

Michel Camilo (b. 1954)
arr. by Daniel Alameda

Carlos Mata-Alvarez (b. 1998)

Uli Geissendorfer (b. 1940)

Loro

Indestructible

Caribe

Holst

The Extension

Uli Geissendorfer

Pianist and composer Uli Geissendorfer is a very creative and outstanding musician. Originally from Munich, Germany, Geissendorfer’s life long musical journey contains a central theme of exploring rhythms and melodies across many styles of music, with a special emphasis on World, Jazz and improvisation. Uli’s deep understanding of various musical styles is demonstrated by the various musicians he has worked with: William Cepeda (awarded a Grammy nomination), Groove Collective, Giovanni Hidalgo, Tito Puente, Blood Sweat & Tears, Leslie Uggams, Cirque du Soleil, Kofo the Wonderman and Ute Lemper.

Uli’s current projects, also diverse in style and texture, include: Colors (a World Jazz Quintet), with their debut CD entitled, Colors, featuring Pascale Elia. The Beregovsky Project, a duo with violin virtuoso Alicia Svigals. Bangalore Breakdown, and an Indian World Jazz project featuring Premik Russell Tubbs. Premik and Uli just finished recording a Duo CD entitled Passport, which is due out in September. Uli has previously released two albums as a leader: The Extension and Transformation 9/11 (on the Carramba d’Oro label). The Extension features some of New York’s finest Latin Jazz artists and Transformation 9/11 is a highly emotional, completely improvised solo piano CD dealing with events and emotions of September 11.

As film composer, Uli has collaborated with Emmy nominated composer Steve Sandberg for the critically acclaimed short film, “Climbing Miss Sophie,” winner of the NYU film festival 2002, along with an invitation to Sundance Film Festival and Cannes Film Festival among other prestigious festivals worldwide. Bill Plympton’s new “Idiots and Angels” features three works of Uli’s and Nicole Renaud’s. Uli was awarded best sound design at the 48 hour film festival earlier this year and one of his and Nicole’s songs, “Red,” made it to the short list for the Oscars.

About the UNLV Jazz Studies Program

The UNLV Jazz Studies Program has been active for more than 40 years. The Jazz Studies Program offers degrees in instrumental or vocal jazz performance and composition at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Currently, the UNLV Jazz Studies Program has three big bands and several combos including the Contemporary and Latin jazz ensembles. Since its inception, the jazz program has received outstanding reviews from critics including a five-star rating from the premier jazz publication, Downbeat Magazine.

UNLV Jazz Ensemble I performed recently at the prestigious Midwest Clinic in Chicago and won “outstanding performance” in the graduate division of the Student Music Awards from a leading jazz industry publication, Downbeat Magazine. UNLV Jazz Studies students were also recognized as outstanding soloists at the Reno and Monterey Next Generation Jazz Festivals.

With over 20 recordings to its credit, the UNLV Jazz Ensemble has performed across the United States and abroad at such venues as the Hawaii International Jazz Festival, Telluride Jazz Festival, the Kennedy Center, the Village Vanguard and Monterey Next Generation Jazz Festival.

Acknowledgements

Las Vegas Master Singers, Neal Smatresk, UNLV President; Jeff Koep, Dean of the College of Fine Arts; Dean Gronemeier, Acting Dean of the College of Fine Arts; Jonathan Good, Department of Music Chair; The UNLV Performing Arts Center Staff, The UNLV Music Faculty, The UNLV Jazz Studies Faculty, The UNLV Foundation, The Liberace Foundation, The Patterson Foundation, The Joe Williams Every Day Foundation, The Jake Garcheime Jazz Scholarship Fund, The Isabelle Emerson Jazz Scholarship Fund, The Jay Morrison Jazz Scholarship Fund, The William and Carol McLeod Scholarship Fund, The UNLV Jazz Studies Advisory Board, The UNLV Recording Studio, Ken Hanlon, Virko Baley, TNC Recordings, and the Clark County Library District.