



SFJAZZ COLLECTIVE

Drums Obed Calvaire
Trumpet Etienne Charles
Vibraphone Warren Wolf
Piano Edward Simon
Vocals Martin Luther McCoy
Bass Matt Brewer
Tenor Saxophone David Sánchez
Guitar Adam Rogers

There will be an intermission.

Sunday, April 5 @ 7 PM

Zellerbach Theatre



Media support for this performance provided by WRTI.

PROGRAM NOTES

An all-star ensemble comprising the finest performers/composers at work in jazz today, the SFJAZZ Collective assembles each year to create fresh arrangements of works by a modern master and newly commissioned pieces by each member of the band. Through this pioneering approach, simultaneously honoring music's greatest figures while championing jazz's up-to-the-minute directions, the Collective embodies SFJAZZ' commitment to jazz as a living, ever-relevant art form. This year the Collective celebrates the 50th anniversary of two of the essential albums in popular music, Sly and Family Stone's *Stand!* and Miles Davis' *In a Silent Way*, featuring guest vocalist Martin Luther McCoy and guitarist Adam Rogers — the first time the band has collaborated with a vocalist and a guitarist.

Released respectively in May and July 1969 by a pair of artists connected by mutual respect, inspiration and a commitment to artistic exploration, *Stand!* and *In a Silent Way* were beacons of hope and new musical possibilities during a turbulent time in American history. Sly's classics "I Want to Take You Higher," "Everyday People" and "Sing a Simple Song" have become timeless expressions of joy and positivity, while Davis' evocative work on *In a Silent Way* pushed jazz into bold new directions influenced by pop, R&B and funk.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Obed Calvaire (Drums)

Calvaire, a native of Miami and of Haitian descent, is a graduate with both a master and bachelor degree of music from one of America's premier private music conservatories in the nation, Manhattan School of Music. He received his bachelor's in 2003, completing the undergraduate degree requirements in three years, and received his master's in 2005. Calvaire has performed and recorded with artists such as Wynton Marsalis, Seal, Eddie Palmieri, Vanessa Williams, Mark Murphy, David Foster, Mary J. Blige, Stefon Harris, Kurt Rosenwinkel, Musiq Soulchild, Nellie McKay, YellowJackets, Joshua Redman, Steve Turre and Lizz Wright, to name a few. He has also performed with large ensembles such as the Village Vanguard Orchestra, Metropole Orchestra, the Mingus Big Band, Roy Hargrove Big Band and the Bob Mintzer Big Band. Currently, Calvaire can be found playing with Peter Cincotti, Richard Bona, Monty Alexander, Sean Jones, Yosvany Terry, The Clayton Brothers Quintet and Mike Stern, among others.

Etienne Charles (Trumpet)

Hailed by *The New York Times* as "an auteur" (Ben Ratliff) and by *JazzTimes* as a "daring improviser who delivers with heart wrenching lyricism" (Bill Milkowski), Trinidad-born Etienne Charles has received critical acclaim for his exciting performances, thrilling compositions and knack for connecting with audiences worldwide. Perhaps more than any other musician of his generation or Eastern Caribbean origin, Charles brings a careful study of myriad rhythms from the French, Spanish, English and Dutch-speaking Caribbean to his compositions. Crucially, as a soloist, he fully grasps the New Orleans trumpet tradition, which is readily discernible in his trademark instrumental swagger, and what famed Crescent City pianist, Jelly Roll Morton so succinctly captured in the now immortal phrase, "The Spanish Tinge." Charles' forthcoming album, *Carnival: The Sound of a People Vol. 1* (Culture Shock Music), is an excursion into the varied acoustic sounds, grooves, chants and rituals of his native Trinidad & Tobago Carnival. His 2016 album, *San Jose Suite*, was a musical discourse on the effects of colonialism through the scope of the experiences of First Nation peoples and African descendants in three San Jose locations: Costa Rica, California and Trinidad. In June 2012, he was written into the U.S. Congressional Record for his musical contributions to Trinidad & Tobago and the world. In 2015, Charles was named as a John Simon Guggenheim Fellow in the Creative Arts. 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 currently serves as Associate Professor of Jazz Trumpet at Michigan State University in East Lansing.

