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# Jazznotes

Fall 2020

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Planet D with RJ Spangler at Gull Landing, Scully Jazz Tour



Mary Rademacher and Mark Kahny, Gull Landing, Scully Jazz Tour



Third Coast Gypsy Jazz - Grant Flick, Andrew Henley, Kadein Plummer, Steve Plummer



Rick Reuther's front yard concert



Bob Thompson, Mary Rademacher and Mark Kahny performing at Tom Norton and Lou Solis' back yard



Randy and Julie Gobles' patio. Bob Rutvan, Randy Goble, Laura Bennett, Mark Kahny

# THINGS CHANGE... AND WE EVOLVE!

Along with many things during this pandemic, music performances have also evolved with our changing times. People, hungry for live entertainment, have become increasingly creative. In June, West Michigan Jazz Society cosponsored a concert in the parking lot with Amore Trattoria Italiana where **GRGroove**, the **Clif Metcalf Organ Trio** and **In the Blue Jazz Ensemble** provided the entertainment. In September, another concert in the parking lot was held at Noto's Italian Restaurant which featured the **Mary Rademacher Quartet**.<sup>41</sup>



Venues throughout the area with outdoor space have continued to have live bands, weather permitting. **Tim Scully's** annual summer northern jazz series has held many successful concerts and they were well attended. **Relax at Rosa**, hosted by Downtown Grand

Rapids provided a free lunchtime entertainment series which featured many local musicians. Music lovers, supporters of the arts and musicians themselves have held small concerts in back yards, front yards, gardens, and in driveways. These have been mostly attended by groups of less than 25 people. Social distancing was observed and many even wore their masks outside to show their respect for each other's well-being.

Board member **Shannan Dennison and husband Kevin Hubbard** hosted one such



event in their own back yard. WMJS had a presence there and the appreciative crowd provided enough donations to pay the band and there was a little left over for the Society. Read the review of the awesome group that played, **Third Coast Gypsy Jazz**, on page 4!

Guitarist **Rick Reuther** set up his own sound and provided a totally free concert for his many fans, friends, and neighbors. Most of the neighbors sat across the street so there was plenty of room to maintain distance with this larger gathering. Rick played and sang two sets of entertaining, and mostly original, tunes. At the conclusion of this generous gift of time and talent on a beautiful night, he offered yet another gift - his brand-new CD! "The Way It Looks from Here" contains all original tunes written by Rick. Great CD! Purchase one!



**Tom Norton**, general manager of local community WKTV, channel 25/26, and his partner **Lou Solis** are avid supporters of the arts. Earlier this summer they hosted an event to benefit Civic Theater. In August they welcomed WMJS and sponsored the trio of **Mary Rademacher, Mark Kahny and Bob Thompson** to play for some friends in their back yard. "With the difficulties we are all facing during the pandemic, we just didn't want to forget the arts community who are suffering perhaps more so than others. I think it takes

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creativity to solve problems and we're happy that the West Michigan Jazz Society joined with us for this benefit," said Norton. He also hinted that the WKTV is talking about doing a weekly jazz special that will feature different performers and will likely call it "Jazz Works". (Hopefully soon, as the weather is changing, and outdoor concerts will not be happening.) Stay tuned for that to develop!!



Throughout the summer **Paul Keller** has hosted many 'barnyards' concerts, both in the yard and in the barn! You can find them archived on his Facebook page. Other concerts include a garden setting at **Kathy Kramer's** home and a patio gathering at the home of **Randy and Julie Goble**.

We music lovers thank EVERYONE who has persisted in making sure live music continues! Will there be bonfire concerts coming soon??



## St. Cecilia Music Center VIRTUAL JAZZ PIANO SERIES

## FEATURING MICHIGAN MUSICIANS

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SEPTEMBER 10

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SEPTEMBER 24

**STEVE TALAGA**  
OCTOBER 8

**CLIFF MONEAR**  
OCTOBER 22

**BOB JAMES**  
NOVEMBER 4

ALL CONCERTS ARE FREE AND START AT 7PM



# Concert - Third Coast Swing

## (Hubbard's backyard music deck - Standale, MI)

### August 27, 2020

Gypsy Jazz comes to West Michigan in the form of the "Third Coast Gypsy Jazz Band". They are the real deal, folks! Never have I witnessed such authentic gypsy swing played by a group of young musicians with so much conviction and knowledge of a bygone and nearly forgotten genre! The term "gypsy jazz" refers to the years, roughly 1930-1953. The group consisted of Andrew Henley on bass, Steve and Kaedin Plummer on guitars and Grant Flick, violin.

