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The Cuban Spectacular: The Story of Latin Jazz

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University of Richmond
Department of Music

Fall 2022-Spring 2023 Concert Series

The Cuban Spectacular: The Story of Latin Jazz

A Multi-Media Celebration
featuring the UR Jazz Ensemble,
Quatro na Bossa, Special Guest Artists & Dancers
Directed by Dr. Mike Davison

Thursday, April 20, 2023

Alice Jepson Theatre

7:30 p.m.



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PROGRAM

When Puerto Rican trombonist Juan Tizol composed “Caravan” for the Duke Ellington Orchestra in 1936, Latin jazz did not yet have a name. Those exotic sounds, which blended Afro-Caribbean rhythms with American jazz, were new to musicians and dancers. When Cuban Mario Bauzá composed a Cuban *descarga*, called “Tanga,” in 1943 for Machito and his Afro-Cubans, the die was cast: Bauzá blended the *clave* rhythm with jazz, producing the first Latin jazz, or Cuban jazz composition. Soon afterward, Bauzá blended his Cuban musical heritage with Dizzy Gillespie’s bebop sound to create Cubop – one of the earliest forms of Latin jazz. The new sounds electrified New York City’s glittering Palladium Ballroom, producing scintillating sights and sounds that exploded in the 1950s into the dance and music style known as the *mambo*.

Meanwhile, Brazilian Antônio Carlos Jobim composed hits such as “Desafinado,” “The Girl from Ipanema,” and “Samba de uma nota só” (“One Note Samba”) – the “*new thing*,” or *bossa nova* was born. These compositions would catapult Jobim to stardom as one of the most important popular composers of the 60s. In 1959 the mega-hit film *Black Orpheus*, directed by Marcel Camus, was shown in America. The sound that American audiences heard was the Brazilian *bossa nova*. Jazz players, including Dizzy Gillespie, Herbie Mann, and Charlie Byrd embraced the “new thing” and included *bossa novas* as part of their Latin jazz repertoire. In 1962, Byrd collaborated with tenor saxophonist Stan Getz to produce the album *Jazz Samba*. By 1963, *Jazz Samba* reached number one on *Billboard*’s pop album chart and ignited the *bossa nova* craze in America.

Tonight, Dr. Mike Davison, the UR Jazz Ensemble, Quatro na Bossa, guest artists, and dancers will take you on a musical multi-media journey. Davison will narrate the show, highlighting the blending of music by the three superpowers of contemporary popular music: Cuba, Brazil, and the United States. This blending is known as Latin jazz. Sit back, feel the rhythms, and if you feel the urge - dance!

-- Mike Davison

El Abrazo

Alan Baylock

UR Jazz Ensemble

Video: Clave

From *Cuba: Rhythm in Motion*
Mike Davison & Ed Tillett

Take Five

Paul Desmond
Arr. by Tito Puente
Transcr. by Shaun Byrne

UR Jazz Ensemble

Video: Mambo at the Tropicana

Video: Dizzy Gillespie

Manteca

Dizzy Gillespie, Gil Fuller
and Chano Pozo
Arr. by Mike Tomaro

Escola de Samba

Jeff Jarvis

UR Jazz Ensemble

Continued ...

*Please silence all electronic devices before the performance begins.
Recording of any kind and photography are strictly prohibited.*

Chega de Saudade

Antônio Carlos Jobim &
Vinicius de Moraes

Nasci Para Bailar
Até Quem Sabe

João Donato

Rio

Roberto Menescal &
Ronaldo Bôscoli

Quatro na Bossa

Black Orpheus

Luiz Bonfá
Arr. by Eric Richards

UR Jazz Ensemble

The Girl from Ipanema

Jobim & de Moraes

UR Jazz Ensemble
Laura Ann Singh, vocal

Caravan

Juan Tizol
Arr. by Mike Tomaro

UR Jazz Ensemble

Mas Que Nada

Jorge Bem
Arr. by Daniel Puccio

UR Jazz Ensemble
Quatro na Bossa

The Performers

Guest Artists

Alfredo Santiago	Latin Percussion, Flute
Dominique Patrick Noel	Congas, Latin Percussion
Edwin Roa and Lynda Megan Buechel	Dancers

