

MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY
JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Oscar Perez, *Director*



SATURDAY | NOVEMBER 2 | 3PM
ALEXANDER KASSER THEATER

Daniel Gurskis
Dean, College of the Arts

Anthony Mazzocchi
Director
John J. Cali School of Music

John J. Cali
School of Music

MONTCLAIR
STATE UNIVERSITY

PROGRAM

Program to be selected from the following:

Such Sweet Thunder

composed and arranged by Duke Ellington and Billy Strayhorn

Here's that Rainy Day

composed by Johnny Burke & James Van Heusen and arranged by Dee Barton
for the Stan Kenton Orchestra

Ya Gotta Try

composed and arranged by Sammy Nestico for the Count Basie Orchestra

Impulso

composed and arranged by Alan Ferber

Kenya

composed and arranged by Rene Hernandez and Mario Bauza for the Machito Orchestra

The Artist's Rightful Place

composed and arranged by Oliver Nelson

Brother Mister

composed and arranged by Christian McBride

Cherry Juice

composed and arranged by Thad Jones

What's Going On

composed by Marvin Gaye and arranged by Bob Mintzer and Dave Stryker

The **MONTCLAIR STATE JAZZ ENSEMBLE**, under the direction of Jazz Studies coordinator **Oscar Perez**, is honored to present a varied program of music from Duke Ellington, Bob Brookmeyer, Bob Mintzer, Chick Corea, Michael Philip Mossman, Sy Johnson, Thad Jones, and on his centennial birthday, the inimitable Charles Mingus. The MSUJE, comprised of majors in Jazz Studies and other music majors, is dedicated to performing music representative of contemporary literature composed for the large jazz ensemble and music of historical importance to the genre. Last year, we featured new trumpet faculty Marcus Printup, well-known as a longtime member of the Jazz Lincoln Center Orchestra, along with vocal professor Aubrey Johnson and long-standing guitar faculty member Dave Stryker in our Spring '22 concert.

Last spring also saw the MSUJE, Cali's Wind Symphony, and the University Singers performing at the Metropolitan Museum's Grace Rainey Rogers Concert Hall. Our December 2021 Crawford Concert featured Vertical Voices alongside our vocal jazz ensemble, Vocamotion. In recent years, the MSU Jazz Ensemble has performed with a variety of guest soloists, including long-time friend and colleague David Bixler, the Grammy award-winning leader of the New York Voices, Darmon Meader, trumpeter/arranger Michael Philip Mossman, Grammy-nominated trombonist/composer Alan Ferber, trumpeter/composer John Daversa, trumpeter Ingrid Jensen, saxophonist/composer Ed Palermo, harmonica virtuoso Hendrik Meurkens, percussionist/composer Roland Vazquez, jazz guitar legend Bucky Pizzarelli, Grammy award-winning vocal group New York Voices (2006 Crawford Concert), trumpeters Terell Stafford and Tony Kadleck, saxophonists Don Braden, Dave Demsey, and Andy Fusco, trombonist Tom "Bones" Malone, guitarist Dave Stryker, vocalist Holli Ross, and drummer Steve Johns.

Along with a concert performance each semester on the MSU campus, the band served as the clinic ensemble for Dennis Mackrel at the 2016 NJAJE Conference, has performed at Cecil's Jazz Club in West Orange, Trumpets Jazz Club in Montclair, Shanghai Jazz in Madison, the Villanova Jazz Festival, and The University of the Arts Jazz Festival, and has appeared locally as guests of the

Bloomfield Youth Band and Belleville High School Jazz Festival. Select students have also been chosen to participate in the NJAJE Intercollegiate Jazz Band since the inception of that ensemble twenty years ago.

BIOGRAPHIES

Oscar Perez, a New York City native, has performed, traveled and recorded in the musical groups of **Phoebe Snow, Lakecia Benjamin, Rudresh Mahanthappa, Wycliffe Gordon, Christian McBride, Charenee Wade, Dave Stryker, Steve Turre, Eddie Allen, Ted Chubb, the Mingus Big Band, Abel Mireles LatiNext Project, Charlie Porter, Roseanna Vitro, Bruce Williams and Don Braden**. Oscar is Coordinator of Jazz Studies at the Cali School of Music at Montclair State University. He has been an educator through Carnegie Hall, the Kupferberg Center at Queens College, Jazz House Kids in Montclair, Jazz at Lincoln Center and has held faculty positions at Drew University and the Manhattan School of Music.

Perez earned a Doctorate in Jazz Arts Advancement from the Manhattan School of Music under the tutelage of **Stefon Harris, Ingrid Jensen, and Jim McNeely**. Previous studies at the New England Conservatory, University of North Florida and the Aaron Copland School of Music at Queens College, gave him the opportunity to serve under the guidance of **Danilo Perez, Michael Mossman, and Sir Roland Hanna**, respectively. During his formative years he shared the stage with jazz legends **Bunky Green, George Russell, Dianne Reeves and Curtis Fuller**.

He is the recipient of the 2006 **ASCAP/IAJE Commission** in honor of **Billy Strayhorn**. Oscar's group featuring **Antonio Hart** premiered the work at the 2007 International Association of Jazz Education Convention. He has also been commissioned to arrange music for **Chick Corea, Regina Carter, Arturo Sandoval, R&B vocalist Jon B, and the MSM Jazz Orchestra** featuring **Sean Jones**. His critically acclaimed CD **Afropean Affair**, is the result of a New Works Grant by **Chamber Music America** for his septet **Oscar Perez Nuevo Comienzo**. He placed 2nd in the 2014 Jacksonville Jazz Piano Competition. His latest endeavor, **Prepare a Place for Me**, is available through all media outlets.

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SAXOPHONES

Luke Caruana, *Jazz Studies, Staten Island, NY*
Kyle Gentile, *Jazz Studies, Ho Ho Kus, NJ*
Ryan Huston, *Jazz Studies, Tom's River, NJ*
Will Travis, *Jazz Studies, Hollis, ME*
Tristan Shafran, *Woodwind Doubling, Saddle Brook, NJ*

TRUMPETS

John Rivas, *Jazz Studies, Clifton, NJ*
Gabriel Chalick, *Jazz Studies, Naples, FL*
Dorian Wylde, *Jazz Studies, Brooklyn, NY*
Jayson Greengold, *Jazz Education, Holbrook, NY*
Jameson Klinsky, *Finance, Jackson, NJ*

TROMBONES

Dan Harkins, *Jazz Education, Mount Olive, NJ*
Paul Ferrera, *Composition, Staten Island, NY*
James Boland, *Artist Diploma, Hamilton, NJ*
Sofia Huf, *Performance, Woodbury, MN*

RHYTHM SECTION

Karen Xie, *Jazz Studies, Brooklyn, NY - Piano*
Levi Taple, *Jazz Studies, Hell, MI - Guitar*
Thomas Horner, *Jazz Studies, Trenton, NJ - Bass*
Joseph Cooper, *Jazz Studies, Kansas City, MO - Drums*
Nick Barbuto, *Jazz Studies, Hampstead, NH - Drums*