[Gypsy jazz (also known as gypsy swing, "jazz manouche" or hot club style jazz) is typically a small-group jazz form originating from the Romani guitarist Jean "Django" Reinhardt (1910–53), in conjunction with the French swing violinist Stéphane Grappelli (1908–97), as expressed in their group the Quintette du Hot Club de France. Because its origins are in France, (Reinhardt was from the Manouche "French Sinti" clan), and the style has remained popular among the Manouche gypsies, gypsy jazz is often called by the French name "jazz manouche", or alternatively, "manouche jazz" in English language sources. Some scholars have noted that the style was not named manouche until the late 1960s



and the name "gypsy jazz" began to be used around the late 1990s.

Reinhardt was foremost among a group of Romani guitarists working in Paris from the 1930s to the 1950s. The group included the brothers Baro, Sarane, and Matelo Ferret and Reinhardt's brother Joseph "Nin-Nin" Reinhardt. While his fellow guitarists were also sometimes featured as soloists with their own groups or on other recordings (although never with Reinhardt's Hot Club Quintette), Reinhardt is universally recognized as the most outstanding improviser among them, as well as the originator (from around 1934 onwards) of the style of "hot" guitar playing now generally considered the archetype of "gypsy jazz" guitar.

The style was popular in France and, via recordings and appearances by the original Quintette, in other European countries before and immediately after the Second World War. It fell out of favor as the "swing era" came to an end, being replaced in its homeland by bebop, mainstream jazz, and eventually, rock and roll. It however had a resurgence from the 1970s onwards among performers and audiences at festivals, etc., in particular the



Festival Django Reinhardt which commenced in 1968 at Samois-sur-Seine, France (the location of Reinhardt's last residence) and continues to the present time.] (source: Wikipedia)

Thank you to Shannan Denison and Kevin Hubbard for hosting this amazing and intimate event in their music-friendly backyard venue. The group covered a lot of ground in an all too short performance, revisiting staples of the gypsy jazz repertoire such as “Dark Eyes”, “Nuages”, the blistering “Minor Blues”, the

Satchmo favorite, “Dinah” and many more. It was notable how researched and authentic these young musicians are in re-creating this often-overlooked music. Gypsy jazz has mounted a comeback in recent years, but you are never going to hear it this polished and completely natural as presented here. Thanks again to the West Michigan Jazz Society for hosting this remarkable evening of gypsy jazz!

-Mark S. Kahny

## Welcome New Board Members!



Quickly gaining recognition as a diversely skilled emerging artist, **Jordan VanHemert** is a woodwind specialist, composer, and educator based in West Michigan. VanHemert has performed alongside many notable musicians such as Geri Allen, Stephen Rush, and Ed Sarath. Dr. VanHemert's performing career has taken him to venues and festivals around the United States, including Shapeshifter Lab, the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, the Virgil H. Carr Center, Edgfest, the Detroit Jazz Festival, the Elmhurst Jazz Festival, and Notre

Dame Jazz Festival. He has also been invited to perform his compositions at North American Saxophone Alliance Biennial and Regional Conferences.

As a composer and arranger, Dr. VanHemert has written for chamber ensembles, large and small jazz ensembles, and concert bands, which include the Central Wails Saxophone Orchestra of Central Michigan University, the L'anse Creuse North High School Saxophone Choir, the Greenhill School Flute Choir in Addison, Texas, and Detroit's Moving Mind Jazz Orchestra.

Being a sought-after clinician, Dr. VanHemert has presented clinics at the Michigan Music Conference and guest recitals and lectures at colleges and high schools around the country. VanHemert is also an adjudicator and clinician for the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association, as well as CMU Jazz Weekend.

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He has given masterclasses and lectures about jazz history, lead alto and jazz saxophone section playing, improvisation, a fundamental guide to performance in both the classical and jazz side of the saxophone and jazz composition. Dr. VanHemert's pedagogical writing has been published in *The Instrumentalist* and the *Rhode Island Music Educator's Review*. In addition to his work as a clinician, Dr. VanHemert maintains a private studio teaching jazz and classical saxophone.

VanHemert currently serves as the Assistant Professor of Saxophone and Jazz Studies at Hope College and the Artistic Director of the Holland Concert Jazz Orchestra. Jordan recently earned a DMA in Jazz Saxophone Performance at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. He holds a Master of Music degree in Improvisation from the University of Michigan and a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Central Michigan University. VanHemert's primary instructors include John Nichol, Rob Smith, Andrew Bishop, Chip McNeill, Ronald Bridgewater, and Debra Richtmeyer.

