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BUTLER UNIVERSITY JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Richard Dole, director

with special guest WYCLIFFE GORDON, trombone/composer

> Thursday, April 10, 2024 7:30 PM Schrott Center for the Arts

Program

Central City Sketches

Benny Carter (1907-2003)

Mvt. 1 & 2: Central City Blues/Hello Mvt. 4: Promenade Mvt. 5: Remember Mvt. 6: Sky Dance

Scene Taiwan Collection II: Sea Swell

Tracy Yang (b. 1988)

(Order and alterations/additions will be announced from stage)

Little Dave

J.J. Johnson (1924-2001) arr. Brent Wallarab

Wycliffe Gordon, trombone

Nature Boy

Eden Ahbez arr. Brent Wallarab Wycliffe Gordon, *trombone*

This Rhythm On My Mind

Wycliffe Gordon (b. 1967) Wycliffe Gordon, *trombone*

We're Still Here/He's Alright

Wycliffe Gordon Wycliffe Gordon, trombone

Swing That Music

Horace Gerlach/Louis Armstrong arr. Wycliffe Gordon

Wycliffe Gordon, trombone

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SAXOPHONES

Silas Owens – alto sax, clarinet (lead) Sabin Martinez – alto sax Aaron Wilson – tenor sax, flute Demico Southern – tenor sax, clarinet Megan Dudenhoeffer – bari sax, bass clarinet

TRUMPETS

David Strayhorn (lead) Vanessa Walker Amy Yactayo Tom Johnson

TROMBONES

Olander Porter (split lead) Joshua Reddick (split lead) Matthew Campitelli Joseph Smith Andrew Dorton (bass trombone)

RHYTHM

Michael Johnson – piano Donnie Bryant – flute Preston Fox – guitar Devon Wiley – guitar Lucas Samberg – bass Colin Hunt – bass Elvin Deckard – drums

THE 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 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, Ted Poor, and the Wee Trio.

In 2023, the Butler University Jazz Ensemble performed at the Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic in Chicago; in November 2024, the ensemble performed at the Western International band Clinic in Seattle. In 2020, the ensemble won the Downbeat Student Music Awards Undergraduate Large Ensemble Category. The ensemble has performed at the Indiana Music Educators Association State Conference in 2023, 2020, and 2014.

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.

Butler University is a primarily undergraduate institution located in the heart of Indianapolis, Indiana. Performing and scholarship opportunities are available to both music majors and non-majors.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

WYCLIFFE GORDON

Musical ambassador and interpreter of America's music, Wycliffe Gordon experiences an impressive career touring the world performing hard-swinging, straight-ahead jazz, receiving great acclaim from audiences and critics alike. His unmatched modern mastery of the plunger mute, and his exceptional technique and signature sound, has solidified Gordon's place in musical history as one of the top trombonists of his generation.

The critics seem to agree. Most recently, Jazz Journalists Association named him "2022 Trombonist of the Year" for the unprecedented fifteenth time, and his Downbeat Critics Poll for "Best Trombone" award count is at "six" (2020, 2018, 2016, 2014, 2013, and 2012). In 2019, Wycliffe was presented the "Sonny Award" by the Suncoast Jazz Festival for his commitment to education, and he received the coveted "Louie Award" presented by the Louis Armstrong Museum for his dedication and commitment to the music of Louis Armstrong. In 2017, he was presented with the "International Trombone Association Award," which recognizes the highest level of creative and artistic achievement. In 2015, Wycliffe was presented the *Satchmo* award from the Sarasota Jazz Club, received the *Louis Armstrong Memorial Prize* presented by the Swing Jazz Culture Foundation, and was named

Artist of the Year (2015) by the Augusta Arts Council. He is also a past recipient of the ASCAP Foundation Vanguard Award, among others.