Quatro na Bossa

Laura Ann Singh	Vocals
Kevin Harding	Guitar
Rusty Farmer	Bass
Scott Clark	Drums

UR Jazz Ensemble

Sean Bailis	Alto Sax 1
Tim Wen	Alto Sax 2
Adrian Grubbs	Tenor Sax 1
Noah Busbee	Tenor Sax 2
Linda Fairtile	Baritone Sax
Andrew Magrane	Trumpet
George Gibson	Trumpet
John Paschold	Trumpet
Simon Curry	Trumpet
Katherine Thomey	Trumpet
Walker Campbell	Trombone 1
Jillian Yates	Trombone 2
Ben Shlanta	Trombone 3
Mark Johnson	Piano
Dennis Xu	Piano
Zach Bader	Vibes
Toby Tate	Guitar
Justin Butler	Bass
Cameron Peterson	Drums

Continued ...

Meet the Musicians and Dancers . . .

The Guest Ensemble

Quatro na Bossa

UR alum Laura Ann Singh and Prof. Kevin Harding formed *Quatro na Bossa* in 2003 from a shared interest in the history of Brazilian popular music. Bassist Rusty Farmer and drummer/composer Prof. Scott Clark complete the quartet. Originally exploring compositions from the era of *bossa nova* (ca. 1960), they now play from a large list of Brazilian songs from different regions and time periods.

Kevin has had lessons with Brazilian guitarists Romero Lubambo and Toninho Horta, and in Rio de Janeiro with *choro* guitarist Bilinho Teixeira, and Laura Ann has studied with *sambista* Fabiana Cozza in São Paulo. In addition to gigging in Virginia and the DC area, the quartet has performed many times at Dizzy's Club Coca Cola (Jazz at Lincoln Center), with guests Nilson Matta, Maucha Adnet, Romero Lubambo, and Harry Allen. Also in New York, they recorded their first album, *Summer Samba*, for the Japanese label Venus Records, with collaborators Adriano Santos (drums) and Rodrigo Ursaia (saxophone). In the fall of 2012, the quartet released their second CD, *Bossa Nossa*, with drummer Rogerio Boccato.

The Dancers

Edwin Roa and Lynda Megan Buechel

Edwin Roa is a native of Bogotá, Colombia. He has been teaching for over 24 years and is a founding member of the Charlottesville Salsa Club. He is also the director and creator of Zabor Dance. Lynda Buechel grew up in Upstate New York and started dancing ballet, tap, and jazz at seven years old. She gravitated toward partner dancing as an adult, and began teaching in 2018.

Edwin and Lynda started dancing together in 2019. Even though their dance backgrounds are unique, they are both passionate about

partner dancing and share a deep appreciation for teaching and performing. They offer various workshops throughout Maryland and Virginia, and are currently pursuing a competitive career in American Smooth.

The Musicians

Dominique Patrick Noel: *Congas, Latin Percussion*

Dominique Patrick Noel was born in Paris, France, with native roots from the islands of Haiti and Martinique. He comes from a line of talented musicians such as his grandfathers and his father. Dominique is a self-taught musician who began playing the drums at the age of seven and throughout his high school years. While living on the island of Martinique at 12 years old, he developed his skills playing *Zouk* and *Kompa* music. Dominique's introduction into the genre of Latin music was born while he learned to play the bongos with the different bands in which his father performed. In 1998, he became the co-founder and Musical Director of Pablo Antonio y La Firma (1998- 2008). Dominique performed for Septime Weber, Artistic Director of the Washington Ballet, with Weber's choreography *Juanita y Alicia* on a tour of many U.S. cities. Over the course of his musical career, he has performed for more than 250,000 people varying in festivals, concerts, and private events throughout some of the U.S., as well as Puerto Rico and El Salvador. Dominique has also lent his musical skills to several TV and radio jingles. Dominique currently and proudly endorses GonBops Percussion, Souldone Cymbals, and Los Cabos Drumsticks.

