



Mack Avenue SuperBand

Vibraphone **Gary Burton**
 Saxophone **Tia Fuller**
 Trumpet **Sean Jones**
 Bass **Christian McBride**
 Piano **Christian Sands**
 Drums **Ulysses Owens, Jr.**

PROGRAM

There will be an intermission.



Sunday, January 31 @ 7 PM

Zellerbach Theatre

AFRICAN ROOTS, AMERICAN VOICES

Part of the African Roots, American Voices series.

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ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Mack Avenue SuperBand has become synonymous with stellar line-ups consisting of established and up and coming jazz artists with pronounced identities and original grooves. This year's group, touring exclusively for the 2015-2016 season and featuring Gary Burton and Christian McBride as musical directors, tops them all.

Seven-time Grammy® Award-winning vibraphonist and jazz legend **Gary Burton** made his first recordings at age 17, and has toured and recorded with a who's who of famous jazz masters including Chick Corea, Pat Metheny and Stan Getz. *The Washington Post* stated, "[Burton] ...knows a thing or two about what makes a jazz collaboration truly special."

Saxophonist **Tia Fuller** is at home at all points of the music spectrum, from her show-stopping solos as a member of superstar Beyoncé's all-female band, to her scintillatingly swinging jazz dates and recordings. For this season's SuperBand, Fuller brings fire, rhythmic freedom and her youthful twisting of genres that she's gained from a life in both top-of-the-charts pop and jazz.

Sean Jones plays the trumpet with intense immediacy and urgency, hewing to the jazz tradition, but moving the music forward at the same time. After stepping down from his longtime position as Lead Trumpeter of the Jazz At Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis and then touring with Wayne Shorter and Herbie Hancock's *Tribute To Miles*, Jones has established himself as a formidable leader through his recordings and live performances.

The foundation of the SuperBand is musical director and bassist **Christian McBride** with his compatriots, pianist **Christian Sands** and drummer **Carl Allen**, both of whom have been performing in McBride's trio and quintet for several years, honing their conception to a fine point of expressive depth and nuance through select performances around the world. "The real core," McBride says of this rhythm section, "is hardcore swingin', blues and the American songbook. Part of that is because Christian [Sands] is so well-rounded and willing to go to so many places". Carl Allen is one of the most recorded jazz drummers of all time, with over 200 recordings to his credit.