

Faculty, Ensemble, and Guest Ensemble Recital:

2022-05-07 – Orquesta Alto Maiz: Yesterday and Today



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.

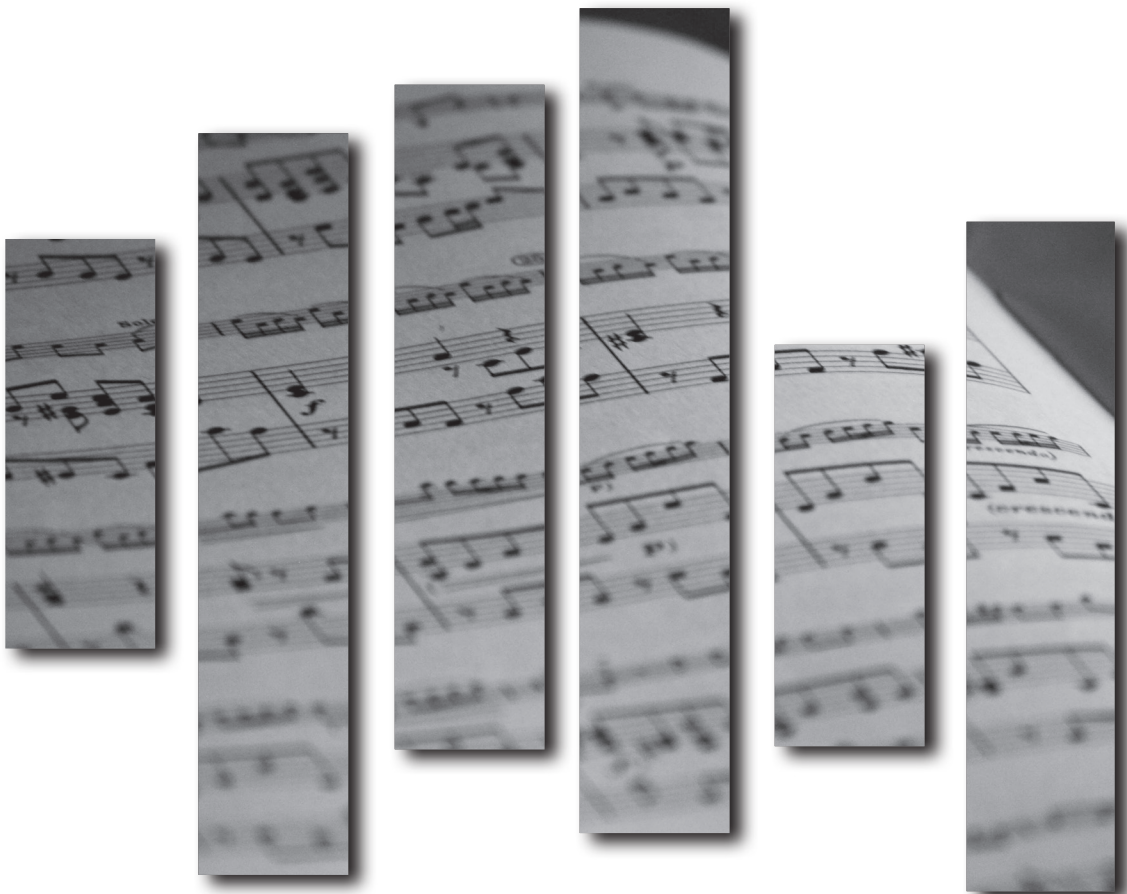


Scroll to see Program PDF



IOWA

School of Music



FACULTY RECITAL

Orquesta Alto Maiz – Yesterday and Today

This concert is dedicated to the memory and lasting legacy of Professor Ira “John” Rapson (1953 - 2021)

Saturday, May 7, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.
Voxman Music Building Concert Hall

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Professor Ira “John” Rapson (1953 - 2021)

PROGRAM

**Latin Jazz Ensemble plus former students and faculty of
the UI Afro Cuban Drum and Dance Ensemble**

Bembe Bocosó and Song for Elegua Traditional
Matanzas, Cuba

Modei Akeya, Elegua dance
Matt Grundstad, lead vocal

UI Latin Jazz Ensemble
James Dreier, *director LJE*
Jerome Gillespie, *co-director*

Elegua Ago John Santos
transcr. and arr. Steve Shanley

Siete James Dreier
Steve Shanley, *guest piano*

- SHORT INTERMISSION -

Orquesta Alto Maiz Today
Edgar East, *musical director*

Tumbao Pa’ Mi Timbale Tony Martinez

Orquesta Alto Maiz Yesterday (and Today)
Robert “Umberto” Washut, *musical director*

Vamonos Pa’l Monte Eddie Palmieri
jazz mambo

Cuando Te Vea Bobby Valentine
salsa

Madrugada Robert Washut
jazz samba

Kinkamanche <i>cha cha chá</i>	Eddie Palmieri
Elena Elena <i>plena</i>	Eddie Palmieri
Ponte Duro <i>mambo</i>	Johnny Pacheco and the Fania All-Stars
Trees and Grass and Things <i>samba</i>	George Aderris arr. Jim Miller

NOTES

My "Last UI Dance" Comments

Tonight's concert in celebration of Orquesta Alto Maiz, the flagship of Latin jazz and salsa in Iowa for the last 36 years, is a fitting way for me to bring my 21 years as a UI jazz professor to an end. This band, a rotating group of friends and colleagues (only one actual Latino), was my musical laboratory to investigate the wide world of Latin music. Any benefit that my students received from this musical focus can be traced directly to what the locals called "The Salsa Band." I'm so happy that I am able to bring current and former members of the band together again tonight, some for the first time in 10 years. This was made possible by the support of the UI jazz area, School of Music DEO, Dr. Tammie Walker and the UI Arts Share program. Thank you all! But this is just the tip of the thank-you iceberg.

I do not trust myself to either hold my composure or to remember to include all those who I need to recognize from the stage tonight, not only for this concert, but for my UI teaching career. So allow me to have my "acceptance" speech moment in written word. This dance has required many partners, and I want to get this right.

In addition to those mentioned before, I want to thank:

My wife LeAnne and my entire family (who are ALL here tonight), you are my nucleus
Bill and Mary Ellen Dreier, both gifted teachers

My School of Music colleagues, staff and custodians, your work and passion inspires me

My students, many who are here tonight, who have taught me so much

John Rapson, who was instrumental (pun intended) in my entire musical career

All current and former members of Orquesta Alto Maiz, a true band of brothers

And the music - jazz and Latin jazz. What an honor and a pleasure to engage this deep, soulful and joyful music together

And that brings us back to this concert, which will be substantial (feel free to take a break and stretch your legs as needed). Latin music has brought us all to this place tonight, and we may never gather exactly like this again. So let's celebrate. And let's dance (if only in your seats), tonight and always. Viva la musica Latina! Viva Orquesta Alto Maiz!

Thank you.

James Dreier, *Associate Professor of Instruction, jazz*

All former students of Prof. Dreier are requested to meet at the large staircase in the Voxman lobby following the concert for a group photo.

PERSONNEL

Primary Personnel (participants and guest soloists will be announced from the stage):

Modei Akyea, Chastity Dillard, *dancers*
Dennis Green, *Master of Ceremonies* (Please show your appreciation by considering a donation to Iowa's own jazz and blues radio station, KCCK 88.3 FM. www.kcck.org)

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.

MAY

2022

09	5:00 p.m.	School of Music Community Concert in Support of Ukraine	Concert Hall
13	7:30 p.m.	Postcards from Six Continents: Courtney Miller and Alan Huckleberry	Recital Hall