Wycliffe Gordon tours regularly as a soloist and leading his own band headlining at legendary jazz venues, festivals, and performing arts centers throughout the world. The group represented the US on a US State Department tour to Sri Lanka where they premiered a new piece written especially for the occasion by Wycliffe for the people of Sri Lanka's 70th anniversary. Wycliffe has an extensive catalog of original compositions that span the various timbres of jazz and chamber music and is commissioned frequently. Musicians and ensembles of every caliber perform his music throughout the world, and his arrangement of the theme song to NPR's "All Things Considered" is heard daily across the globe. His show "Jazz a la Carte" was named one of the five best moments in jazz by the Wall Street Journal. Gordon is a former veteran member of the Wynton Marsalis Septet and the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra, and he has been a featured guest artist on Billy Taylor's "Jazz at the Kennedy Center" Series. He's also a member of the Jazz Cruise "Hall of Fame."

Gordon's recordings are a model of consistency and inspiration. In 2016, he released his 21st solo CD recording titled "I Give You Love"—a follow up album to his very popular "Hello Pops: A Tribute to Louis Armstrong" CD. He also released "Within These Gates of Mine," an original soundtrack and film score for the 1920's silent film "Within Our Gates" by African-American filmmaker Oscar Micheaux. His arrangements are frequently heard in film and television, including "Race" the biopic of track legend Jesse Owens, "NCIS: New Orleans," "Manhattan," and the Netflix show "White Rabbit Project."

Other releases include "Somebody New," a big band album featuring the DiMartino/Osland Jazz Orchestra; his "Hello Pops, A Tribute to Louis Armstrong" CD, and "The Intimate Ellington: Ballads and Blues," which continue to get rave reviews. His musical expertise is sought out by artists across the globe, and has been captured on numerous projects and performances with other artists including most recently with Marcus Miller and David Sanborn. Others include Wynton Marsalis, Paul Simon, Natalie Merchant, Rene Marie, Dianne Reeves, Anat Cohen, Ricky Skaggs, Arturo Sandoval, and Doc Severinsen, to name a few.

In addition to performing, composing, and recording, Gordon is one of America's most persuasive and committed music educators He serves as Director of Jazz Studies at Augusta University in Augusta, GA. In addition, he continues as *Visiting Artist in Jazz Studies* at Arizona State University in Phoenix, and will return for NYO Jazz at Carnegie Hall this coming summer.

He has published several books including "This Rhythm On My Mind" with accompanying CD released in 2012 and "Sing It First"—Wycliffe's own unique approach to playing the instrument, released in 2011. His work with young musicians and audiences from elementary schools to universities all over the world is extensive, and includes master classes, clinics, workshops, children's concerts, and lectures — powerful evidence of his unique ability to relate musically to people of all ages.

Wycliffe Gordon is a Yamaha Performing Artist and has his own line of Wycliffe Gordon Pro Signature Mouthpieces by Pickett Brass, including the "Wybrid." His musical compositions, including works for trombone ensemble and big band, are available for purchase on his website. For additional information visit www.wycliffegordon.com.

RICHARD DOLE

Richard Dole is an active tenor/bass trombonist and educator in Indianapolis and the surrounding region. He performs with several regional orchestras including Sinfonia da Camera Orchestra in Champaign/Urbana Illinois, the Illinois Symphony, Danville Symphony, Carmel Symphony, and the Anderson Symphony Orchestra. He has toured or performed with Aretha Franklin, Johnny Mathis, The Four Tops, The Temptations, Steve Lawrence/Edie Gorme, Barry Manilow, the Hollywood Concert Orchestra China tour, and in 2008 traveled with the Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Orchestra to Egypt for a US State Department Tour. He received both his Bachelor of Music degree in Trombone Performance and Master's degree in Jazz Studies from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. He has studied with legends in both the jazz and trombone world including M. Dee Stewart, Edwin Anderson, Carl Lenthe, Dominic Spera, and Dr. David N. Baker. He is currently ABD in his pursuit of the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Jazz Performance at the University of Illinois, where he is the Teaching Assistant for trombonist Jim Pugh.

He can be heard each Wednesday at 9pm on WICR 88.7 as co-host of the radio show "Have You Heard"; the podcast of the radio show is online at haveyouheardjazz.com. Mr. Dole resides in Indianapolis with his wife Stacy and their two beautiful children, Griffin and Ellington.

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), Kiikaapoi (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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