



UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER

**Eastman
School of Music**

100 YEARS | 1921-2021

Eastman Jazz Ensemble

Bill Dobbins, director

John Clayton, guest director

Byron Stripling, guest artist

Reenah Golden, guest artist

JCM faculty guests:

Clay Jenkins, Charles Pillow,

Jeff Campbell, Rich Thompson

Monday, May 2, 2022

Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre

7:30 PM

~ PROGRAM ~
Eastman Jazz Ensemble
Bill Dobbins, *director*

The Appetizer

Wade McClung, *guitar*; Rahul Shah, *tenor saxophone*

Lee Wolf*

All the Things You Are

Oliver Scott, *piano*; Gavin Gray, *bass*

Jerome Kern
Arr. Boris Ziqi Zhu*

Oluronbi

Oliver Scott, *piano*; Steven Hardy, *alto saxophone*;
Timothy Adedigba Ogunbiyi, *percussion*

Timothy Adedigba Ogunbiyi*

Introducing John Clayton

Keys Are Black and Blacks Are Key (*world premiere*)

John Clayton

Commissioned by Rick and Sue Williams, and the Howard Hanson Institute for American Music in Celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the Eastman School of Music

Reenah Golden, *poet*; Clay Jenkins, *trumpet*; Charles Pillow, *alto saxophone*
Bill Dobbins, *piano*; Jeff Campbell, *bass*
Rich Thompson, *drums*

~ INTERMISSION ~

Arbitration

Bill Holman

(Commissioned by the Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester with support provided by the Howard Hanson Institute, the Eastman School of Music Jazz Studies and Contemporary Media Department, Roland Paolucci, and Vaughn Wiester's Famous Jazz Orchestra: world premier February 11, 2016)

John Hasselback III, *trumpet*; Nick Vermilye, *tenor saxophone*

Introducing Byron Stripling

Program to be selected from:

On the Sunny Side of the Street

McHugh/Fields
Arr. John Clayton

Sunny

Bobby Hebb
Arr. David Springfield#

St. James Infirmary

Joe Primrose
Arr. Dennis Mackrel

Oo Pa Pa Da

Dizzy Gillespie
Arr. Dennis Mackrel

Legacy (*world premiere*)

Bill Dobbins

Commissioned by Rick and Sue Williams, and the Howard Hanson Institute for American Music in Celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the Eastman School of Music

Anticipation – Synergy – Gratitude – Passion – Anticipation

Steven Hardy, *alto saxophone*; Michael Goldstein, *trombone*
Isaac Schwartz, *drums*

* *Current ESM student*
ESM alumnus

~ PROGRAM NOTES ~

Below are Bill Holman’s “lyrics” for the opening and closing sections of Arbitration. They are not meant to be sung, but the rhythm of the words fits the rhythm of the individual instrumental lines of the opening measures and the sudden slower section just before the closing measures of the piece (after arbitration).

A: Where is it?	A: Kind of tan.	After arbitration:
B: Where is what?	B: All over?	A: I’m glad that’s over.
A: You know.	A: Uh-huh.	B: I’m with you.
B: Don’t be cute!		A: OK?
A: I wasn’t.	B: Why must you make it so maddeningly difficult? Difficult! No, no, no, no, no, no, no, no.....	B: OK.
B: Give me a hint.		
A: Well, it’s big.	A: You really think that’s all I’m here for? To make things easy for you? Really? Really? Really?	
B: What color?		

~ MEET THE ARTISTS ~

John Clayton, bassist, composer, arranger, and producer, is a busy man. With a Grammy on his shelf and nine additional nominations, artists such as Diana Krall, Paul McCartney, Regina Carter, Dee Dee Bridgewater, Gladys Knight, Queen Latifah, and Charles Aznavour have had spots on his crowded calendar. In 1985 John, co-founded the Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra and rekindled The Clayton Brothers Quintet. In addition to individual clinics, workshops, and private students as schedule permits, John also directs the educational components associated with the Centrum Jazz Festival and Workshop, and Vail Jazz Workshop. Career highlights include arranging the “Star Spangled Banner” for Whitney Houston’s performance at Super Bowl 1990 (the recording went platinum), playing bass on Paul McCartney’s CD “*Kisses On The Bottom*,” arranging and playing bass with Yo-Yo Ma and Friends on “*Songs of Joy and Peace*,” and arranging playing and conducting the CD “*Charles Aznavour With the Clayton- Hamilton Jazz Orchestra*,” and numerous recordings with the Clayton Brothers, the Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra, Milt Jackson, Monty Alexander and many others.

