MARCH 23

SEASON 16

# Bop Till You Drop

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## Good Evening,

Thank you all for joining us for our second Charleston Jazz Orchestra performance of the season!

Our focus this evening lies in the captivating realm of hard bop jazz, a subgenre that emerged in the mid-1950s as a response to the intricate styles of bebop. Hard bop retains bebop's essence with its fast tempos, improvisational spirit, and complex melodies, while infusing elements of blues, gospel, and R&B to craft a soulful and accessible sound.

Looking ahead, mark your calendars as the Charleston Jazz Festival returns from April 18-21! Anticipation is high as we prepare to present an extraordinary lineup of musical brilliance.

Your presence here tonight is deeply appreciated, and we sincerely hope you relish every moment of this performance.

Tatiana Bevlotte **Executive Director** 

"What happened in Charleston, New Orleans, Memphis, Kansas City, Savannah and other cities not only illustrates the fact that jazz was born in America, their stories prove that America is built on the same principles as jazz. It's a kind of real-world metaphor. Jazz is democratic. Everyone can have something to say. It's diverse and inclusive. It's an experiment. There's never been anything like it before. It will always be a work in progress."







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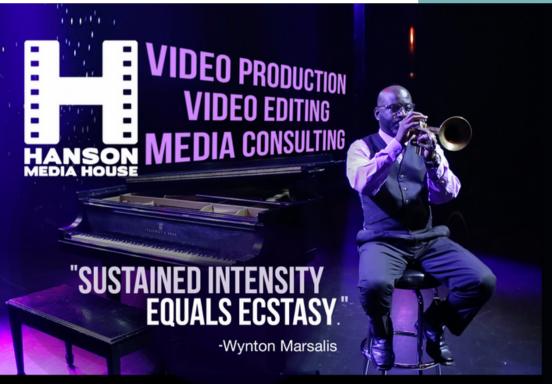
#### A Note from Robert Lewis:

Welcome, and thanks for joining us tonight for our exploration of hard bop! If pressed, a large percentage of instrumental jazz musicians and listeners alike would say that this is their favorite sub-genre of jazz. Spear-headed by musicians such as Horace Silver and Art Blakey, the hard bop style kept the harmonic and melodic richness of the preceding bebop era but also brought back and/or introduced elements of blues, R&B, gospel, and funk to the mixture. The result was a more accessible, but never watered down, style, which appealed greatly to the entire jazz community. A little bonus feature for tonight is that every member of the CJO will get to be featured soloists, so keep an eye out for your favorites!



Robert Lewis

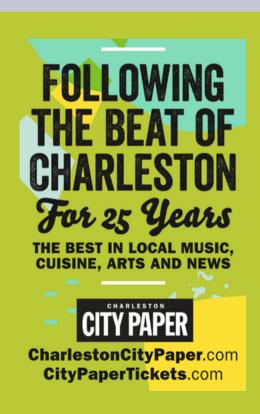
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#### Don't Miss A Beat!



The annual Charleston Jazz Festival returns April 18–21 and will feature 6x Grammy Award Winner Arturo O'Farrill, America's Singing Storyteller René Marie, 10x Grammy Nominee Joshua Redman, Preservation Hall Jazz Band, and more.

The Charleston Jazz
Academy's popular Jazz
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We are pleased to announce that Charleston Jazz was chosen for a National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Grants for Arts Projects Award. This award will support our 2024 artist residency program with Stefon Harris. The residency will include educational programs, a performance at the Charleston Jazz Gala, and a featured headliner appearance in the CJO's Good Vibes concert on October 19th.

#### Save the date!

Momentum will be performing on May 4 at 4pm at the International African American Museum for Keys & Conversations.



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#### **Musician Bios**



#### Robert Lewis, CJO Music Director, Saxophone

This musical polymath plays four instruments for the Charleston Jazz Orchestra, and in his early years became accomplished on both the piano and bassoon. He began his musical journey at the age of eight. Now Director of Jazz Studies at the College of Charleston, Robert is a triple-threat – composing, performing and teaching jazz on a full-time basis.



#### Jon Phillips, Alto Saxophone, Flute and Clarinet

Jon started playing music when he was five. By the time he turned 20, Jon realized that journalism was boring and math was frustrating so he picked up the saxophone, flute and clarinet. He's a self-taught arranger. "I owe a great debt of gratitude to all my Charleston musician friends who have instructed me along the way." His attention is drawn to smiling faces in the CJO audience.