Alfredo L. Santiago: *Flute, Bongos, Bell & Latin Percussion*

Flautist/Percussionist Alfredo L. Santiago is a native of New York but developed his musical talent in the beautiful island of Puerto Rico. He's performed in the acclaimed Viña del Mar International Song Festival, the oldest and largest music festival in Latin America, where he accompanied singer/actor Jose Luis "El Puma." He's also played with famous Cuban singer La Lupe. Before joining the US Army Band in 1982 he was a flute major at the Pablo Casals Conservatory of

Continued ...

Music in Puerto Rico. He's a former member of the salsa band of the top Puerto Rican trumpeter Elias Lopes. He's performed alongside saxophonists Justo Almario and Dick Oatts, and trombonist Bob McChesney. Alfredo holds a Bachelor of Music in jazz studies from VCU. He's currently a member of the Latin Jazz Messengers as well as the Orchestra Director at The Heights Baptist Church.

The Director, Producer, Trumpet, Flugel Horn & Narrator

Mike Davison

Distinguished trumpeter Dr. Michael Davison is a gifted performer, respected professor, published composer, and ethnomusicologist. Davison's love of music has shaped his life and career. He is in demand across the country as a classical and jazz performer and educator. As a performer, he has given jazz and classical recitals all over the United States as well as in France, the Netherlands, Spain, South Africa, China, and Cuba. Davison has recorded four jazz CDs as both a leader and sideman. His classical CD, *Fenster*, received rave reviews from the *International Trumpet Guild Journal*. Widely considered an expert in Cuban music, he performs and teaches Cuban music at the University of Richmond and worldwide. As a jazz musician, Davison has performed with the late tenor saxophonist and 11-time Grammy winner Michael Brecker, popular jazz trombonist Curtis Fuller, and legendary Latin jazz saxophonist and composer Justo Almario. He has also performed alongside some of Motown's most iconic singers and groups, including Natalie Cole, Aretha Franklin, The Temptations, and The Four Tops. As a classical musician, Davison has performed with Rhythm and Brass, a group that plays everything from Bach to Pink Floyd. He has performed with the Wisconsin and Whitewater Brass Quintets, the Rochester Philharmonic, Wisconsin Symphony, Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra, and the Richmond Symphony. Davison has performed for Pope John II and George Leonard Carey, Archbishop of Canterbury. Davison has published two transcription books on famed trumpeter Randy Brecker: *Randy Brecker: Artist Transcriptions/Trumpet* was published by Hal Leonard Publishing Company and *The Music of Randy Brecker: Solo Transcriptions*

and Performing Artist Master Class CD was published by Warner Bros. Inc. In addition to transcribing, Davison has also published jazz and Afro-Cuban compositions with Walrus Music. In 1986, Davison accepted a job as head of the jazz and trumpet programs at the University of Richmond. A respected scholar of Cuban musical styles, Dr. Davison has taught many courses on jazz and Cuban music since arriving in Richmond and recently was awarded the prestigious Educator of the Year award. His influence as an educator goes beyond the University of Richmond's campus. Dr. Davison also serves as trumpet teacher and head of the brass area at the world-renowned Interlochen International Arts Camp in Interlochen, Michigan. Dr. Davison hosted the International Trumpet Guild Conference in 1999 and is an Edwards Instrument Performing Artist. Dr. Davison, along with producer Ed Tillett, completed *Cuba: Rhythm in Motion*, a documentary tracing the musical genealogy between Cuban rhythms and American jazz. The film premiered on the University of Richmond campus in 2007 and has been shown around the world, including Spain, Australia, Greece and Mexico. Dr. Davison is presently working on another documentary about the music of Santiago de Cuba.

Modlin Center Crew

Production Manager	Sean Farrell
Lighting & Video	Bri Conley
Audio	Corey Brown

Show Credits

Script & Narration	Mike Davison
Media ("Clave")	Ed Tillet & Mike Davison

Excerpt from documentary *Cuba: Rhythm in Motion*
by Ed Tillet & Mike Davison

Show Concept & Design Mike Davison

Continued ...

Produced & Directed by Mike Davison

Special Thanks . . .

