

THE BUTLER UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MUSIC
presents

The MUSIC
at BUTLER
Series

**BENNY GOLSON
JAZZ FESTIVAL**

Butler University Jazz Collective

Jesse Wittman, director

Butler University Jazz Ensemble

Matt Pivec, director

Special Guest: Kenny Phelps, drums

Monday, December 9, 2024

7:30 P.M.

Schrott Center for the Arts

PROGRAM

Butler University Jazz Collective
Jesse Wittman, *director*

Whisper Not

Benny Golson (1929-2024)

Kenny Phelps, *drums*

Butler University Jazz Ensemble
Matt Pivec, *director*

Sugar Hill Penthouse

Duke Ellington (1899-1974)

Megan Dudenhoeffer, *baritone saxophone*

Kenvae Tarver, *tenor saxophone*

Almost Like Being in Love

Frederick Loewe (1901-1988)

arr. Bill Holman

Amy Yactayo, *vocals*

Connections

Patty Darling (b. 1962)

Olander Porter, *trombone*

Silas Owens, *alto saxophone*

Devon Wiley, *guitar*

Mood Indigo

Duke Ellington (1899-1974)

arr. John Clayton

Eli Osborne, *piano*

Joshua Reddick, *trombone*

Elvin Deckard, *tenor saxophone*

Pure Spirit

Steve Allee (b. 1950)

Michael Johnson, *piano*

Preston Fox, *guitar*

Aaron Wilson, *tenor saxophone*

Kenny Phelps, *drums*

Big Dipper

Thad Jones (1923-1986)

Eli Osborne, *piano*

Joseph Smith, *trombone*

Kenvae Tarver, *tenor saxophone*

Kenny Phelps, *drums*

BUTLER UNIVERSITY JAZZ COLLECTIVE

Olander Porter - Trombone

Aaron Wilson - Tenor Saxophone

Kenvae Tarver - Alto Saxophone

Preston Fox - Guitar

Lucas Samberg - Bass

Yusef Alsatie - Drums

BUTLER UNIVERSITY JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Saxophones

Alto 1 - Mia Traverse (section leader), *Senior, Music Education, Colgate, WI*

Alto 2 - Silas Owens, *Sophomore, Jazz Studies/English, Pittsburgh, PA*

Tenor 1 - Aaron Wilson, *Junior, Jazz Studies, Ossian, IN*

Tenor 2 - Kenvae Tarver, *First Year, Music Education, Indianapolis, IN*

Tenor 2 - Elvin Deckard, *Junior, Music Industry Studies, Bloomington, IN*

Baritone - Megan Dudenhoeffer, *Senior, Performance/Music Education, Greenwood, IN*

Trumpets

Noelle Engle (section leader), *Senior, Performance/Music Education, Indianapolis, IN*

Levi Denniston, *First Year, Composition, Noblesville, IN*

David Strayhorn, *Sophomore, Music Education, Indianapolis, IN*

Ashton Roman, *Senior, Music Education, Indianapolis, IN*

Amy Yactayo, *Sophomore, Jazz Studies, Indianapolis, IN*

Trombones

Joshua Reddick, *Sophomore, Performance, Lapel, IN*

Olander Porter (section leader), *Graduate, Performance, Indianapolis, IN*

Joseph Smith, *Junior, Music Education, Indianapolis, IN*

Matthew Campitelli, *Sophomore, Arts Administration, Chicago, IL*

Andrew Dorton - *Bass, Junior, Music Education, Indianapolis, IN*

Rhythm

Elvin Deckard – *Drums, Junior, Music Industry Studies, Bloomington, IN*

Santino Caringella – *Drums, Sophomore, Mechanical Engineering/Economics, Mount Prospect, IL*

Owen Gohr – *Bass, First Year, Performance, Libertyville, IL*

Lucas Samberg – *Bass, Junior, Jazz Studies, Indianapolis, IN*

Preston Fox – *Guitar (section leader), Senior, Jazz Studies, Clayton, IN*

Devon Wiley – *Guitar, Junior, Musical Arts, Indianapolis, IN*

Eli Osborne – *Piano, Sophomore, Computer Science, Indianapolis, IN*

Michael Johnson – *Piano, Junior, Performance, Terre Haute, IN*

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

BENNY GOLSON

Multitalented and internationally famous jazz legend Benny Golson – composer, arranger, lyricist, producer, and tenor saxophonist of world note – was born in Philadelphia, PA on January 25, 1929.

