

11-7-1997

Jazz Extravaganza: University Jazz Ensemble with BJ Brown and Willis Kirk

Department of Music, University of Richmond

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarship.richmond.edu/all-music-programs>



Part of the [Music Performance Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Department of Music, University of Richmond, "Jazz Extravaganza: University Jazz Ensemble with BJ Brown and Willis Kirk" (1997). *Music Department Concert Programs*. 651.
<https://scholarship.richmond.edu/all-music-programs/651>

This Program is brought to you for free and open access by the Music at UR Scholarship Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in Music Department Concert Programs by an authorized administrator of UR Scholarship Repository. For more information, please contact scholarshiprepository@richmond.edu.

UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC



JAZZ EXTRAVAGANZA:

MUSIC OF COUNT BASIE AND DUKE ELLINGTON

UNIVERSITY JAZZ ENSEMBLE

MICHAEL DAVISON, DIRECTOR

GUESTS

BJ BROWN, NARRATOR

WILLIS KIRK, PERCUSSION



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1997, 8:00 PM
CAMP CONCERT HALL, BOOKER HALL OF MUSIC
GEORGE M. MODLIN CENTER FOR THE ARTS

UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND
FOUNDED 1830



WILLIS KIRK

Born in Indianapolis, Indiana, **DR. WILLIS KIRK**, started his musical training at P.S. #37 as a fifth grader under Norman Merifield and Russell Brown. He continued playing in the band and orchestra at Crispus Attucks High School. By the age of 14 he was playing professionally in and around Indianapolis. Having grown up with the Montgomery brothers - Wes, Monk, and Buddy - as well as the Hampton family - Luckey, Maceo, Slide, Duke, and Aletra - Willis was challenged in his musical life. He and his friends set standards for others to follow - Freddie Hubbard, Larry Ridley, James Spaulding, and Virgil Jones, all from Indianapolis.

In addition to fronting his own bands, Willis has performed with Mel Torme, Wes Montgomery, Tony Bennett, Jon Hendricks, Jerome Richardson, Joe Pass, June Cristy, Buddy Greco, Eddie Henderson, Ted Dunbar, Carl Perkins, and other noted musicians. Kirk worked and recorded with Earl Hines in Brazil and has recorded with the San Francisco All Star Band.

From 1969 until his retirement in January 1991, Willis held many administrative positions at City College of San Francisco, with a student population of 30,000. He served as President of City College his last two years while remaining musically active. Kirk is known internationally for his treatise on brushes called *Brushfire*, which is in its second printing and has been translated into Japanese. He currently serves on the Board of the Oakland Jazz Alliance and has been a consultant to the National Endowment for the Arts.

BEVERLY J. BROWN currently serves as Executive Director of the Richmond Jazz Society where she is responsible for overseeing that organization's educational programs, performances publications, and membership services, as well as program/technical support and artist referrals for area events and organizations. She is a member of the City of Richmond Landmark Theatre Study Commission.

She is president of her own company, Eulipion Marketing and Management, which has been operating since 1984, providing administrative, media, and referral services for area artists and arts organizations. From 1982 to 1984 she served as administrator and facility manager for Richmond Jazz Society's education and performance center, which hosted over 150 live performances during that period.

From 1974 to 1982 she was employed as a Health Educator for the Virginia Sickle Cell Anemia Awareness Program of the Medical College of Virginia. Her responsibilities included the dissemination of information to the medical community and the general public, as well as the development of educational literature and social activities for sickle cell children and their families. She instituted the first camp experience for sickle cell children in Virginia, "Camp Bright Moments," which continues today.

Ms. Brown attended Maggie L. Walker High School, where she graduated number two in her class. She earned a B.A. degree (1974) from Lafayette College, Easton, PA, and post graduate studies from Virginia Commonwealth University and J. Sergeant Reynolds Community College.

JAZZ EXTRAVAGANZA

is co-sponsored by the Music Department,
Student Affairs, Student Activities, and Multi-Cultural Affairs

MUSIC OF COUNT BASIE AND DUKE ELLINGTON

Red Bank

Bob Ojeda

Rockin' in Rhythm

Duke Ellington, Irving Mills, and Harry Carney

Strike Up the Band

George Gershwin, arr. Sammy Nestico

Caravan

Duke Ellington, Juan Tizol, and Irving Mills

Boy Meets Horn

Duke Ellington, Irving Mills, and Rex Stewart

Harlem Airshaft

Duke Ellington

Solitude

Duke Ellington, Irving Mills, and Harry Carney

Splanky

Neal Hefti, arr. Sammy Nestico

Take the "A" Train

Billy Strayhorn and the Delta Rhythm Boys, arr. Frank Foster

JAZZ ENSEMBLE PERSONNEL

CLARINET	Steven Ahearn	TROMBONES	Chris White, lead Matt Worth
SAXOPHONES	Mike Baedke, alto 1 Dan Smith, alto 2 Jim Furlow, tenor (split lead) Jason Weyeneth, tenor (split lead) Blake Puhak, baritone	GUITAR	Frank Atkins Chris Robley
TRUMPET	Jeff Elbich, lead Ryan McCaffrey Sean Linfors Dana Rajczewski	PIANO	Jeff Springer Chris Musialek
		BASS	Marley Walsh
		DRUMS	John O'Donnell