*Modlin Center staff; Dr. Andy McGraw,
chair of the Music Department;
and our “crew” – Sean Farrell, Bri Conley & Corey Brown*

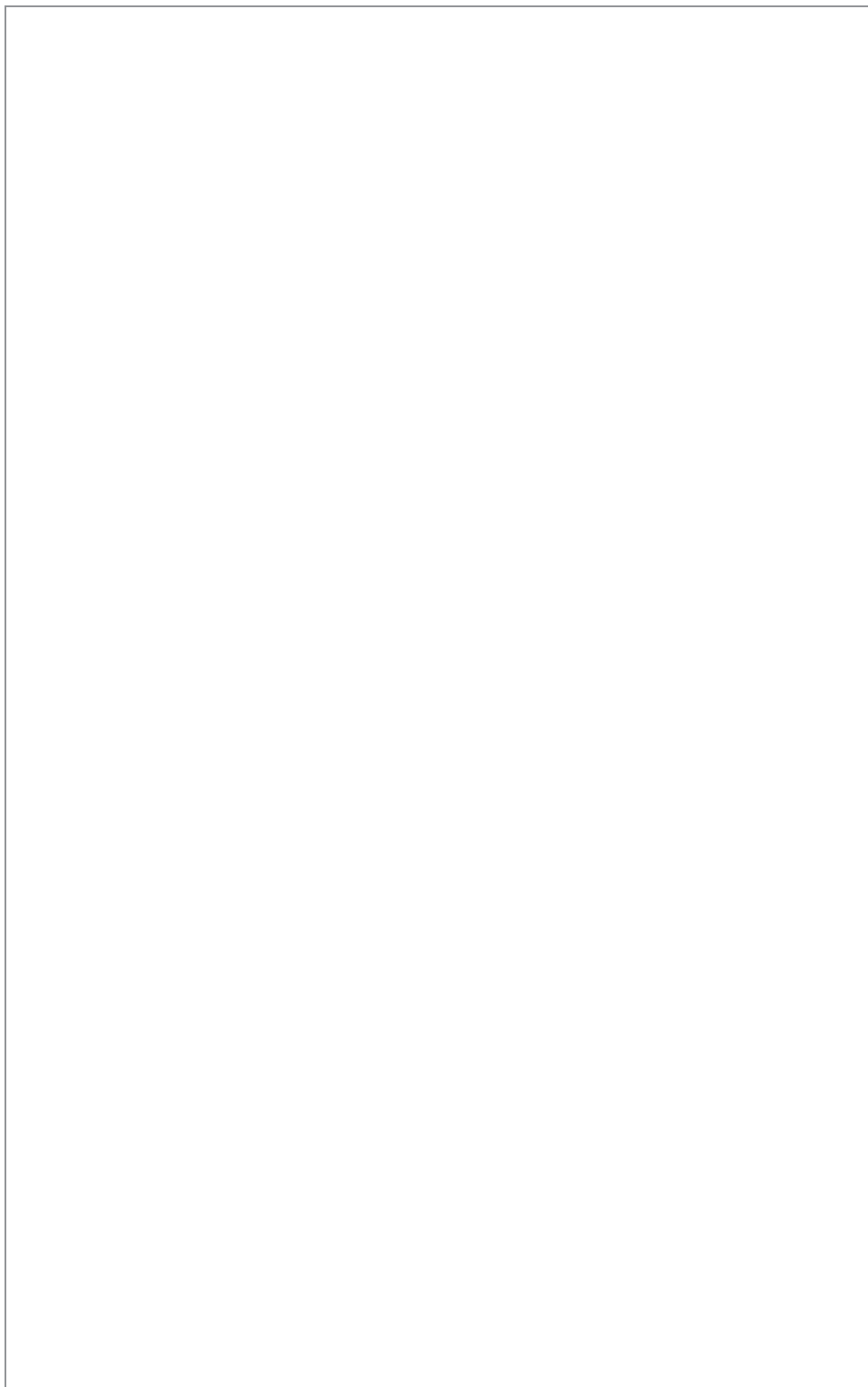
*Thanks to our guest artists – dancers Edwin Roa and Lynda Buechel;
Percussionists Dominique Patrick Noel and Alfredo Santiago ...
and to Quatro na Bossa!*

*And, of course, to all my UR jazz students performing tonight!
Great job, gang! You rock! Stay en clave!*

*And last, but certainly not least – my wife and family.
Thanks for being my sounding board!*

Now . . . get up and dance!

Mike Davison





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