Raised with an impeccable musical pedigree, Golson played in the bands of world-famous Benny Goodman, Dizzy Gillespie, Lionel Hampton, Earl Bostic, and Art Blakey.

Few jazz musicians can claim to be true innovators, and even fewer can boast of a performing and recording career that literally redefined the term "jazz." Benny Golson made major contributions to the world of jazz with such jazz standards as Killer Joe, I Remember Clifford, Along Came Betty, Stablemates, Whisper Not, Blues March, Five Spot After Dark, and Are you Real? These jazz standards have found their way into countless recordings internationally over the years and are still being recorded.

He recorded over 30 albums for many recording companies in the United States and Europe under his own name, and innumerable ones with other major artists. A prodigious writer, Golson wrote well over 300 compositions.

For more than 60 years, Golson enjoyed an illustrious musical career in which he not only made scores of recordings but also composed and arranged music for Count Basie, John Coltrane, Miles Davis, Sammy Davis Jr., Mama Cass Elliott, Ella Fitzgerald, Dizzy Gillespie, Benny Goodman, Lionel Hampton, Shirley Horn, David Jones and the Monkees, Quincy Jones, Peggy Lee, Carmen McRae, Anita O'Day, Itzhak Perlman, Oscar Peterson, Lou Rawls, Mickey Rooney, Diana Ross, The Animals (Eric Burden), Mel Torme, George Shearing, and Dusty Springfield.

His prolific writing includes the scores for hit TV series and films, including M*A*S*H, Mannix, Mission Impossible, Mod Squad, Room 222, Run for Your Life, The Partridge Family, The Academy Awards, The Karen Valentine Show, television specials for ABC, CBS, and NBC, television specials for the BBC in London and Copenhagen, Denmark, the theme for Bill Cosby's last TV show, and a French film "Des Femmes Disparaissent" (Paris).

He wrote music for national radio and television spots for some of the major advertising agencies in the country. Some of these commercials were for Borateem, Canada Dry, Carnation, Chevrolet, Chrysler, Clorox, Dodge, General Telephone, Gillette, Heinz Foods, Jack in The Box, Liquid Plum'r, MacDonald's, Mattel Toys, Monsanto, Nissan, Ohrbachs, Ore-Ida Frozen Potatoes, Parliament Cigarettes, Pepsi Cola, and Texaco.

Benny Golson blazed a trail in the world of jazz, but was equally passionate about teaching jazz to young and old alike. He lectured at the Lincoln Center through a special series by Wynton Marsalis, to doctoral candidates at New York University, and to the faculty at National University at San Diego.

Honored with doctorates from Butler University, William Paterson College (Wayne, NJ), and the Berklee School of Music (Boston, MA), Dr. Golson also conducted workshops and clinics at Appalachian University, Boone, NC; Berklee School of Music, Boston, MA; Eastman School of Music, Rochester, NY; Howard University, Washington, DC; Juilliard School of Music, New York, NY; Manhattan School of Music, New York, NY; New England Conservatory; Paris Conservatory, Paris, France; Rutgers University, New Orleans, LA; Stanford University, Stanford, CA; University of Denver, Denver, CO; University of Idaho, Moscow, ID; University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA; Lawrence University Conservatory of Music, Appleton, WI; and William Paterson College, Wayne, NJ.

