

The Department of Music at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
and the Jamey Aebersold Visiting Artist Series Present:



UNC Jazz Band

Rahsaan Barber, Director

Marcus Finnie, Drums

Thursday, April 20, 2023 at 7:30pm
James and Susan Moeser Auditorium

PROGRAM

Easy Money

Benny Carter/John Clayton

Better Days Ahead

Pat Metheny/Gary Lindsay

Ran Kan Kan

Tito Puente/Michael Philip Mossman

Mosaic

Cedar Walton/Don Sickler

Lisette

Sammy Nestico

Dialogue

Bob Mintzer

Rhythm of Our World

Arturo Sandoval/Richard Eddy

UNC Jazz Band, Dr. Rahsaan Barber, Director:

Saxophones:

Alto 1 – Payton Salmonson

Alto 2 – Adriana Kirk

Tenor 1 – Alex Upton

Tenor 2 – Jones Doom

Baritone – Deana Garst

Trumpets:

Tpt. 1 – Alexander Eischeid

Tpt. 2 – Lucas Hendershot

Tpt. 3 – Neil Pierre-Louis

Tpt. 4 – Naomi Major

Trombones:

Tbn. 1 – Bruce McRae

Tbn. 2 – James Odametey

Tbn. 3. – Ian Matthies

Tbn. 4 – Patrick DeLoach

Rhythm Section

Guitar – William Dominici

Piano – Holland Majors, Marvin Koonce, Drew Nora

Bass – Christopher Law

Drums – Beckham Nora, Daniel Asanov

ABOUT OUR GUEST:



A Memphis native, Marcus Finnie began playing drums at church accompanying his mother on organ. During this time, he practiced to vinyl records from Billy Cobham to Earth Wind and Fire. At age 4 he sat in with a band on Beale Street at Rum Boogie Cafe.

While in school, he played drums at Olivet Baptist Church every Sunday morning and night and then at a club after church subbing off and on for Yvette Preyer, the former drummer for Michael McDonald.

At the age of thirteen while playing at Olivet, he met Grammy winning jazz saxophonist Kirk Whalum and after college would tour and record with him going on twelve years.

Once he left Memphis for Middle Tennessee State University, he furthered his musical experience in marching band, jazz band, and orchestra. He then switched his major to the school's most popular major, Recording Arts to learn production and studio techniques.

While in college he interned with Grammy Producers Cedric and Victor Caldwell where he got to record with Smokie Norful, T.D. Jakes, Vickie Winans and Donnie McClurkin.

After college that year, one gig led to another that led to another. Shortly after college he got the call to go on the road with Donna Summer. While on the road with her, he met Billy Preston and in between Donna's tour he went out with Billy Preston and Larry Carlton traveling over seas numerous times within weeks.

Later on he would go on to tour South Africa with Earl Klugh and shortly after, BWB (Rick Braun, Kirk Whalum, and Norman Brown). During this time Kirk also recorded his fourth volume of The Gospel According to Jazz which featured his current band along with several special guest artists.

While living in Nashville, Marcus has recorded, toured and performed with Keb Mo, Taj Mahal, Lady Antebellum, India Arie, Lalah Hathaway, Nelly, Sheléa, G-Love and Special Sauce, Ana Popovic, Jacob Whitesides, Michael McDonald, Take 6 and several others. Marcus continues to record and tour all the while teaching and giving clinics. He also writes, produces and arranges R&B, pop and jazz.

Dr. Rahsaan Barber has blazed a singular trail of dedicated excellence in four musical arenas: performance, composition, education, and entrepreneurship. In March of 2023, while completing his third year as an Assistant Professor of Jazz Studies and Saxophone at the University of North Carolina, the saxophonist/composer successfully completed his doctoral studies at the University of Memphis. Dr. Barber has appeared as a featured soloist with many celebrated artists including Christian McBride, Cyrus Chestnut, Lakecia Benjamin, Idina Menzel, Brian Blade, The Temptations, The Wooten Brothers, Branford Marsalis, Gladys Knight, Taj Mahal, the late Greg Allman, and the late Dr. John. In addition, he has performed on many of the world's most prestigious musical stages including The Ryman, The Village Vanguard, Carnegie Hall, Birdland, Lincoln Center, the Kennedy Center, and the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture. Dr. Barber first garnered national acclaim with his band's self-titled 2011 release, *Everyday Magic*. *Mosaic*, Dr. Barber's most recent recording (released in April of 2021) is a critically-acclaimed double-disc album (featuring fifteen original compositions) and was deemed a "95-minute masterpiece" by critic Dan Bilawsky in the pages of *JazzTimes*. In 2022, Dr. Barber's ensembles performed several celebrated jazz venues (following the release of *Mosaic*) including The Jazz Kitchen (Indianapolis), Middle C (Charlotte), The Sharp Nine Gallery (Durham), The City Winery (Nashville), The Origins Jazz Series (Lexington), and The Nashville Jazz Workshop. Dr. Barber remains an in-demand saxophonist for recording sessions and touring work with both his own groups and others' ensembles. In recent months, Dr. Barber has recorded as a featured soloist for releases by Dr. Stephen Anderson's Dominican Jazz Project, The 360° Jazz Initiative, vocalist Lauren Daigle, funk outfit Them Vibes, percussionist Juan Alamo, pianist Melvin "Maestro" Lightford, gospel singer/songwriter Dwan Hill, and LA-based jazz vocalist Staci Griesbach, for whom Dr. Barber worked as both soloist and arranger.

