

# **University of Manitoba Jazz Ensemble, featuring:**

Jazz Program Director, Steve Kirby – bass  
Professor Jimmy Greene – saxophone  
Jazz Voice Instructor, Anna-Lisa Kirby - vocals  
Jazz Guitar Instructor, Laurent Roy – guitar

Cantando Festival  
Winspear Centre, Edmonton  
April 27, 2010, 8:00pm

Program Selections to be announced from the stage. Program will consist of selections from the Jazz standard and the modern popular song book as well as some pieces composed by members of the group.

## **BIOGRAPHIES**

### **Steve Kirby (bass)**

Before coming to Winnipeg from New York in 2003, jazz bassist STEVE KIRBY had established an enviable career, 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, Slide Hampton, Joe Lovano, Lester Bowie, John Hicks, and many others. He continues to be a busy performer and clinician in both Canada and the US. Kirby is the Director of Jazz Studies at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, the artistic director of the Izzy Asper Jazz Performances, advisor to the Groove-FM Jazz Winnipeg Festival, director of the U of M Summer Jazz Camp, and editor of dig! Magazine. In 2008, he and Winnipeg guitarist Larry Roy released *Wicked Grin*, a recording of mostly original music that turned heads across the country. The *Wicked Grin* band is being featured on Canada's 2009 jazz festival circuit. ([www.myspace.com/digstevekirby](http://www.myspace.com/digstevekirby))

### **Jimmy Greene (saxophone)**

Jimmy 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, composition, and performance skills. Prior to his 2009 appointment to the Faculty of Music, he 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 an Instructor at the Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts. Greene has given clinics and masterclasses throughout the United States, Canada, Brazil, Israel, and Russia. Two of his former students have been named semi-finalists in the prestigious Thelonious Monk Institute International Jazz Competition, and 18 student musicians and small ensembles under Greene's direction have won DownBeat Magazine Student Music Awards.

### **Anna-Lisa Kirby (vocals)**

Anna-Lisa Kirby is a professional jazz vocalist and has worked with artists such as Wynton Marsalis, Cyrus Chestnut and Steve Kirby. She is the Jazz Vocal Instructor and Jazz Program Coordinator at the University of Manitoba, Marcel A. Desautels Faculty of Music.

### **Laurent Roy (guitar)**

Over the last two decades, Larry Roy has established himself on the Canadian jazz scene as an artist, composer, producer and sought-after professor. He represents everything that's good about jazz in Winnipeg. As well as teach jazz at the University of Manitoba, this versatile musician writes film scores and performs all over Europe and North America. Roy and long-time musical partner Steve Kirby recently released the album *Wicked Grin*.