Golson's musical odyssey took him around the world. In 1987 he was sent by the US State Department on a cultural tour of Southeast Asia, New Zealand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Burma, and Singapore. Later, Philip Morris International sent him on an assignment to Bangkok, Thailand to write music for the Bangkok Symphony Orchestra.

Benny Golson gave hundreds of performances in the USA, Europe, South America, the Far East, and Japan for decades.

This humble musical giant impressed critics, fans, and fellow musicians with his prodigious contributions to the world of jazz. Despite his passing in 2024, his legacy will live on forever through the many lives he touched – and continues to touch.

KENNY PHELPS

Kenny Phelps cut his musical teeth in church, enlivening worship services and later touring with gospel groups as a drummer. A self-taught percussionist, Phelps developed his jazz knowledge and experience in the 1990s through the mentoring assistance of bassist Frank Smith and pianist Steve Allee.

Beginning in 2004, Phelps has been aligned with the American Piano Awards and played in the rhythm section for the Premier Series and Finals of their prestigious Jazz Awards. This early association with APA and introduction to guest performer Dee Dee Bridgewater in 2011 led to Phelps being hired to tour with Dee Dee internationally for two years.

His twenty-five years of playing experience has involved performances with Wynton Marsalis, Eartha Kitt, Michael Brecker, Slide Hampton, Wycliffe Gordon, Chuchito Valdes, and the New York Voices. Other Indianapolis and Midwest-based performers with whom Kenny has worked and recorded include the Debarge Family, Rob Dixon, Pharez Whitted, Fareed Haque, Derrick Gardner, and Melvin Rhyne. For several years, he played in a trio with Frank Smith and pianist Frank Puzzullo at a downtown Indianapolis restaurant. Starting in 2009, he was active in a family fusion band, Hananeel, with his brother, a nephew, and others.

In 2011, Kenny purchased Owl Music Group, an outgrowth of Owl Records, a local jazz label. A year later, he became Owl's CEO, turning the company into a humanitarian arts organization reaching out to young musicians and community organizations such as the Julian Center and the Wheeler Mission Ministries. The Community Outreach arm brings music to these agencies and supplements the concerts with served meals. The Night Owl Session, is devoted to enriching the lives of youth through music education, engagement, and entertainment. In collaboration with public-school systems, it provides mentoring and direction to aspiring instrumentalists and singers considering music as a career. All facets of the music industry are explained to participants, while the core emphasis is motivational. "We encourage them to jump into their passion for music," says Kenny, "but also let them know that struggle and sacrifice are needed."

JESSE WITTMAN

Jesse Wittman is a bassist, composer, educator, and recording artist based in Indianapolis, Indiana. He holds a degree in Jazz Studies from Indiana University, where he studied with David Baker and Bruce Bransby. He also holds a master's degree in Composition from Butler University, where he studied with James Aikman and Michael Schelle. He currently teaches jazz bass at Butler University, and has had the pleasure of working with great musicians around the country such as Nicole Henry, Marvin Hamlisch, Steve Houton, Anne Hampton Callaway, and trombonist Steve Davis.

MATT PIVEC

As a performer of jazz and popular music, Matt Pivec has worked with Ray Charles, Aretha Franklin, The Temptations, Dave Rivello, Bob Brookmeyer, Peter Erskine, Maria Schneider, Julia Dollison, Melvin Rhyne, the Buselli-Wallarab Jazz Orchestra, the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra, the Rochester Philharmonic Pops Orchestra, and the national touring companies of Hairspray, 42nd Street, and The Producers. As a band leader and soloist, Matt has performed at jazz festivals and venues throughout the United States. He has three albums to his credit: *Live at Snider Hall*, *Psalm Songs*, and the recently released *Time and Direction*.