#### Jonathan Kammer Alto and Baritone Saxophone, Flute and Clarinet

Jonathan's first big break as a young musician came when he got the chance to study with Florence-native Chris Hemingway, a top-notch saxophonist fluent in classical and jazz styles. Jonathan finds inspiration from people who seek their vision of "the good" with passion and a sense of constant learning, whether they're a painter, writer, chef or political thinker.



# Mark Sterbank Tenor and Soprano Saxophone, Clarinet and Flute

Children in the Sterbank home got early musical instruction on the piano, but after three years on the keys, nine-year-old Mark picked up his uncle's saxophone. Later, he chose music education as a profession, his mother's career. Mark is a Full Professor of Jazz Studies and Saxophone at Charleston Southern University. He directs the university's jazz ensembles and teaches a variety of subjects.



#### Lauren Meccia, Tenor Saxophone, Clarinet and Flute

Lauren Meccia is an instructor of Jazz Studies at the University of South Carolina and a member of the South Carolina Jazz Masterworks Ensemble. Meccia has been featured at the National Association of Music Merchants Show. She has appeared in concert with Kenny Barron, Chris Potter, Jeff Coffin, Wycliffe Gordon, Tommy Igoe, Veronica Swift, the Glenn Miller Orchestra, the Temptations, Maurice Williams and the Zodiacs, and Jesse Colin Young.



#### Melvin Benjamin, Baritone Saxophone

Melvin's professional music career started when he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps as a tubist. During his time in the military, he learned how to play the saxophone, clarinet, flute, and oboe. Now, he regularly works in the pit orchestra of various musical theater performances presented by The Arts Center for Coastal Carolina, Big Daddy Cade and The Blues Masters, and Tower of Funk & The Choosy Mother's Horns. Melvin currently resides in Ladson, SC.



#### Chuck Dalton, Trumpet

Born and bred in Hopkinsville, Kentucky, Chuck has been deeply influenced by the gospel and soul music native to rural Kentucky. Chuck's musical resumé is a walk down memory lane - he's performed with Frank Sinatra and Elton John, Tony Bennett and Sammy Davis, Jr., and the list goes on! Chuck works regularly with the Jennifer & Brad Moranz Productions, co-leads the party band 17 SOUTH and subs as trumpet for the Charleston Symphony's pop concerts.



#### Kyle Lane, Trumpet

Kyle Lane is a trumpet player, composer, arranger, and General Manager of the Charleston Symphony Orchestra. Originally from Denver, Kyle received his Bachelor of Music from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, and a Master from the Mannes College of Music. He has played with the likes of Doc Severinsen, John Faddis, and Johnny Mathis. Kyle has arranged works for the Charleston Symphony and Ranky Tanky, and he was commissioned to write a fanfare for the opening of the Gaillard Center by the city of Charleston.



#### Cameron Handel, Trumpet

A Charleston native, Cameron attended Laing Middle, Wando High, the University of Georgia and the College of Charleston. She's been inspired by Louis Armstrong, Wynton Marsalis, Trombone Shorty, among others. Over the years, she's performed with Adele, Michael Bolton, Seal, Wycliffe Gordon and more. When she's not on stage or caring for her two young children, Cameron gives lessons at local middle schools and Wando High.



#### Kevin Hackler, Trumpet

Kevin was born in bluegrass country, Galax, Virginia. Kevin revels in Big Band music, "the style played on Duke Ellington's Live at the Blue Note. It doesn't get any better than that." He first learned Big Band from trumpet legend Flea Campbell, who he first played with at age sixteen. According to Kevin, "Flea taught me 90% of what I know about Big Band section playing." By day, Kevin is a business and litigation attorney.



#### Stephen Spaulding, Trombone

Stephen grew up surrounded by music. Hailing from Long Island, New York, and currently living in West Ashley, Stephen studied music at Florida State University. He was inspired by the great Jim Pankow, a trombone player and composer best known as a founding member of the rock band Chicago. Looking back on his storied career, Stephen says he "always recalls fondly the experience of performing in outdoor music festivals for thousands.



#### Gavin Smith, Trombone

The music of Ella Fitzgerald and Louis Armstrong inspired Gavin to pick up a horn and began his jazz journey. Former Charleston Jazz Orchestra music director, Charlton Singleton, was Gavin's sixth grade band director, and current member, Ken Foberg, became Gavin's life-long teacher, mentor and friend. Smith attended Berklee College of Music. A highlight in is career was recording "Turn It Up" with Hootie & The Blowfish.



