



SF JAZZ COLLECTIVE

NEW WORKS REFLECTING THE MOMENT

PHILADELPHIA PREMIERES

MUSIC DIRECTOR, TENOR & SOPRANO SAXOPHONE,

BASS CLARINET, ALTO FLUTE Chris Potter

TENOR SAXOPHONE David Sánchez

TRUMPET Etienne Charles

VIBRAPHONE Warren Wolf

PIANO Edward Simon

BASS Matt Brewer

DRUMS Kendrick A.D. Scott

VOCALS Martin Luther McCoy

SUNDAY, **APRIL 3** @ 7 PM

Annenberg Center, Zellerbach Theatre

There will be no intermission.

PROGRAM NOTES

For this performance, the SFJAZZ Collective performs a vital program of new compositions by the band that are inspired by and in response to the extraordinary social and global issues we have faced over the last few years.

This performance will officially mark three exciting new additions to the band with vocalist Gretchen Parlato, drummer Kendrick Scott and saxophonist Chris Potter, who assumes the role of Music Director – the first time the SFJAZZ Collective has had a member in a leadership position in over a decade.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

SFJAZZ Collective

Founded by SFJAZZ in 2004, the SFJAZZ Collective is a leaderless group and a democratic composer's workshop that represents what's happening now in jazz. The Collective's mission is to perform newly commissioned pieces by each member and fresh arrangements of works by modern masters. Through this pioneering approach, simultaneously honoring music's greatest figures while championing jazz's up-to-the-minute directions, the Collective embodies SFJAZZ's commitment to jazz as a living, ever-relevant art form.

The Collective participates in a residency every fall at the SFJAZZ Center which provides time for intensive rehearsals to workshop the season's new compositions along with education and community engagement activities. The residency concludes with four nights of concerts in SFJAZZ's Miner Auditorium which are recorded for a spring album release. The band tours the program across the country and Europe. As *DownBeat* wrote, "the octet boasts as much or more collective talent, firepower and critical acclaim than any other jazz ensemble going."

Chris Potter (Music Director, Tenor & Soprano Saxophone, Bass Clarinet, Alto Flute)

A Chicago native, Chris Potter is among the most prominent, influential and visionary artists in jazz, fronting multiple ensembles and collaborating with a staggering list of major artists including Paul Motian, Pat Metheny, Dave Holland, Zakir Hussain, Herbie Hancock, Jim Hall, Steely Dan and the Mingus Big Band. A veteran of over 150 recordings, he has topped numerous *DownBeat* Critics Polls, received a Grammy® Award nomination, and has led or co-led over 20 albums including his latest Edition Records release, *There Is A Tide*. Potter also assumes the role of Music Director and this is the first time the SFJAZZ Collective has had a member in a music director position in over a decade.

David Sánchez (Tenor Saxophone)

Since his early exposure with Dizzy Gillespie's United Nations Orchestra, Puerto Rican tenor saxophone virtuoso David Sánchez has become a one of the most celebrated instrumentalists in jazz, recording nine albums as a leader and winning a Latin Grammy® Award for his 2004 orchestral session, *Coral*. The five-time Grammy® Award nominee has performed with a roster of greats including Charlie Haden, Eddie Palmieri, Roy Haynes, Tom Harrell and countless others. Sánchez has an impressive résumé as an educator, conducting master classes, workshops and residencies at the world's top universities and conservatories. His latest album is *Ninety Miles: Live at Cubadisco*, a project recorded in Cuba and co-led by trumpeter Christian Scott and vibraphonist Stefon Harris.

Etienne Charles (Trumpet)

Hailed by *JazzTimes* as a “daring improviser who delivers with heart wrenching lyricism” (Bill Milkowski), Trinidad-born Etienne Charles is an artist deeply versed in the New Orleans trumpet tradition. In June 2012, he was written into the U.S. Congressional Record for his musical contributions to Trinidad & Tobago, and was named a Guggenheim Fellow in 2015. His 2016 album *San Jose Suite* was a musical discourse on the effects of colonialism in three San Jose locations (Costa Rica, California and Trinidad), and his newest album, *Carnival: The Sound of a People Vol. 1*, is an excursion into the grooves, chants and rituals of Carnival in his native Trinidad & Tobago. His latest work as a producer, composer, arranger, trumpeter and percussionist, *Petite Afrique* by Somi, won Outstanding Jazz Album at the 2018 NAACP Image Awards. He is currently Associate Professor of Jazz Trumpet at Michigan State University in East Lansing.