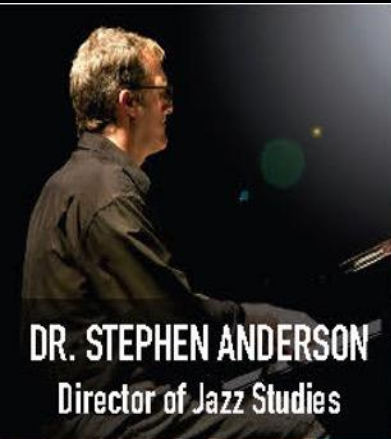


WE THANK OUR DONORS:

The UNC Jazz Studies faculty and students thank Jamey Aebersold for sponsoring our guest artists (Joel Frahm, Philip Dizack, Pharez Whitted, and Marcus Finnie) as part of the Jamey Aebersold Visiting Artist Series. We thank Thomas F. Steward for his generous gift which funds the day-to-day operations of UNC Jazz Studies. We also thank Dr. Jesse White for his generous contributions in honor of Jim Ketch which have provided support for the purchase of instruments that are used in the UNC Jazz Band. We thank the Kyser family, Fred and Gail Fearing, Jim and Jo Ann Harllee, Andy Shapiro and Anna Libers, and other anonymous donors for their kindness in supporting student scholarships and student initiatives, and Jeff Chandler and Howard Aldrich for their generosity in providing support which enables UNC Jazz Studies to host the annual Carolina Jazz Festival/Essentially Ellington Regional Festival. We also thank Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Caviness, Jonathan Edward Lewis, and Nick Sengstaken for their generous contributions.

UNC Jazz Calendar

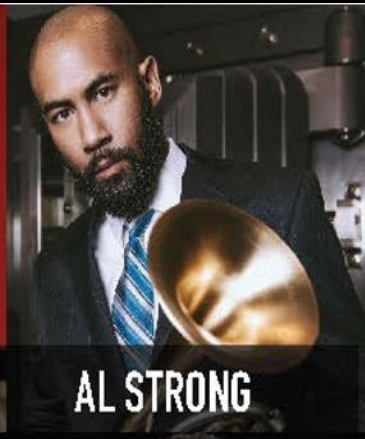
Please join us for the nightly concerts at the UNC Summer Jazz Workshop!
Monday-Friday, June 26-30, 2023



DR. STEPHEN ANDERSON
Director of Jazz Studies



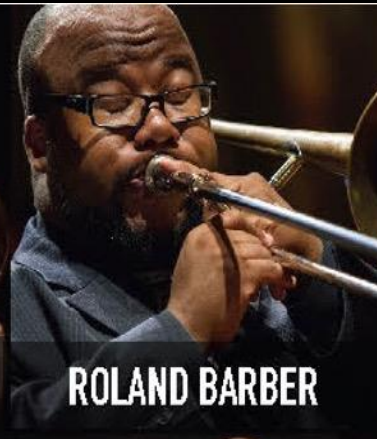
RAHSAAN BARBER



AL STRONG



JERALD SHYNETT



ROLAND BARBER



ED PAOLANTONIO



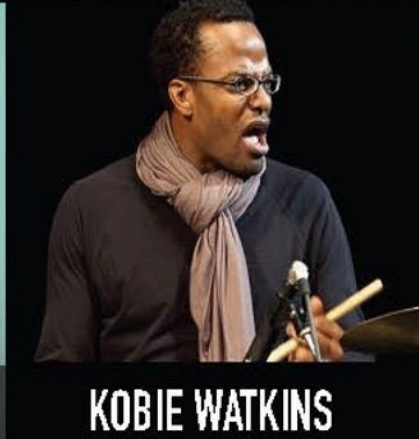
KEITH GANZ



JASON FOUREMAN



KATE MCGARRY (voice)



KOBIE WATKINS



DAN DAVIS



DR. JUAN ALAMO



DR. GREGG GELB



ANDY BECHTEL