Currently, Matt is the Director of Jazz Studies at Butler University where he leads the Jazz Ensemble and teaches courses in the jazz studies curriculum. Under his direction, the Butler University Jazz Ensemble was named the winner of the 2020 Downbeat Student Music Awards Undergraduate Large Ensemble category. Butler ensembles have performed with world-renowned guest artists such as Benny Golson, Stefon Harris, Maria Schneider, Kurt Elling, Christian McBride, Bobby Sanabria, Donny McCaslin, Fred Sturm, Melvin Rhyne, Steve Allee, Ted Poor, and the Wee Trio.

Matt received the Doctor of Musical Arts (Saxophone Performance and Literature) and Master of Music (Jazz Studies and Contemporary Media) degrees from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York. While at Eastman, Matt studied with Ramon Ricker. He performed with the Eastman Wind Ensemble, the Eastman Graduate Saxophone

Quartet, and served as lead alto saxophone of the Eastman Jazz Ensemble. Matt received the Bachelor of Music Education degree with honors from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.

Matt has presented educational clinics and research at the Jazz Education Network Conference, the International Association for Jazz Education Conference, the Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic, the Hong Kong Institute of Education, and the Indiana Music Educators Association Conference. His publications have been featured in Teaching Music, InForm, Jazzed, www.musicforall.org, and www.jazzradio247.com.

Matt is a member of the national music honor society, Pi Kappa Lambda, and in 2013, he received the Mortar Board Excellence in Teaching Award from the Jordan College of the Arts. In 2021, Matt received the Outstanding Collegiate Educator Award from the Indiana Music Education Association.

Aside from his teaching at Butler University, Matt is also a founding/past president of the Indiana Jazz Education Association and founder/Artistic Director for the Butler Youth Jazz Program and Butler Summer Jazz Camp. From these programs, students have progressed to study at some of the top music conservatories and colleges in the United States.

Matt is a Yamaha Artist.

BUTLER UNIVERSITY JAZZ ENSEMBLE

The award-winning Butler University Jazz Ensemble is one of eight jazz-related ensembles at Butler University. Under the direction of Dr. Matt Pivec, the band has performed with world-renowned guest artists such as Kenny Barron, Cécile McLorin-Salvant, Sullivan Fortner, John Clayton, Benny Golson, Stefon Harris, Maria Schneider, Kurt Elling, Christian McBride, Bobby Sanabria, Donny McCaslin, Fred Sturm, Robert Baca, Melvin Rhyne, Steve Allee, and Ted Poor.

In the past decade, the Butler University Jazz Ensemble has been selected to perform at several prestigious conferences including the 2023 Midwest Clinic International Band and Orchestra Conference in Chicago and the 2024 Western International Band Clinic in Seattle. The ensemble has also performed at the Indiana Music Educators Association State Conference in 2023, 2020, and 2014.

The Butler University Jazz Ensemble has been the recipient of many awards, including being honored as the winner of the 2020 Downbeat Student Music Awards Undergraduate Large Ensemble Category.

In addition to performing a variety of regular on-campus concerts, the ensemble has performed at professional venues such as the Jazz Kitchen, Indy Jazz Fest, and Jazz at the Bistro. Since 2008, the ensemble has toured to New Orleans, Memphis, Chicago, and St. Louis.

Butler University Jazz is very active in educational and outreach programs including the Benny Golson Jazz Festival, the Butler Youth Jazz Program, and the Butler Summer Jazz Camp.

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JCA LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

We gather here at Butler University on the traditional homelands of Indigenous peoples who were forcibly removed from this place. These peoples include the Myaamiaki (Miami), Lenape (Delaware), Bodewadmi (Potawatomi), Saawanwa (Shawnee), Kiiikaapoi (Kickapoo), and Peouaroua (Peoria) peoples. We honor with gratitude the land itself and the indigenous peoples past and present who have stewarded it throughout the generations. This acknowledgement calls us to commit to hearing and engaging Indigenous voices and perspectives and to being better stewards of the land we inhabit. It also calls us to action. Learn more by scanning the QR code for additional information.



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