Warren Wolf (Vibraphone)

Warren Wolf is a multi-instrumentalist from Baltimore, MD. Wolf began playing vibraphone, marimba, drums and piano at age three, studying at Peabody Institute preparatory program and the Baltimore School for the Arts with Baltimore Symphony Orchestra member John Locke. After graduating in 1997, he enrolled at the Berklee College of Music in Boston for studies with master vibraphonist Dave Samuels, graduating in 2001 and returning as an instructor from 2003-2005. Wolf became an active musician on the national scene after leaving Berklee, working with Bobby Watson, Tia Fuller, Christian Scott, Donal Fox, Christian McBride and Karriem Riggins and his own Wolfpack band. Wolf has released five albums on the Mack Avenue label including his 2020 holiday release, *Christmas Vibes*.

Edward Simon (Piano)

Edward Simon was born in the coastal town of Punta Cardón, Venezuela, where he grew up in a family of musicians. Settling in New York City in 1989, he played with numerous jazz masters including Herbie Mann, Paquito D’Rivera, Bobby Hutcherson, Bobby Watson, Terence Blanchard and Don Byron. He has produced 15 critically acclaimed albums as a leader for Sunnyside, CAM JAZZ, Criss Cross and various other labels. His 2016 album, *Latin American Songbook*, won an NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Jazz Album, and his 2018 release, *Sorrows and Triumphs*, was declared “unmissable” in Nate Chinen’s “Take Five” column at WBGO.org. His latest album is *25 Years*, a curated career retrospective documenting his quarter century of music.

Matt Brewer (Bass)

Matt Brewer was born in Oklahoma City and grew up in Albuquerque, NM surrounded by a family of musicians and artists. At age 10, Brewer fell in love with the bass and began a lifelong study of music. He graduated high school from the Interlochen Arts Academy, and then went on to study at the Juilliard School. He’s travelled the world playing in the bands of Gonzalo Rubalcaba, Greg Osby, Steve Coleman, Dave Binney, Gerald Clayton, Ben Wendel, Aaron Parks, Vijay Iyer, Dhafer Youssef, Antonio Sánchez, Mark Turner, Steve Lehman, Ben Monder and Lage Lund, among many others. He has been a frequent guest lecturer at the Banff Center and is an adjunct faculty member at the New School University.

Kendrick A.D. Scott (Drums)

Named “Rising Star - Drums” by *DownBeat* and a “Drummer Whose Time is Now” by *The New York Times*, Kendrick A.D. Scott is a premier drummer and composer of his generation. The Houston-born Scott has toured worldwide and recorded with artists including Herbie Hancock, Terence Blanchard, Marcus Miller, Charles Lloyd, Wayne Shorter, The Crusaders, Joshua Redman, Robert Glasper, Kurt Rosenwinkel, Dianne Reeves, Kurt Elling, Gretchen Parlato and the Blue Note All-Stars. Scott’s compositions have been recorded on Grammy® Award-winning records, and he won a 2017 Chamber Music of America New Works Grant funded by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. He has released five albums as a bandleader with his band Oracle, *The Source* (2007), *Reverence* (2011), *Conviction* (2013), *We Are The Drum* (2015) and *A Wall Becomes A Bridge* on Blue Note records. Scott is on faculty at the Manhattan School Of Music.

Martin Luther McCoy (Vocals)

Rising to international attention for his extensive work with The Roots, singer, songwriter and San Francisco-native Martin Luther McCoy is on a mission to bring his signature mix of blues-drenched R&B, funk, rock and old-school soul to audiences worldwide. He founded the Rebel Soul Music label in 1999, releasing five scintillating sessions including *The Calling*, *Live at Arlene's Grocery*, *Rebel Soul Music*, *Extra Terrestrial Brother* and *Love is the Hero*. He has appeared at the SFJAZZ Center and at various venues around the country performing tributes to Sam Cooke, Ray Charles and Otis Redding.