#### Ken Foburg, Trombone

Ken's musical footprint is broad, wide, and historic. He's performed with some of the all time greats, including Frank Sinatra, Ray Charles, and more. He studied at Berklee College of Music in Boston. Now passionate about teaching, he works with students at local schools and offers private lessons at home for lower brass. "Playing music energizes my soul," says Ken, "it makes me feel invigorated. It makes me happy!"



#### Jonathan Yeager, Bass Trombone

Jon grew up in southern California with parents who supported his musical endeavors. He studied with studio great, George Roberts, during his high school years. Yeager earned a Bachelor's degree in Music Education from Humboldt State University, and he holds Master's and Doctoral degrees in Performance from the University of North Texas. He cites one of the greatest teaching challenges as figuring out how to teach band via Zoom.



#### Gerald Gregory, Piano

If you're ever roaming the streets on concert night, and spot a man in a tux, skateboarding at top speed to the Charleston Music Hall, well then, you've probably just seen CJO pianist Gerald Gregory. Born in Roanoke, Virginia, Gerald grew up listening to the likes of Erroll Garner and Oscar Peterson. He studied under both Randy Hurt in Roanoke, and Tommy Gill at the College of Charleston. Of late, he's fallen in love with piano trio style jazz.



#### Tyler Ross, Guitar

Tyler was born and bred in Neenah, Wisconsin, and credits his strong work ethic and devotion to music in his upbringing. Tyler took to guitar at age 12, and "as soon as I picked up the guitar, I was writing song. I work on writing every day." His craft was honed at the University of Wisconsin-Steven's Point, and Western Illinois University. As a member of the College of Charleston Jazz Faculty, he teaches jazz combo, guitar ensemble and jazz repertoire class.



#### Frank Duvall, Bass

Frank was educated on country, bluegrass and gospel. "I'm sure it's played a part in my musical development," he says. Duvall has performed with the likes of Dizzy Gillespie, Buddy Greco, Bill Eckstine, Marian McPartland ("I had the pleasure of performing multiple duo concerts with Marian ... she was a joy to work with, and also had a great sense of humor"), Bob Alberti, Buddy DeFranco, Harry Allen, Scott Hamilton, John Colinai and Bill Charlap.



#### Ron Wiltrout, Drums

Ron studied music at the University of South Carolina. As a professional drummer, Ron has forged long-lasting relationships across many genres. "Some of my greatest achievements are when I spend a week playing six different gigs with six different groups playing six different styles or roles, and they all feel good and natural. It makes people smile at the end."



### Song List

#### The Sidewinder

Composed by Lee Morgan Arranged by Mark Taylor

#### Movin' Wes (Part II)

Composed by Wes Montgomery Arranged by Johnny Pate

#### This I Dig of You

Composed by Hank Mobley Arranged by Mike Tomaro

#### Filthy McNasty

Composed by Horace Silver Arranged by John LaBarbera

#### Summer in Central Park

Composed by Horace Silver Arranged by Robert Lewis

#### Watermelon Man

Composed by Herbie Hancock Arranged by Chuck Dalton

#### Moanin'

Composed by Bobby Timmons Arranged by Robert Lewis

#### This Here

Composed by Bobby Timmons Arranged by Erik Morales

#### Blue Train

Composed by John Coltrane Adapted by Jason Bellack

#### The Blues Walk

Composed by Clifford Brown Arranged by Michael Philip Mossman

#### Peace

Composed by Horace Silver Arranged by Charlton Singleton



#### In Memory of Steve Feinberg

Jacien Steele won the opportunity to conduct a song at a Charleston Jazz Orchestra performance at the 2023 Charleston Jazz Gala. Tonight is his night. He would like to dedicate his conducting appearance to his late great friend, Steve Feinberg (pictured), a talented musician and singer who loved all forms of musical expression.

## Horace Silver - Pioneer of Hard Bop



Horace Silver. Image Credit: Dmitri Savitski 1989

Horace Silver, a pioneering figure in jazz, left an indelible mark on the genre through his innovative compositions and distinctive piano playing. Emerging during the golden age of hard bop in the 1950s and 1960s, Silver's music embodied the spirit of the era with its infectious rhythms, soulful melodies, and bluesy undertones. His compositions, such as "Peace" and "Summer in Centra Park." became jazz standards, celebrated for their catchy hooks and intricate harmonies. Silver's fusion of bebop, blues, and gospel elements created a dynamic and accessible sound that resonated with audiences worldwide. His contributions to hard bop not only expanded the genre's sonic palette but also influenced generations of musicians, ensuring his enduring legacy in the annals of jazz history.





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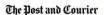






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