

# Evening Concert – Monday, April 18, 2011

*Winspear Centre, Edmonton*

*8:00 pm.*

**University of Manitoba Jazz Faculty Ensemble**  
**Featuring Steve Kirby: Bass, Jimmy Greene: Saxophone,**  
**George Colligan: Piano and Quincy Davis: Drums**

Program selections to be announced from the stage.

## BIOGRAPHIES

### Steve Kirby

In the summer of 2003, Steve Kirby accepted the position as the Director of Jazz Studies at the University of Manitoba. Since then, Steve has overseen a full-fledged rejuvenation of the jazz scene in Winnipeg. His ongoing activities include: artistic director of the Izzy Asper Jazz Performances, advisor to the TD Canada Trust Jazz Winnipeg Festival, director of the U of M Summer Jazz Camp, creator and editor of dig! Magazine and the creator and director of Jazz On Wheels, a mobile Jazz education performance group that takes the music to Winnipeg's inner city youth. He was the 2006 recipient of the Xerox Manitoba Jazz Educator of the Year Award. Steve also performs locally with the Winnipeg Jazz Orchestra, the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra and his own critically acclaimed ensemble: The Oceanic Jazz Orchestra for which he composes and arranges all of the music.

In 2007, Steve recorded a CD entitled "Wicked Grin" with local guitarist Larry Roy. Professor Kirby is also featured on "Subtle Fire" a CD by the young up and coming pianist, Will Bonness, that was recorded in 2009.

Before coming to Winnipeg from New York, Professor Kirby established himself an enviable career as a double bass player, performing, recording, and touring with some of the biggest names in jazz, including Elvin Jones, Wynton Marsalis, Cyrus Chestnut, Abbey Lincoln, Steve Turre, James Carter, Stefon Harris, Joe Lovano, Kenny Barron, Kathleen Battle and many others.

[www.stevekirby.ca](http://www.stevekirby.ca)

[http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/music/staff/kirby\\_steve.html](http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/music/staff/kirby_steve.html)

### Jimmy Greene

A native of Hartford, CT, saxophonist, composer, and educator Jimmy Greene has emerged as a positive young force in the jazz world. Greene's 8 solo recordings, including his latest, Live at Smalls (SmallsLive), have been met with much critical acclaim. In fact, Tony Hall of Jazzwise Magazine calls Greene ". . .without doubt one of the most striking young tenors of recent years."

Greene, the composer, won the prestigious 2005 ASCAP / IAJE Commission, a 2004 Chamber Music America Grant, a 2005 Artist Fellowship in Music Composition by the State of Connecticut, and a 2009 Artist Fellowship by the Greater Hartford Arts Council. His quartet performs at the Village Vanguard, Smalls, and Smoke in New York, and has performed in festivals and jazz venues worldwide, including tour dates throughout the U.S., Italy, Russia, Israel, Canada, Brazil, and Uruguay. As a sideman, Greene appears on 70 recordings, and has toured the world and recorded with the bands of Horace Silver, Freddie Hubbard, Tom Harrell, Harry Connick, Jr., Avishai Cohen, and Lewis Nash, among many others.

Currently, Greene is Assistant Professor of Jazz Saxophone at the University of Manitoba's Marcel A. Desautels Faculty of Music, where he leads the Jazz Lab Orchestra and teaches jazz saxophone, arranging, and composition. He has also served as Visiting Assistant Professor of Music at Purchase College (State University of New York), as Lecturer at the Jackie McLean Institute of Jazz at the Hartt School (University of Hartford), and as Instructor at the Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts.

Greene was the First Runner-Up the 1996 Thelonious Monk Institute International Jazz Saxophone Competition, and a 1997 Summa Cum Laude graduate of the Jackie McLean Institute of Jazz at the Hartt School / University of Hartford.