Warren Wolf (Vibraphone)

Wolf is a multi-instrumentalist from Baltimore, MD. From the age of three, Wolf has been trained on the vibraphone, marimba, drums and piano. He attended the Peabody Preparatory for eight years studying classical music with former Baltimore Symphony Orchestra member Leo LePage. During his high school years at the Baltimore School for the Arts, Wolf studied with current Baltimore Symphony Orchestra member John Locke. After graduating from the Baltimore School for the Arts in 1997, Wolf headed north and enrolled at Berklee College of Music in Boston, MA. During his time at Berklee, Wolf studied with Caribbean jazz vibraphonist Dave Samuels. After graduating in 2001, Wolf became an active musician in the Boston local scene and was hired in 2003 to become an instructor in Berklee's percussion department. Wolf is currently the drummer of choice for alto saxophonist Tia Fuller, who tours with internationally renowned pop star Beyoncé. Wolf is also a member of the Donal Fox Group. Wolf has several recordings as a leader, and was recently signed to Mack Avenue Records. The upcoming release of *Warren Wolf*, an eponymous debut album, will make it as apparent to jazz fans as it already is to jazz insiders, that the 31-year-old vibraphonist is the next major voice on his instrument.

Edward Simon (Piano)

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 fifteen critically acclaimed albums as a leader. His latest is *Sorrows and Triumphs*, released via Sunnyside Records in 2018. The album was declared "unmissable" in Nate Chinen's Take Five column on WBGO.org, and the pianist was featured in an extensive *DownBeat* interview upon the disc's release. This follows Simon's 2016 album, *Latin American Songbook*, which won him an NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Jazz Album. A four-and-a-half-star *DownBeat* review also praised his fresh vision of classic Latin American songs as "grand and sophisticated."

Martin Luther McCoy (Vocals)

Rising to international attention for his extensive work with The Roots, singer, songwriter and San Francisco-native 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*. McCoy recently released new music including the single "Now" and a full-length, self-titled album. He has appeared at the SFJAZZ Center and at various venues around the country performing tributes to Sam Cooke, Ray Charles and Otis Redding.

Matt Brewer (Bass)

Brewer was born in Oklahoma City and grew up in Albuquerque, NM, surrounded by a family of musicians and artists. His grandfather played trumpet in the bands of Charlie Barnett, Woody Herman and Bob Wills and his Texas Playboys. Brewer's mother worked as a jazz radio DJ and his father is a trombonist/educator with a doctorate in music composition and theory. At the age of 10, Brewer fell in love with the bass and began a lifelong study of music. He graduated high school from the Interlochen Arts Academy, then went on to study at The Juilliard School. Since then, he has traveled 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 Centre, and is an adjunct faculty member at The New School University.

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® nominee has performed with a roster of greats including Charlie Haden, Eddie Palmieri, Roy Haynes, Tom Harrell and countless others. Sánchez has an impressive resume 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.

Adam Rogers (Guitar)

A New York City native, guitarist Adam Rogers is one of the most innovative and acclaimed guitarists in jazz. Since the beginning of his career, he has played on over two hundred commercially released recordings and has performed and/or recorded extensively with Michael Brecker, Cassandra Wilson, Norah Jones, Chris Potter, Walter Becker, Paul Simon, Christian McBride, Regina Carter, John Zorn, John Patitucci, Phillip Bailey, Joe Jackson, Marcus Miller, The Mingus Orchestra, Ravi Coltrane and Terence Blanchard, among many others. Rogers has released seven critically acclaimed recordings as a leader, most recently of his genre-bending power trio, Dice. As a clinician and teacher, he has given master classes nationally and internationally, and is currently on the faculty at the NYU/Steinhardt School of Music.



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