Reenah Golden, Founder/Artistic Director of the Avenue Blackbox Theatre, is an award-winning artist in Rochester, NY. For over 15 years, Reenah has been using the power of performance and the Spoken Word publicly to affect social and political change and create new ways of thinking. As an educator, Reenah has received local and international grants for her work encouraging youth voice and potential K-12 and she is currently adjunct faculty in University of Rochester’s International Theatre Program. Reenah teaches and guest lectures regularly at local schools, colleges, universities and cultural institutions and has been invited to perform and present nationally and internationally. Her work in higher education also includes: founding member of International Critical Pedagogy & Transformative Leadership Congress; the editorial board of the book series *Revolutionizing Urban Education: Hip-hop, Pedagogy, and Communities* (BRILL | SENSE [2018]); and several collegiate residencies, including Indiana University NW, McGill University, and Calgary University.

As an accomplished producer, playwright, and director, Reenah’s performing arts work includes multi-disciplinary collaborations; the most recent of which, BirthWrite, a collaborative literary work with her women’s writing collective We All Write received rave reviews at Rochester Fringe Festival. Her evolutionary production, *Black Coffee; the Poets’ Café*, which incorporates a live studio audience workshop, is a local favorite for its innovative marriage of art, history, improvisation and audience interaction. Both Reenah and her youth theatre troupe, the noDrama Club have been artists-in-residence at MuCCC Theatre and invited to collaborate with Geva Theatre Center regularly.

With a contagious smile and captivating charm, conductor, trumpet virtuoso, singer, and actor **BYRON STRIPLING**, has ignited audiences across the globe. In 2020, STRIPLING was named Principal Pops conductor of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra and his baton has led countless orchestras

throughout the United States and Canada. As a soloist with the Boston Pops Orchestra, Stripling has performed frequently under the baton of Keith Lockhart, as well as being the featured soloist on the PBS television special, "Evening at Pops," with conductors John Williams and Mr. Lockhart. Currently, Stripling serves as artistic director and conductor of the highly acclaimed Columbus Jazz Orchestra. An accomplished actor and singer, STRIPLING was chosen, following a worldwide search, to star in the lead role of the Broadway bound musical, "Satchmo." Television viewers have enjoyed his work as soloist on the worldwide telecast of The Grammy Awards. Millions have heard his trumpet and voice on television commercials, TV theme songs including "20/20," CNN, and soundtracks of favorite movies. In addition to multiple recordings with his quintet, work with artists from Tony Bennett to Whitney Houston.

Stripling earned his stripes as lead trumpeter and soloist with the Count Basie Orchestra under the direction of Thad Jones and Frank Foster. He has also played and recorded extensively with the bands of Dizzy Gillespie, Woody Herman, Dave Brubeck, Lionel Hampton, Clark Terry, Louis Bellson, and Buck Clayton in addition to The Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra, The Carnegie Hall Jazz Band, and The GRP All Star Big Band. He was educated at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York and the Interlochen Arts Academy in Interlochen, Michigan. He supports several philanthropic organizations, including The United Way, Homelessness Advocate, and The Community Shelter Board. He also enjoys sharing the power of music through Seminars and Master Classes at colleges, universities, conservatories, and high schools

Clay Jenkins' experience as a performer began at an early age, playing and recording with the Stan Kenton Orchestra. In 1978 Clay moved to Los Angeles, where he was in demand as a performer and studio recording musician, touring with the big bands of Buddy Rich and Count Basie. Since moving to Rochester, New York in 2000 to join the Eastman faculty, Clay has maintained a busy performing, recording, and teaching schedule. He has remained active throughout the United States and abroad. Clay continues to perform and record with the Clayton/Hamilton Jazz Orchestra, of which he is a charter member and whose trumpet section also included the great Eugene "Snooky" Young (1919-2011). Clay recently established the "Snooky Young Endowed Scholarship" at Eastman to assist under-represented minority students. He is currently writing a biography of Snooky Young.

