

University of Richmond

UR Scholarship Repository

Music Department Concert Programs

Music

2-18-2015

Mike Davison and Friends: A Tribute to the Brecker Brothers

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, "Mike Davison and Friends: A Tribute to the Brecker Brothers" (2015). *Music Department Concert Programs*. 1617.

<https://scholarship.richmond.edu/all-music-programs/1617>

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.

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC



FREE
Concert Series
SPRING 2014
MUSIC

Presents

**Mike Davison and Friends:
A Tribute to the Brecker Brothers**

Wednesday, February 18, 2015

7:30 p.m.

Booker Hall of Music, Camp Concert Hall

MUSIC.RICHMOND.EDU

PROGRAM

Strap Hangin'	Michael Brecker (1949 – 2007)
Some Skunk Funk	Randy Brecker (b. 1945) Arr. by Jeff Holmes
Breakfast Bop	Mike Davison (b. 1957)
Threesome	Randy Brecker
Sponge	Randy Brecker
Bathsheba	Michael Brecker
Eveitis	Mike Davison
Above and Below	Randy Brecker
Inside Out	Randy Brecker

J.C. Kuhl	Tenor and Soprano Saxophones
Mike Davison	Trumpet, Flugel Horn, and EVI
Randall Pharr	Acoustic and Electric Bass
Brian Jones	Drums
Alan Parker	Guitar
Tyler Tillage	Acoustic and Electric Piano

Please silence cell phones, digital watches, and paging devices before the concert.

During the 70s, 80s, and 90s, Randy and Michael Brecker, saxophone and trumpet duo, were the busiest sidemen in the business, recording and performing with everyone from Todd Rundgren to Frank Zappa. In 1975, the brothers recorded an album of their own compositions that set the jazz world on fire with its blend of rock or funk with jazz lines. In this concert, Richmond musicians will perform many of the most recognized compositions by the Brecker Brothers, as well as a few original compositions in the style of the duo.



J.C. Kuhl attended Towson University in Baltimore, where he studied jazz and commercial music under Stan Kenton, composer Hank Levy and saxophonist Glen Cashman. He moved to Richmond in 1995, where he became a member of critically acclaimed groups Agents of Good Roots, Modern Groove Syndicate, and Devil's Workshop Big Band. He has served as a member of the jazz faculty at VCU since 2005 and is also a member of the music faculty at Collegiate School. J.C. is a member of the Latin Jazz Messengers.

Randall Pharr is an adjunct professor of jazz bass at the University of Richmond and Virginia Commonwealth University. Randall performed with Bruce Hornsby on "Is You Is or Is You Ain't My Baby," heard in the dark comedy *World's Greatest Dad*, starring Robin Williams. He is featured on *Blue Shift*, a recent release by trumpeter Rex Richardson and saxophonist Steve Wilson. Randall

Continued ...

recently played at Small's in New York City with the Charles Owens Quartet, featuring world renowned guitarist Peter Bernstein. In July 2013 he travelled to Izmir, Turkey, to teach at the Izmir International Jazz Camp. Other career highlights include performing with Clark Terry, Charlie Byrd, Bob Moses, and Charlie Haden, and at the Kennedy Center, on many occasions, with The Great American Music Ensemble, directed by Doug Richards. Randall performs locally with a multitude of groups, including Robert Jospe and Inner Rhythm, the John Winntet, and the Jeff Decker Quartet, as well as with Brian Jones. Randall first studied electric bass with Tim Reynolds (Dave Matthews), and then studied upright bass at VCU under the tutelage of Clarence Seay.

Brian Jones graduated from the University of Richmond in 1995 with a B.A. in history. Jones is currently a member of the music faculties at UR and the College of William and Mary, as well as a PhD student in the American Studies Program at William and Mary. His research interests include Miles Davis' life and work during the *Bitches Brew* period, Sun Ra and Afrofuturism, and jazz during the Civil Rights era. As a drummer, Jones has worked with a wide array of artists, including Mark Turner, Randy Brecker, John Abercrombie, Jason Mraz, Liz Phair, Steven Bernstein, and Jandek. In 1999, Jones started Slang Sanctuary Records as a limited edition record label focusing on creative music.

Tyler Tillage is a recent University of Richmond graduate who majored in piano performance with a jazz focus. He has toured with the UR Jazz Band to Greece, Spain and Portugal, and performs with a variety of groups around Richmond. An IT consultant by day, he's been the pianist for the Latin Jazz Messengers since their inception.

Alan Parker grew up getting his cheeks pinched by well-intentioned church ladies after singing cherub-like solos in front of many a congregation. Feeling that being the object of such affections was "uncool," he switched to guitar in middle school. A graduate of the VCU music department, Alan plays regularly as

a sideman and leads two groups, the aP connection and POSER. Aside from performing, in 2012 Alan co-founded 32 Bar Records, a music label that produces local jazz albums.

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, Australia, Portugal, Greece, 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, Patti Austin, 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, Buffalo Philharmonic, 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. In addition to transcribing, Davison has also published jazz and Afro-Cuban

Continued ...

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. He 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 campus of the University of Richmond in 2007 and has been shown around the world, including Spain, Australia, and Mexico. Dr. Davison is presently writing a book on Cuban folk music.