

# UNLV

**Department of Music**  
**College of Fine Arts**

presents

*An Afternoon of Jazz in celebration of Black History Month*  
*featuring Don and Alicia Cunningham and Carmen Woodruff*

## **UNLV Jazz Ensemble I**

Directed by Dave Loeb and Nathan Tanouye

### **PROGRAM**

*Selections will be chosen from the following:*

Marks/Simon  
(1900 – 1997/1896 – 1949)

All Of Me  
Arr. Billy Byers

Lerner/Loewe  
(1918 – 1986/1901 – 1988)

Almost Like Being In Love  
Arr. Don Sebesky

Fred Stride  
(b. 1953)

Among The Pyramids

Thelonious Monk  
(1917 – 1982)

Straight No Chaser  
Arr. John LaBarbera

Duke Ellington  
(1899 – 1974)

Cotton Tail

Duke Ellington  
(1899 – 1974)

Flying Home

Russ Freeman  
(1926 – 2002)

Music Is Forever  
Arr. Nathan Tanouye

Ellington/Russel  
(1899 – 1974/1914 – 1970)

Don't Get Around Much Anymore  
Arr. John Clayton

**Sunday, February 13, 2010**

**2:00 p.m.**

**Black Box Theatre**  
**Performing Arts Center**  
**University of Nevada, Las Vegas**

# **UNLV Jazz Ensemble I Personnel:**

## **Saxes**

Julian Tanaka  
Ronald Homes  
Nick Tulli  
Keaton Martin  
Gizmo Hall

## **Trumpets**

Joel Gibson  
Kevin Early  
Jessie Garcia  
David Shepard  
Matt Koerner

## **Trombones**

James Nelson  
Nate Kimball  
Nick Veslany  
Paul Munger

## **Guitar**

Josh Williams

## **Piano**

Otto Ehling

## **Bass**

Scott Teeple  
Nick Schmitt

## **Drums**

Paul Ringenbach  
James Abate

## David Loeb

David Loeb, Director of Jazz Studies and Associate Professor of Music, conducts jazz ensembles and is instructor of jazz piano and jazz composition. As a jazz pianist, David performed with renowned jazz artists including Freddie Hubbard, Tom Scott, Bobby Shew, Bill Watrous, Tom Harrell, Nancy Wilson, Joe Williams and Anita O' Day.

David is a successful studio keyboardist and has played for many television shows in Los Angeles including The Emmy Awards, Hill Street Blues, Quantum Leap, and Family Guy and for feature films including The Birdcage and Pocahontas. He orchestrated for George Benson and Doc Severinsen and arranged music for the Academy Awards and American Music Awards. David composed music for notable PBS television documentaries and for Dolly Parton's album, "Rainbow".

David performed as principal keyboardist with The Hollywood Bowl Orchestra and accompanied several musical artists including Andrea Bocelli, Garth Brooks, Celine Dion, Bette Midler, Quincy Jones, Jewell, Herbie Hancock, Placido Domingo, David Foster, Diana Ross and Jessye Norman. He was guest conductor with The Philadelphia Orchestra for Dee Dee Bridgewater and the National Symphony Orchestra as Musical Director for Ben Vereen.

UNLV Jazz Studies, under David's direction, received numerous distinguished honors and achieved national recognition. David is in demand as a jazz adjudicator, served as a clinician in The International Association of Jazz Educators International Conference in New York City and performed at The Mid West Band Conference in Chicago.

Eastman School of Music (MM in Jazz Studies and Contemporary Media) Westchester University (BS in Music Education)

## Nathan Tanouye

Nathan Tanouye attended the University of Hawaii, Manoa, where he studied trombone with members of the Honolulu Symphony. He continued his education at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, where he attained a degree in both classical trombone and jazz studies.

As a freelance trombonist, he has performed with artists such as Natalie Cole, Johnny Mathis, Tony Bennett, Luciano Pavarotti, and Andrea Bocelli. In addition, Mr. Tanouye has been the principal trombonist in the Las Vegas Philharmonic since 1998 and has performed on the Las Vegas Strip in shows such as *Hairspray*, and *The Producers*. Since 2005, Mr. Tanouye has performed and recorded with Las Vegas' premier horn band, Santa Fe & The Fat City Horns, a 14-piece band for which he also writes and arranges. He currently plays with Donny & Marie Osmond at the Flamingo Hotel & Casino.

Also a prolific composer, arranger, and orchestrator, he has written and arranged works for many different sizes of ensembles, ranging from jazz trio to concert band. Since 2005, Mr. Tanouye has lead the Las Vegas Jazz Connection, a roaring 26-piece jazz orchestra which has performed numerous concerts featuring his arrangements and compositions. He and the ensemble have now released two CDs on the Peacock label entitled "Crossings" and "Remembering Russ", which feature Mr. Tanouye's arrangements of the great Russ Freeman's music. Most recently, Mr. Tanouye has done arranging and orchestration work for Bette Midler, for whom he also played trombone.

## Don and Alicia Cunningham

The Cunninghams are not only impressive musicians, they are scintillating entertainers. Whether they are performing in night clubs, recording or appearing in concert, they mesmerize their audiences with poignant ballads, intricate scatting and electrifying improvisation of original and classic jazz compositions. Born in St. Louis, Missouri Don Cunningham spent his youth studying alto saxophone and mastering percussive instruments. He played saxophone and clarinet in the 63rd Army Band and was Johnny Mathis' percussionist for 7 years. He also played with Count Basie's band. After moving to Los Angeles in 1969, Don decided he wanted to sing more. He accomplished this by forming his own group. Alicia Cunningham, a native of Los Angeles, California was an operatic contralto before switching to jazz singing. She plays piano and organ and orchestrates as well as conducts. The Cunninghams' abilities have earned them praise around the world. Their credits are too numerous to mention. They recorded five albums, one of which won them a Grammy nomination in 1988 for the song "I Remember Bird" from the album "Strings N' Swing".

## **Carmen Woodruff**

Carmen Woodruff joins the UNLV music program after working for nearly a decade as a communications professional. She earned her first BA degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and aspires to pursue a master's degree in Jazz Studies. Hailing from the Detroit metropolitan area, Carmen started singing with jazz ensembles at the age of eleven, continuing throughout high school and college, where she was featured in a Busch Gardens big band show. Accolades include recognition from the International Association of Jazz Educators (IAJE) as the two-time "Teal Jazz Vocalist of the Year" and the "Woody Herman Jazz Performance" award. Mentors and instructors include Sunny Wilkinson, Ursula Walker, Marion Hayden, Jo Belle Yonely, Marlane Coker and Motown's Martha Reeves. Carmen has performed many genres of music around the nation and internationally in Europe and South Africa. Recording credits include corporate jingles and Detroit-based saxophonist Randy Scott's "FUTURE" album. Carmen is honored to be a part of UNLV's award-winning Jazz Studies program and strives to continue spreading the positive, universal language of music.

### **About the UNLV Jazz Studies Program**

The UNLV Jazz Studies Program has been active for more than 20 years.

Today, 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 Contemporary and Latin ensembles. Since its inception, the jazz program has nothing but outstanding reviews from critics including a five-star rating from the premier jazz publication, *Downbeat Magazine*.

Recently, UNLV Jazz Ensemble I was a finalist at the *Monterey Next Generation Jazz Festival* and won "outstanding performance" in the graduate division of the Student Music Awards from *Downbeat Magazine*. UNLV Jazz Studies students were also recognized as outstanding soloists at the Reno and *Monterey Next Generation Jazz Festivals* this past spring.

With over 15 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, and the Village Vanguard.

### **Acknowledgements**

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