Clay has performed on over one hundred recordings, including seven under his name. As a co-leader he has recorded with Gene Bertoncini, Kim Richmond, and Don Aliquo. He has also recorded with Joe LaBarbera, Harold Danko, Rufus Reid, Alan Ferber, and Charles Pillow. Clay also records with his Eastman colleagues Jeff Campbell and Rich Thompson as "Trio East." Clay attended North Texas State University (now the University of North Texas), where he earned his bachelor's degree in music theory. He received his master's degree in jazz studies from the University of Southern California. He plays Edwards Trumpets and is a performing artist for The Edwards Instrument Company.

With 7 recordings to his credit, **Charles Pillow** has established himself as one of the premier woodwind instrumentalists and saxophonists of the day. His recordings include "*Electric Miles*" 2018 on MAMA, his large ensemble featuring the music of Miles Davis, which was a top 10 critics pick, "*Triocity*" Originarts, 2017, with fellow Eastman instructors Jeff Campbell and Rich Thompson, "*Van Gogh Letters*" ELCM 2010, featuring Eastman instructor Gary Versace, "*The Planets*" and "*Pictures at an Exhibition*" both on Artistshare, "*In this World*" on Summit, 2001 and "*Currents*" on Challenge, 1996.

A fluent performer, educator and touring musician, he has appeared on over 100 CD's of jazz and pop artists such as Brad Mehldau, John Scofield, Michael Brecker, David Liebman, David Sanborn, Jay Z, Paul Simon, Tom Harrell, Joe Henderson, Maria Schneider and Bob Mintzer. In addition to his teaching at the Eastman school of music, he gives masterclasses throughout the US and abroad.

Bill Dobbins is professor of jazz studies at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, where he teaches the jazz composing and arranging courses and directs the award-winning Eastman Jazz Ensemble and Eastman Studio Orchestra. As a pianist, he has performed with orchestra and chamber ensembles under the direction of Louis Lane, Pierre Boulez, Lukas Foss and Frederick Fennell, and he has performed and recorded with such jazz artists as Clark Terry, Al Cohn, Red Mitchell, Phil Woods, Bill Goodwin, Gary Foster, Dave Liebman, John Goldsby and Peter Erskine. He joined the Eastman faculty in 1973, and was instrumental in designing both the graduate and undergraduate curricula for Eastman's Jazz Studies and Contemporary Media program. Many of his students have been heard in the big bands of Count Basie, Woody Herman, Buddy Rich, Maynard Ferguson, Thad Jones/Mel Lewis, Chuck Mangione, Maria Schneider, and Bob Brookmeyer's New Art Orchestra.

From 1994 through 2002 Dobbins was principal director of the WDR Big Band in Cologne, Germany, and he headed the jazz studies department at the Hochschule für Musik in Cologne from 1998 to 2002. Concert, radio, television and tour projects under his direction with the WDR Big Band included internationally acclaimed soloists Clark Terry, Dave Liebman, Randy Brecker, Gary Bartz, Eddie Henderson, Kevin Mahogany, Art Farmer, Steve Lacy, Paquito D'Rivera, Mark Feldman, Gary Foster, Clare Fischer, Peter Erskine, Nicolas Simion and the Kings Singers. As guest director, he continues to write and direct programs for the WDR Big Band, the Netherlands Metropole Orchestra, and the Scottish National Jazz Orchestra. Advance Music publishes Mr. Dobbins' compositions and arrangements for big band, chamber music combinations and solo piano. Jazz education programs worldwide have adopted his volumes of transcriptions of classic jazz piano solos and jazz textbooks for use in their courses.

Jeff Campbell has carved out an impressive career as a bass player of extraordinary artistry, fluent in both the jazz and classical idioms. As a jazz bassist, he has performed with Marian McPartland, Gene Bertoncini, Rich Perry, Trio East, Harold Jones, and the Eastman Jazz Quartet featuring Harold Danko. He has performed at such prestigious European musical events as

the Nice, Montreux, North Sea, Riga, and Parnu Jazz Festivals and has also appeared in the former Soviet Union and the Baltic Republics. His first CD, *West End Avenue*, with John Hollenbeck and John Wojciechowski, features a combination of original compositions and jazz standards. Additionally, Jeff is a member of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra bass section. His summers are occupied with the Birch Creek Music Performance Center in Door County, Wisconsin, where he serves as program director, and the Eastman Summer Jazz Studies and Bass Day, of which he is co-director.

