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CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH

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THE BOB COLE CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC AT  
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH AND THE COLLEGE OF THE ARTS PROUDLY PRESENT:



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# JAZZ LAB BAND

DREW NINMER, DIRECTOR

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SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2013  
4:00PM

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GERALD R. DANIEL RECITAL HALL  
PLEASE SILENCE ALL ELECTRONIC MOBILE DEVICES.

## TONIGHT'S PROGRAM

**GROOVE BLUES** / **Don Menza** Recorded in 1975 by the Louie Bellson Big Band, this classic Don Menza chart is a great way to kick off our concert today. It challenges the band in many ways, not the least of which is a treacherous sax soli in the middle of the piece. The bright figures, swinging melodies, and dynamic contrasts help the piece build to the final note. Soloists include Taylor Smith (trombone), Tim Struven (tenor sax), and Tony Escoto (piano).

**KIDS ARE PRETTY PEOPLE** / **Thad Jones** Considered by many as one of the greatest big band jazz writers of all time, Thad Jones created a style all his own, and this chart is no exception. As recorded by the Thad Jones-Mel Lewis Jazz Orchestra, this expressive swing ballad gives solo work to the trumpet, trombone, and to everyone in the band for 3 bars before the closing section. As Thad's directions say, "everybody play a solo in any key." Featured soloists are Ian Holmquist (trumpet), and Taylor Smith (trombone).

**ESCAPE VELOCITY** / **Jeff Jarvis** This solidly scored hip-hop composition by Jeff Jarvis grooves from start to finish. After a technically challenging mixed meter intro, one trumpet and tenor take the melody. Funk-inspired horn lines and interesting countermelodies keep the chart entertaining to the end, when the mixed meter intro returns to close the piece. Solos are included for much of the sax section, including Nathan Sakai (alto sax), Garrett Dahl (baritone sax), and John-Michael O'Brien (alto sax) as well as Sean Youe (bass).

**SAMANTHA** / **Sammy Nestico** Sammy Nestico creates a tapestry of sounds in this beautiful composition. Utilizing a variety of dynamics and lush voicings, a fitting accompaniment is laid for our featured tenor soloist, Alex Johnson.

*Andree (tenor sax), and Nick Bianchini (trumpet).* We at "Jazz At The Beach" look forward to many years of partnership with KKJZ 88.1.

We are very grateful to a longtime friend of "Jazz At The Beach," Joanne France, for her generous gift to our program—**The Beau and Jo France Graduate Jazz Studies Scholarship**. This gift provides an opportunity for a leading graduate student to work closely with the Director of Jazz Studies to learn all aspects of running a collegiate jazz program, including serving as the director of the Jazz Lab Band. The first recipient of this scholarship is CJO lead trumpeter *Drew Nimmer*.

Last but not least, we wish to give a special thanks to the honorary 18th member of the Concert Jazz Orchestra, **Helen Borgers from KKJZ 88.1**. She goes to great lengths to help us promote our performances and honors us by serving as the emcee for "Jazz At The Beach" events. We love you Helen.

## PERSONNEL

Alto Sax—Lawrence Pi \*  
Alto Sax—Nathan Sakai \*  
Alto Sax—John-Michael O'Brien \*  
Tenor Sax—Alex Johnson \*  
Tenor Sax—Tim Struven \*  
Baritone Sax—Garrett Dahl

Trumpet—Tony Belletti  
Trumpet—Ian Holmquist \*  
Trumpet—Denny Bui  
Trumpet—Chandler Riley

Trombone—Gary Soland  
Trombone—Taylor Smith \*  
Trombone—Tori Bynon  
Trombone—Daniel Garcia

Guitar—Dominic Furiani  
Piano—Tony Escoto  
Bass—Marc Encabo  
Bass—Sean Youe  
Drums—Tyler Kreutel

