

# STUDIO BIG BAND Dr. David Scott, director

Wednesday, October 15, 2014 - 8:00 p.m. CASA LOMA ROOM

Groovin' High John Birks "Dizzy" Gillespie

(1917-1993)

Arr. Glenn Osser

500 Miles High Chick Corea and Neville Potter

Arr. Victor Lopez

Crumbs Dave Robertson

(b. 1959)

Carefree Terry Hemeyer and Dave Belonger

Chet's Call Pat Metheny and Lyle Mays

(b. 1954) and (b. 1953)

Arr. Bob Curnow

Seven Steps to Heaven Miles Davis and Victor Feldman

(1926-1991) and (1934-1987)

Arr. Gordon Goodwin

Sing Sang Sung Gordon Goodwin

(b. 1954)

#### PROGRAM NOTES

Groovin' High

"Dizzy" Gillespie Arr. Glenn Osser

"Groovin' High" first appeared on Dizzy Gillespie's 1945 album *Shaw* "*Nuff*, and was a complex medium swing melody based on the chord structure of a 1920's song called "Whisperer." This tune, along with several other pieces on the same album, was a huge leap forward in jazz history – known as one of the first songs in which the improvisational solos had very little to do with the melody, yet still functioned within the piece. Our soloists hope to recreate that effect this evening. Also listen for Charlie Parker's original groundbreaking solo – arranged in harmony for the entire saxophone section.

500 Miles High

Chick Corea and Nevil Potter Arr. Victor Lopez

Chick Corea's beautiful melody floats over a strong latin groove in keeping with the album from which it is taken - *Light as a Feather* - on which pianist Corea and lyricist Neville Potter collaborated in their group "Return to Forever." Solo tenor and piano begin the piece with an interactive rubato section before the groove settles in, with the tenor paying tribute to the original album's jazz vocals by Brazilian singer Flora Purim. Arranger Victor Lopez also features a strong sax soli section before the powerful finish.

Crumbs Dave Robertson

Dave Robertson is a UK-based DJ and producer, famous for techno and house music compositions. In this unconventional up-tempo swing number Robertson has expanded his musical horizon. An impressive sax soli dazzles after the opening theme and exposition, followed by a solo section with progressively complex background figures. The main theme is reminiscent of the over-the-top big brass action of film soundtracks like *The Incredibles* and the James Bond films.

#### Carefree

Terry Hemeyer and Dave Belonger

As performed by the "Falconairs" - the United States Air Force Academy Stage Band, under the direction of Captain Terry Hemeyer, "Carefree" is a light bossa nova that makes for pleasant, easy listening from start to finish.

Chet's Call

Pat Metheny and Lyle Mays Arr. Bob Curnow

This chart has had an interesting life. It was written by Pat Metheny and Lyle Mays for collaboration between bassist Charlie Haden, drummer Billy Higgins and trumpeter Chet Baker – but the performance never actually took place and it wasn't recorded. The music was "lost in history" for a time, until it was rediscovered in 1985 on a radio transcription. It is a fun swing tune with plenty of solo space and a catchy melody.

Seven Steps to Heaven

Miles Davis and Victor Feldman Arr. Gordon Goodwin

From the album of the same name, "Seven Steps to Heaven" was written in 1963 by Miles Davis and Victor Feldman, and is the second Gordon Goodwin arrangement to be performed this evening. This interpretation states the classic theme as a jazz waltz, then moves to a fast 4 tempo for improvisation and a shout chorus before returning to the waltz to finish.

Sing Sang Sung

Gordon Goodwin

"Sing, Sang, Sung" mimics the well-known "Sing, Sing, Sing (with a Swing)," originally written by Louis Prima in 1936 and covered by Fletcher Henderson and most famously by Benny Goodman, which became synonymous with the 1930's swing era. "Sing, Sang, Sung" is the first of two Gordon Goodwin arrangements to be performed tonight, and cleverly interprets and re-invents the famous tune. Gordon Goodwin's Big Phat Band is based locally in Los Angeles, and many of their arrangements hark back to classic jazz standards as this one does.

Program Notes by Andrea Massey

## STUDIO BIG BAND

## **Saxophones**

Kelsey Broersma, lead alto Ben Swank David Moreland, lead tenor Manuel Perez Nicolai Gervasi-Monarrez, bari

#### **Trombones**

Andrea Massey
Joel Rangel
Andrew Will
Todd Thorson, bass trombone

## **Trumpets**

Brandon Hansen Tyler Neill Jake Ferntheil Kenny Taber Jiovanni Guzman

# **Rhythm Section**

Thandiwe Sukuta, piano Jacob Bellows, guitar Juan Anecito, bass David Mantle, drum set

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