



# **Blues and the Abstract Truth**

*The Jazz Workshop*

John Kocur, Director

Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
8 p.m.  
Center for the Arts

# PROGRAM

- "Three and One" Thad Jones
- "Is That So?" Duke Pearson
- "Blues and the Abstract Truth" Oliver Nelson  
*Kyle J. Kelly, assistant conductor*
- "Corcovado" Antonio Carlos Jobim and Gene Lees  
*Jackie Prestoy, vocals*
- "Gotta Be This or That" Sunny Skylar/arr. Marty Paich  
*Lucia Ku, vocals*
- "Mary's Idea" Mary Lou Williams
- "Walk Tall (Baby That's What I Need)" Joe Zawinul  
Lyrics by James Rein, and Esther Marrow  
arr. Vince Gassi  
*Lucia Ku, vocals*
- "Duke Ellington's Sound of Love" Charles Mingus/arr. Andrew Homzy
- "Blues After Dark" Benny Golson
- "Hoe-Down" Oliver Nelson
- "What's Your Story Morning Glory?" Mary Lou Williams  
*Jackie Prestoy, vocals*
- "Body and Soul" Johnny Green/arr. Cy Payne  
*Lucia Ku, vocals*  
*Kyle J. Kelly, vocals*
- "Movin' Wes (Part II)" John L. (Wes) Montgomery/arr. Johnny Pate  
*Bryan D. Dicks, guitar*

# ENSEMBLE MEMBERS

John Kocur, Director

## Saxophones

Jason J. Cruz, alto

Arthur P. Martin, tenor

Kyle J. Kelly, baritone

## Brass

M.J. Carpenter, trumpet

Dustin A. Biggers, trumpet

Michael A. Secchi, trombone/tuba

## Guitars

Bryan D. Dicks, guitar

Mariano Gonzalez Quiroz, guitar

Wilfredo I. Zuniga, guitar

## Rhythm Section

Miguel Marling, piano

Jacqueline Rodriguez, piano

Michael J. Frost, bass

Vance Umphrey, steel pan

Kurt J. Steinbacher, drums

## Vocals

Lucia Ku

Jackie Prestoy

# ABOUT THE ENSEMBLE

Mason's **Jazz Workshop** explores the intersection of improvisation and composition in an atypical jazz ensemble. In the spirit of inclusive excellence, Jazz Workshop welcomes instrumentalists on all instruments, including those less common in the big band tradition (such as steel pan). It often performs music written for ensembles of sizes other than the typical 5 saxes, 4 trombones, 4 trumpet, and rhythm section format. Lastly, Jazz Workshop embraces the entire history of jazz. Tonight's program will feature selections from 1930 to today, arranged for a medium-size ensemble. This program is made possible by a generous Mason Impact grant from the office of the Provost and Executive Vice-President.

# ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Saxophonist, composer, and educator **John Kocur** is Assistant Professor of Jazz Studies at George Mason University. He previously taught at Northern Virginia Community College where he directed the NOVA Nighthawks Jazz Ensemble. He serves as a saxophonist with the 257th Army Band of the D.C. National Guard, "the Band of the Nation's Capital."

Kocur founded and is the current president of the Loudoun Jazz Society, a chapter of the Jazz Education Network. The society presents monthly jam sessions, open big band rehearsals, and networking events in Loudoun County, VA.

As a bandleader, he has released two albums of original music that received reviews in national media outlets. The John Kocur Quartet has performed at Blues Alley, Bohemian Caverns, Strathmore, the Kennedy Center Millennium Stage, and the DC Jazz Festival.

He holds a Bachelor of Music Degree from George Mason University and a Master of Music Degree from Howard University.

## George Mason University School of Music

For more information and a complete listing of concerts and recitals, visit the web site at [music.gmu.edu](http://music.gmu.edu)

George Mason University is a registered All-Steinway School