\*—*Jazz Studies major*

France Graduate Jazz Studies Scholarship. He serves as the lead trumpet player in the Concert Jazz Orchestra, as well as performing in numerous other jazz and classical ensembles. Nimmer has the honor of being the director of the Jazz Lab Band and leader of the Conservatory Jazz Combo. Drew holds a bachelor's degree in jazz studies from the University of Illinois-Champaign/Urbana. While at the University of Illinois, he held top spots in the Concert Jazz Band, Latin Jazz Ensemble, Wind Orchestra, and Philharmonic Orchestra. Drew is featured as a soloist and lead trumpet player on a 2011 CD release with the Concert Jazz Band entitled *Free Play*. He has also played trumpet for professional theatre while residing in Illinois, as well as leading a quartet and quintet outside of school.

Drew has also composed and arranged for various groups, writing for jazz band, several different jazz combo instrumentations, jazz saxophone and trombone ensembles, brass ensemble and solo piano.

In the summer of 2011, Drew had the privilege of performing in Disneyland's All-American College Band that performs throughout the Disneyland Resort during the summer. Every year this band consists the best collegiate talent from across the United States. Nimmer has also had the honor of sharing the stage with such world-renowned artists as Arturo Sandoval, John Clayton, Rick Baptist, Gregg Field, John Fedchock, The Vanguard Jazz Orchestra and many others.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Our sincere thanks to **Regena Cole** and the **Bob Cole Foundation** for the endowment that annually funds scholarships for gifted students at the Bob Cole Conservatory of Music. Thanks to these scholarships, we are positioned to attract the best young talent and prepare them for successful careers in music. "Jazz At The Beach" is proud to identify our Cole Jazz Scholar performing with us today—*Drew Nimmer (director)*.

We extend our appreciation to KKJZ radio, Saul Levine, and Stephanie Levine-Fried of Global Jazz for their generous support of the Bob Cole Conservatory Jazz Studies program at California State University, Long Beach. **Four KKJZ Scholarships in the amount of \$5,000 are awarded each year to talented and deserving students.** Our 2012-2013 KKJZ Scholars are *Ramsey Castaneda (tenor sax)*, *Daniel Hutton (alto sax)*, *Josh*

## GROOVE MERCHANT / Jerome Richardson, arr. Thad Jones

Recorded on the album *Central Park North* in 1969 by the Thad Jones-Mel Lewis Jazz Orchestra, *Groove Merchant* was composed by Jerome Richardson and arranged for big band by Thad Jones. The time swings heavily a la Basie, but is more melodically and harmonically daring and edgy. With difficult solis for both the saxes and the brass, this arrangement challenges the band throughout. An open solo section precedes the brass soli, featuring Lawrence Pi (alto sax) and Ian Holmquist (trumpet).

**IN HER FAMILY / Pat Metheny, arr. Bob Curnow** This is one of Metheny's most haunting, pensive, and beautiful ballads that will feature our guitarist Dominic Furiani. Warm brass sounds and beautiful harmonies give this piece a unique texture.

**SHINY STOCKINGS / Frank Foster, arr. Sammy Nestico** As recorded by the Count Basie Orchestra, here is Sammy Nestico's classic arrangement of this Frank Foster jazz standard. With the signature Basie piano stylings, and a roaring shout chorus, Shiny Stockings will have you tapping your toes. Soloists include Ian Holmquist (trumpet) and Tony Escoto (piano).

**SAMBA DEES GODDA DO IT / Tom Kubis** Closing today's program is a spirited composition by Tom Kubis. As the title implies, this chart is a samba that is cleverly written and, like many of his compositions, is a real crowd pleaser. Gary Soland (trombone), Chandler Riley (trumpet), and Alex Johnson (tenor) are featured soloists.

## ABOUT DREW NINMER

Trumpeter/Composer **Drew Nimmer** is currently the Jazz Studies Graduate Assistant at California State University, Long Beach. Drew is a recipient of a Cole Scholarship and was also awarded the Beau and Jo