[www.jimmygreene.com](http://www.jimmygreene.com)

<http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/music/staff/345.html>

## **George Colligan**

George Colligan (born December 29, 1969) is a New York-based jazz pianist, organist, drummer, trumpet player, educator, composer and bandleader. An in-demand sideman, Colligan has worked with Phil Woods, Gary Bartz, Robin Eubanks, Billy Higgins, Lee Konitz, Nicholas Payton, Steve Wilson, Richard Bona, Cassandra Wilson, Christian McBride, Buster Williams, Al Foster, Don Byron, Benny Golson, Lonnie Plaxico, Vanessa Rubin, and many others. He counts Chick Corea, Miles Davis, Herbie Hancock, Thelonious Monk, Wayne Shorter, and McCoy Tyner as influences. Colligan is a recipient of the Chamber Music America award for composition and a winner of the Jazzconnect.com award. He has released 18 albums as a leader and is featured on over 100 albums as a sideman. Colligan's style is extremely eclectic; it incorporates everything from show tunes to funk, from free improvisation to modern classical music. Colligan has performed at festivals all over the world, including the North Sea Jazz Festival, the Edinburgh Jazz & Blues Festival, Vancouver International Jazz Festival, and the Cancun Jazz Festival. In 2007, for the first time, he played trumpet with the trio Mr. Trumpet at the Festival of New Trumpet Music, which is held annually in New York City. Colligan taught at the Juilliard School. In September 2009, Colligan moved to Winnipeg, MB in Canada to teach at the Marcel A. Desautels faculty of music. He teaches jazz history, piano, drums, trumpet, and leads many different master classes. He will be the songwriter-in-residence at Aqua Books from February to March 2011.

<http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/music/staff/347.html>

<http://www.georgecolligan.com/>

## Quincy Davis

As the Assistant-Professor of Jazz Drum-Set studies at the University of Manitoba, I am currently sharing my passion and knowledge of jazz with very talented and passionate students. There's a lot of talent up here in Winnipeg and all I gotta say is, 'Watch out, because here comes Canada!'

Quincy Davis was born in 1977 in Grand Rapids, MI, into a musical family. Davis began his formal music study during his 11th grade year at a private arts high school called Interlochen Arts Academy (IAA). There he studied classical percussion as well as trap-set drumming. IAA is where he received his first experience playing jazz in a group setting. IAA proved to be an important contribution to Davis's future successes.

In 1995, Davis graduated from IAA and began college at Western Michigan University. It was here that he studied with drum master, Billy Hart. Along with learning more about the drums, Mr. Hart instilled in Davis a deep knowledge of the music, which has proven to be very beneficial to his career. For all 4 years, he was quite involved in various performing ensembles such as orchestra, band, as well as jazz combos and big band. Along with emerging as an excellent drummer, he emerged as a great composer. The combos he played with often played his compositions. At various collegiate jazz festivals, musicians such as Roy Haynes, Wallace Roney, Sir Roland Hanna, and Benny Green heard these compositions. Davis graduated in 1999 and substitute taught elementary and middle school music in the Grand Rapids area for one year before moving to New York City.

In the summer of 2000, Davis moved to New York City. Within a week of moving, he landed his first gig at a well known jam session spot, Cleopatra's Needle in Manhattan. He became their house drummer every Friday, which he did for over a year. His name spread quickly in the jazz community and within a couple of months, he had steady work. Within just his first year, he met and played with many great musicians such as Wynton Marsalis, Frank Wess, Russell Malone, Eric Reed, Cyrus Chestnut, Paquito D'Rivera, Lew Tebakin, Marcus Printup, Warren Vache, Ron Blake, Jon Faddis, Stefon Harris, Peter Bernstein, Roy Hargrove, Paula West, Nicholas Payton, New York Voices, Ryan Kisor, Regina Carter and Wessell Anderson.

In December 2000, he received a call to go on the road with trumpet master, Tom Harrell. Davis's first tour with Tom was in March of 2001. The band which includes Xavier Davis (pianist), Jimmy Greene (Tenor Sax), and Ugonna Okegwo (bass) recently recorded a live CD at the Village Vanguard for RCA Victor. Along with Mr. Harrell, Davis has been working with the piano wizard Benny Green. Between the two bands, Davis has played in over 10 different countries and in many well known jazz clubs such as: The Village Vanguard and The Blue Note in New York City; The Jazz Showcase in Chicago; Paris, New Morning Jazz Club; The Jazz Bakery, Yoshi, and Catalina Bar and Grill in California.

Davis's talents have clearly been recognized and admired by many and because of his humble spirit, great attitude, and deep knowledge and passion for the music, he will continue to move forward in the jazz scene. He is unquestionably a young and up-coming jazz talent with a great future ahead of him.

<http://quincydavis.com/>

<http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/music/staff/350.html>