A full-time professor at Eastman since 1997, his teaching duties include jazz bass, jazz history, jazz theory and aural skills, and small group performance. He is a regular contributor to the *Double Bassist* magazine, and is the Jazz Editor of *Bass World*, the official publication of the International Society of Bassists. Jeff's book on the famous Duke Ellington-Jimmy Blanton duets (in preparation for publication) provides bassists with an opportunity to study the bass playing of the great Jimmy Blanton. Under the influence of his professional-musician parents Jeff received musical training working with local professional musicians in a myriad of musical styles and venues. He holds degrees in double bass performance and music education from Brigham Young University (BM) and the Eastman School of Music (MM, DMA). He studied bass with John F. Clark, James VanDemark, Jeffrey Turner, and Robert Zimmerman, and jazz composition with Bill Dobbins and Fred Sturm.

Drummer **Rich Thompson** has been in demand as a top call drummer in Rochester for the past 25 years and, since the fall of 1996, is the drum set instructor at the Eastman School of Music. He has toured, performed, and recorded with the "who's who" of jazz greats, including pianist James Williams (Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers), The Count Basie Orchestra, Tito Puente, Frank Foster, The Byron Stripling quartet, saxophonist Rich Perry, the Bill Dobbins Trio, Harold Danko, Marion McPartland, Trio East (which includes Clay Jenkins and Jeff Campbell), trumpeter Snooky Young, guitarist Gene Bertoncini, Carl Fontana, Phil Woods, and Joe Pass.

Rich has been touring this country and abroad with the Byron Stripling Quartet for the past five years. His new CD entitled "Trio Generations" was released in May of 2012 on Origin Records. His new CD entitled "Less is More" was recorded with trumpet sensation Terrell Stafford, pianist Gary Versace, and bassist Jeff Campbell and was released in March of 2013 on Origin Records also. In 2016 Rich recorded "Have Trumpet Will Swing" w/ the Byron Stripling Quartet and, in 2017, "I Believe in You" by the group Triocity, featuring multi-saxophonist/reedman Charles Pillow and bassist Jeff Campbell. Rich performs regularly with numerous symphonies in the U.S. and Canada, the world renowned "Jazz Cruise" and clubs throughout the U.S. and Europe with the Byron Stripling quartet. His clinics and performances have taken him as far as France, Thailand, Japan, Switzerland and Newfoundland. Rich has written four drum set books published by Kendor Music USA and Advance/Schott Music-Germany. Visit Rich on his website to listen to clips or watch a video of his trio at the Rochester International Jazz Festival.

~ **PERSONNEL** ~
Eastman Jazz Ensemble

Saxophones

Steven Hardy
Stephanie Tateiwa
Nick Vermilye
Rahul Shah
Lael Dratfield

Horns

Lana Knowles
Jack Finlay
Amanda Friedman
Alina Liebschner

Trumpets

Douglas Herrin
John Hasselback III
Will Casaceli
Aaron Oullette

Trombones

Michael Goldstein
Andrew Watkins
Zach McRary
Ivy Gulakiw (Bass)

Tuba

Jordan Oliveira

Piano

Oliver Scott

Guitar

Wade McClung / Rob Varon

Bass

Gavin Gray

Drums

Isaac Schwartz / Isaiah Keith

Percussion

Ethan Hall
David Wang
Cooper Johnson

Upcoming Concerts

Events are free unless otherwise noted.

We acknowledge with respect the Seneca Nation, known as the “Great Hill People” and “Keepers of the Western Door” of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy. We take this opportunity to thank the people on whose ancestral lands the Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester currently occupies in Rochester, New York.

Information about upcoming Eastman concerts and events can be found at:
www.esm.rochester.edu/calendar

Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre fire exits are located along the right and left sides, and at the back of the hall on each level. In the event of an emergency, you will be notified by the stage manager. If notified, please move in a calm and orderly fashion to the nearest exit.

Restrooms are located on each level of Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre. Our ushers will be happy to direct you to them.

Please note: The use of unauthorized photographic and recording equipment is not allowed in this building. We reserve the right to ask anyone disrupting a performance to leave the hall.

Supporting the Eastman School of Music:

We at the Eastman School of Music are grateful for the generous contributions made by friends, parents, and alumni, as well as local and national foundations and corporations. Gifts and grants to the School support student scholarships, performance and academic facilities, educational initiatives, and programs open to the greater Rochester community. Every gift, no matter the size, is vital to enhancing Eastman's commitment to excellence. For more information on making a gift, please visit www.esm.rochester.edu/advancement or contact the Advancement Office by calling (585) 274-1040.

Thank you!