

Ensemble and Guest Artist Concert:

2021-11-13 – UI Chamber Jazz Ensembles and Christie Dashiell, vocalist



Audio Playlist



Video Playlist

Access to audio and video playlists restricted to current faculty, staff, and students.
If you have questions, please contact the Rita Benton Music Library at mus-lib@uiowa.edu.

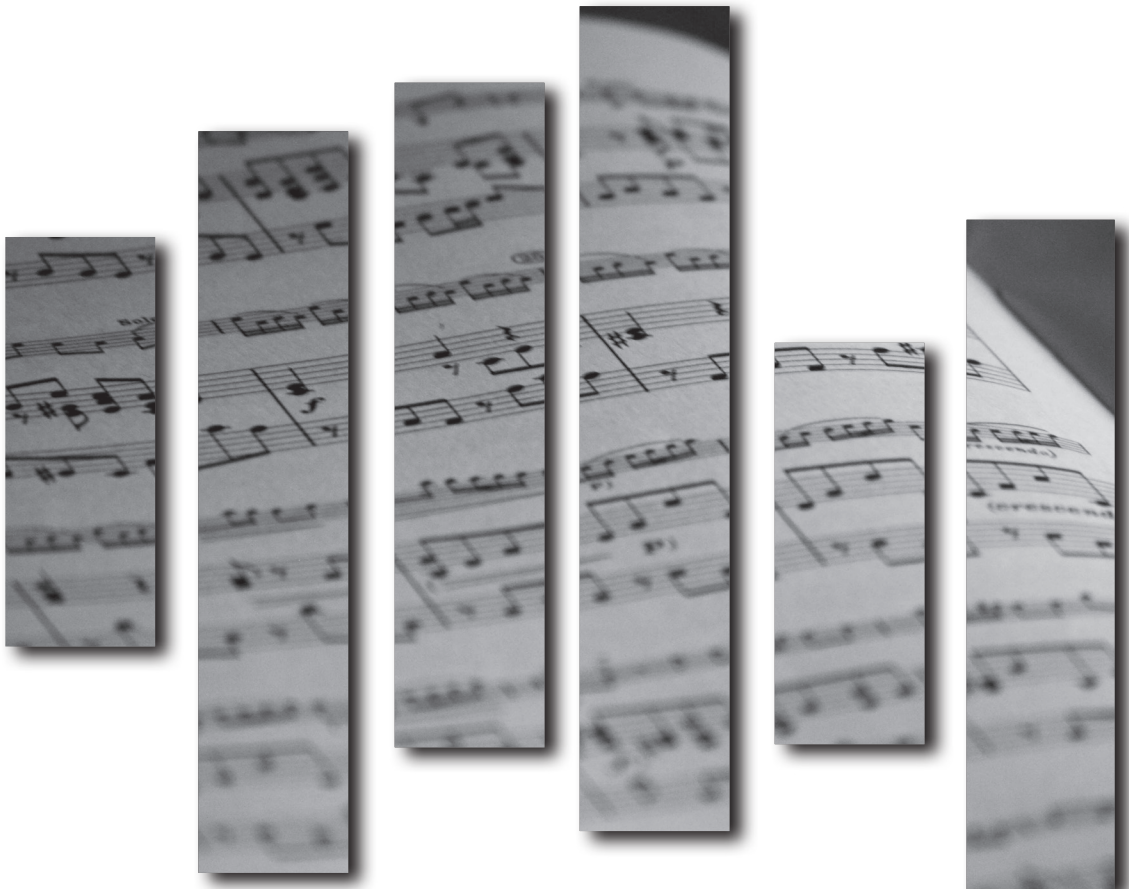


Scroll to see Program PDF



IOWA

School of Music



ENSEMBLE CONCERT

UI Chamber Jazz Ensembles

featuring vocalist Christie Dashiell

Curtis Taylor, *Black Combo* director

Dr. William Menefield, *Grad Combo* director

Saturday, November 13, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.
Voxman Music Building Recital Hall

UI Chamber Jazz Ensembles **featuring vocalist Christie Dashiell**

Curtis Taylor, *Black Combo director*
Dr. William Menefield, *Grad Combo director*

PROGRAM

Contemplation	McCoy Tyner (1938–2020) arr. Curtis Taylor (b.1985)
The Kicker	Joe Henderson (1937–2001)
Dreamland	Christie Dashiell (b. 1988) arr. by Christie Dashiell (b. 1988) and Dr. William Menefield (b. 1980)
I Can't Get Started	Vernon Duke (1903–1969) arr. Christie Dashiell (b. 1988) and Dr. William Menefield (b. 1980)
Thinking of You	Christie Dashiell (b. 1988) arr. Curtis Taylor (b.1985)
Caravan	Juan Tizol (1900–1984) arr. Curtis Taylor (b.1985)

