

# **Ensemble and Guest Artist Concert:**

2010-04-09 – Johnson County Landmark and Jimmy Greene, soprano and tenor saxophones



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# **Ensemble**Concert

8:00 p.m. Friday, April 9, 2010 The Englert Theatre

"An Evening of Ellington"

Johnson County Landmark
John Rapson, director

Special guest:
Jimmy Greene, soprano & tenor saxophones



John Rapson, JCL director Jimmy Greene, soprano & tenor saxophones April 9, 2010, 8:00 p.m. THE ENGLERT THEATRE

## PROGRAM

# "An Evening of Ellington"

soloists: Alex Krawczyk, Nick Burnham, Jared Fowler

Mood Indigo

Ellington, Mills & Brigard

arr. Billy Strayhorn and Duke Ellington
soloists: Marcelo Kuyumjian, Ryan Smith, Jimmy Greene, Eric Jesteadt

Perdido

Lengsfelder, Drake and Tizol
arr. Duke Ellington

soloists: Steve Hanson, Brent Tunis, Jimmy Greene

# INTERMISSION

Harlem Airshaft Duke Ellington

soloists: Geoff Wood, Cody Maranell

Rhapsody in Blue George Gershwin arr. Billy Strayhorn

soloists: James Skretta, Geoff Wood, Marcelo Kuyumjian, Scott Ruebush, Cody Maranell

Mission Statement Jimmy Greene

Jimmy Greene & the rhythm section

Jeep's Blues Johnny Hodges

soloists: Nathan Bogert, Jimmy Greene

Diminuendo and Crescendo in Blue

Duke Ellington

soloists: Marcelo Kuyumjian, James Skretta Jimmy Greene, Cassius Goens, Nate Bogert, Brent Sandy

## **BIOGRAPHIES**



JIMMY GREENE. Saxophonist, composer, and bandleader Jimmy Greene established his presence as a positive force in the creative music world with his recording Mission Statement. His solo recordings, True Life Stories (Criss Cross), Forever (Criss Cross), Brand New World (RCA Victor), Introducing Jimmy Greene (Criss Cross), The Overcomers' Suite (NuJazz), and Gifts and Givers (Criss Cross) have also met with critical acclaim. Tony Hall of Jazzwise magazine calls Greene "...without doubt one of the most striking young tenors of recent years." Hailing from Hartford, Connecticut, Greene came under the mentorship of Jackie MacLean as a high school student and was selected to the 1993 Grammy All-American High School Jazz Band, conducted by Branford Marsalis.

Greene was named First Runner-up at the 1996 Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz International Jazz Saxophone Competition by a panel of judges that included Wayne Shorter, Jimmy Heath, Joe Lovano, Jackie McLean, and Joshua Redman. In September 1997, he moved to New York City, after becoming a member of the Horace Silver Quintet. Greene has since performed with Tom Harrell, Freddie Hubbard, Claudio Roditi, Steve Turre, Lewis Nash, Avishai Cohen, Claudia Acuña, Kenny Barron, Jeremy Pelt, Chick Corea and Ralph Peterson, as well as the Carnegie Hall Jazz Band, New Jazz Composers' Octet, and the big bands of Harry Connick, Jr., Jason Lindner and Kendrick Oliver.

Recently, Greene, the composer, was honored by Chamber Music America as a winner of its New Works: Creation and Presentation Grant Program, a component of the Doris Duke Jazz Ensembles Project, and was commissioned to compose and perform a new work for the Jimmy Greene Quartet. The resulting suite, *Overcomers*, was debuted in New York during the quartet's January 2006 engagement at the Village Vanguard. Greene also won the prestigious ASCAP / IAJE Commission in honor of Ornette Coleman, and performed the resulting piece, *Anthem of Hope*, with Mr. Coleman in attendance, at the opening general session of the 2006 IAJE Conference in New York. Greene was also awarded a 2005 Artist Fellowship in Music Composition by the Connecticut Commission on the Arts.

"... the erudite yet singular sax sound of a jazzman on a mission ... Jimmy Greene has composed a spate of originals that we will have to reckon with as the jazz idiom unfolds now and in years to come. Greene delivers his jazz in an educated, intellectual, and in certainly a literate and learned style."

Review of Mission Statement in Night Life Exchange by: George Carroll

"Mission Statement is 34-year-old Jimmy Greene's seventh offering as leader. That in itself is remarkable, but Greene — a former student of Jackie McLean and collaborator with such luminaries as Horace Silver, Tom Harrell, Avishai Cohen, and Freddie Hubbard — also displays formidable performing and composing skills, resulting in a CD of rare quality."

Review of Mission Statement in Sound Stage by: Bob Strain

(Biographies cont. on back)



JOHN RAPSON is a composer, trombonist and recording artist for MoMu Records, Music and Arts, Sound Aspects and Nine Winds whose work mixes ethnic and experimental elements with more conventional jazz forms. Jazz historian Mark Gridley has characterized Rapson's music as "extending several trends that were first demonstrated by Charles Mingus and George Russell." He has been professor of music at The University of Iowa since 1993, where he has collaborated on projects with Billy Higgins, Anthony Braxton, Kenny Wheeler, Carla Bley, Steve Swallow, Bennie Wallace, Rafael dos Santos, Matt Wilson, Anthony Cox, Mike Lee, Charlie Kohlhase, The Either/Orchestra, David Berkman and Bobby Watson.

Mr. Rapson has written over 100 jazz compositions and recorded 21 albums, ten of which are under his own leadership and feature his compositions. In 2002, he won first prize in the Julius Hemphill Competition sponsored by the Jazz Composers Alliance for *Riff Bass Bridge Head*, from the album "Daydreams from the Prairie." He has received critical acclaim for two recent albums, "Dances and Orations" with Anthony Braxton and "Water and Blood" with Billy Higgins, which feature new compositions built from the free improvisations of jazz masters. He is currently working on a similar project with Brazilian musicians Vinicius Dorin and Nene Lima.

In 1995, Mr. Rapson was commissioned by AT&T to compose *Sound Luminesce*, a jazz suite that united musicians in Iowa and Japan via fibre optic technology in the first ever trans-pacific "live" performance. Rapson has also taught at Westmont College in Santa Barbara, California (1980–90) and at Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut (1992–93). His concerts and recordings on the west coast include sessions with John Carter, Vinny Golia, Kim Richmond, Bruce Fowler, Clay Jenkins and Alex Cline. His collaborations while in the east included performances or recordings with Julius Hemphill, David Murray, Bill Frisell, Tim Berne, Doc Cheatham, Ed Blackwell, Jay Hoggard, Walter Thompson and Allen Lowe.

# Johnson County Landmark

Saxophones

Nathan Bogert, *lead alto* Ryan Smith, *alto* Scott Ruebush, *lead tenor* Cody Maranell, *tenor & clarinet* James Skretta, *baritone* 

**Trombones** 

Eric Jedsteadt, *lead*Nick Burnham
Alex Krawczyk
Brandon Bowkowski, *bass* 

Trumpets

Brent Sandy, lead Geoff Wood Steve Hanson Brent Tunis

**Rhythm Section** 

Marcelo Kuyumjian, *piano* Jared Fowler, *bass* Cassius Goens, *drums* 

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