BIOGRAPHIES



Christie Dashiell. With her sultry soulful flare and cutting edge compositions, D.C. - based vocalist Christie Dashiell has become one of the most sought-after artists on the scene today. Born in Washington, D.C. and raised in Greenville, North Carolina, Dashiell is a graduate of Howard University and the Manhattan School of Music. As a member of Afro-Blue, Howard's premier vocal jazz ensemble, Dashiell appeared on NBC's *The Sing Off*. She has twice received recognition in DownBeat Magazine's Student Music Awards as Outstanding Soloist and Best Vocalist in the Graduate College division and was selected as a semifinalist in the 2015 Thelonious Monk Institute International Vocals Competition. In 2016, Dashiell and her quartet released their debut solo album, *Time All Mine*, debuting on Billboard's Jazz Album and Contemporary Jazz Album Charts at numbers

thirteen (13) and twenty-two (22), in addition to JazzTimes' Top 50 Writer's Ballots, Critics' Poll. Currently she travels with her band and works with world-renowned pianist Helen Sung, Marcus Strickland and Twi-Life, and Grammy Award-winning vocal ensemble Sweet Honey in the Rock. She has appeared as a featured artist on Blue Note Record's, *Supreme Sonacy, Vol. 1*, Marquis Hill's, *The Way We Play*, and most recently Wynton Marsalis' new work "The Ever Fonky Lowdown" with Wynton Marsalis and The Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra. She has been seen in concert on various national and international stages including Jazz at Lincoln Center Shanghai, The Baku Jazz Festival, and Bunkamura Orchard Hall in Tokyo. Dashiell is on faculty at Temple University, Howard University and The University of the District of Columbia.



Curtis Taylor is an award-winning trumpeter, performer, composer, recording artist and educator. Taylor holds a B.A. in jazz studies from Michigan State University and a master's from Rutgers University.

Taylor has performed and toured internationally with some of the industry's biggest names including Patrice Rushen, Charles McPherson, Billy Childs, John Clayton, Geoffrey Keezer, Terreon Gully and many more. Most notable performances and recordings include collaborations with virtuosic saxophonist James Carter, soulful jazz pianist Cyrus Chestnut and vocal powerhouse Gregory Porter. Taylor was part of the musical team (assembled by Gregory Porter's producer Kamau Kenyatta) that won the Grammy award for Porter's

Liquid Spirit album released on Blue Note Records in 2013. He has released two albums of his own: *#Hashtagged* (2017) which features produced tracks with live instrumentation and vocals and *Snapshot* (2019) which was recorded live with his quartet at the World Stage in Los Angeles, CA. As a performer, he has performed with his quartet across the US at many coveted venues & festivals. Recent significant performances include: Font Festival, Detroit Jazz Festival, LACMA, Bechtler Museum of Modern Art and the Blue Llama Jazz Club.

In the fall of 2021 Taylor became the newest addition to the University of Iowa's jazz department where he currently teaches jazz history, jazz theory and directs the Jazz Repertory Ensemble.



Dr. William Menefield, an active performer and composer, is assistant professor of jazz studies. His eclectic sound of jazz, R&B, soul, and classical, draws the audience in with each note, in every song, at all performances. The Cincinnati native flawlessly and creatively blends the influences of Stevie Wonder with Beethoven and Kenny Kirkland with Bach. He is seen as "a leader whose playing is nothing short of breathtaking." (*CityBeat*) His distinctive style creates a sound that is uniquely robust and smooth.

William began his professional jazz piano career at age twelve and released his first album, *Big Will Leaps In* (1999) with J-Curve Records, right out of high school. On this debut album, his "original

pieces stand out...because they are intelligently crafted and flow with...lyricism..." (*JazzTimes*). William's journey in music composition began early, at the age of eight, in response to his mother's removal of all televisions from their home. His passion for composing inspired him to earn music composition degrees from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (BM, 2005) and the University of Texas at Austin (DMA, 2011).



James Dreier is a drum set-Latin percussion specialist, educator, clinician, and performer. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree from Berklee College of Music (Boston, MA) and a Master of Arts degree in music theory from the University of Iowa.

As an Associate Professor of Instruction (jazz) at the University of Iowa, Dreier's duties include teaching Jazz Improvisation for Drum Set, Jazz Cultures in America and Abroad, and directing the Latin Jazz Ensemble. He also performs frequently with a variety of bands and ensembles, including Three Dogs and a Bone, The Beaker Brothers Band and his own Latin jazz band, ¡RITMOCANO! This group has produced 2 CDs, *Familia* (2014, Realtown Records) and *Iowa Friends/Cuban Music* (2020, self-released).

Dreier published *Latin Jazz Guide: A Path to Authentic Percussion and Ensemble Performance* (Hal Leonard Corp.) in October 2015. His second book, *Standard Tune Learning Sequence: A Musical Approach to Improvisation for Jazz Drummers* (Kindle Direct Publishing), is being released in September of 2021.

James Dreier is an educational artist for Sabian Cymbals.

PERSONNEL

Christie Dashiell, *guest vocalist*

Curtis Taylor, *trumpet*

Dr. William Menefield, *piano/keyboard*

Jim Dreier, *drums/percussion*

Black Combo

Marvin Truong, *alto saxophone*

Jordan Granera, *tenor saxophone*

Mason O'Brien, *trumpet*

Luke Missey, *piano*

Bennett Walker, *bass*

Ethan Fung, *drums*

Grad Combo

Alex Kelsh, *alto saxophone*

Matthew White, *tenor saxophone*

Dave Thaker, *guitar*

Askar Khaetov, *bass*

Jerome Gillespie, *drums*

UPCOMING EVENTS

For the most up to date listing of concerts and recitals, please visit arts.uiowa.edu.

All events are FREE unless otherwise indicated.

View livestreamed concerts at music.uiowa.edu/livestream.

IOWA

School of Music