VanHemert is a member of the Millennium Composers Initiative, the North American Saxophone Alliance, the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers (ASCAP), The International Society of Jazz Composers and Arrangers, and the National Association of College Wind and Percussion Instructors.

Outside of his duties at the college, Dr. VanHemert is in his sixth season performing in the orchestra with the Hope Summer Repertory Theatre Company. Dr. VanHemert also composed a jazz mass as part of a yearly Advent commission for First Reformed Church of Holland. He serves as the founder and music director of the Holland Concert Jazz Orchestra (HCJO), a 501(c)(3) ensemble dedicated to increasing awareness and access to jazz education and performance programs in the area's youth. Most notably, HCJO recently partnered with Mental Health

West Michigan to promote the "Be Nice" action plan, encouraging students to include music as a part of a healthy mental and emotional life. He is one of the newest people serving on the board of West Michigan Jazz Society.

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



**Kevin Jones** is a percussionist, band leader, producer and educator. A native of Englewood, New Jersey, Kevin grew up in a household immersed in jazz, soul, gospel and blues. Kevin's grandmother, Maggie Walker Jones, once played with (and maybe even recorded with) Bessie Smith. The arts of all types were nurtured in the Jones household and piano lessons were a requirement, not an elective.

At age 10 Kevin began showing interest in playing hand drums. Neighborhood drummers were prone to testifying on front lawns and park benches with hand drums and various percussive enhancements in tow. Their massaging, pulsating, skin-on-skins thoroughly hooked the impressionable youngster. Among these master drummers were Marvin "Bugalu" Smith (Sun-Ra, Archie Shepp, Mal Waldron), Earl "Buster" Smith (Eric Dolphy, Sun-Ra), Karl Potter (The Isley Brothers, Pino Daniele) and Babatunde Lea (Pharoah Sanders, Leon Thomas), who all spent time with Kevin and made a long-lasting impression on the young Kevin's life. He showed so much promise that he began touring with a prominent national recording act at the age of 13.

At 18 Kevin was asked to record an album with alto saxophonist Charles McPherson at the urging of Kevin's long-time friend Charles "Chuck" McPherson Jr. Kevin and Chuck recorded "Free Bop" in the summer of 1978. Soon to follow was Kevin's tenure in Archie Shepp's Attica Blues Big Band in 1979 when he recorded a double album. Just a couple of months later Kevin was asked to join iconic and legendary soul and R&B group, The Isley Brothers, a relationship that lasted for 13 years with multiple tours and nine different recording projects. In between that time Kevin was able to join forces with Whitney Houston for four glorious years touring and making many television appearances.

In 1999 Kevin started to focus on teaching as a passion by working with The Bronx Arts Ensemble to Arts Horizons and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Rhythm Road Jazz Ambassador's project. The Jazz at Lincoln Center Project led him to a job with the US Department of State as a Cultural Ambassador and he was honored by an invitation to Washington, D.C. by First Lady Laura Bush and President George W. Bush.

During his career he has had the opportunity to share the stage or record alongside Hilton Ruiz, Benny Powell, Luisito Quintero, Robert Quintero, Walter Bishop Jr., Harold Vick, Grady Tate, Frank Wess, Frank Foster, Tommy Turrentine, Ernie Wilkins, Jamil Nasser, Ray Copeland, Joey DeFrancesco, Pat Martino, Jim Rotundi, Eric Alexander, Vince Ector, Papa John DeFrancesco, Melvin Sparks, Art Blakey Jr., John Benitez, Bebe and Cece Winans, Jermaine Jackson, Angela Winbush, Norman Simmons, Billy Hart, Frank Lacy, Luis Perdomo, Alex Blake, Randy Weston, Winard Harper, Phillip Harper, Jimmy Owens, Billy Harper, Reggie Workman, Steve Turre, Michael Dease and Bob DeVos.

Kevin recorded his first solo project in 1999 with producer and pianist Kelvin Sholar. Along with Marvin Smith, Chuck McPherson and

saxophonist TK Blue, it was named "Land of Eternal Tranquil Light"; it was an eclectic mix of music. Kevin and Kelvin then put together a collaborative band called Tenth World to play some local gigs. The sound turned out to be innovative and expressive. It blended elements of Jazz, R&B and World Music to create a unique sound that had to be recorded. They swiftly started to produce an iconic album called simply Tenth World. The group Tenth World included saxophonist Brian Horton, trumpeter Kevin Louis, drummer Jaimeo Brown, bassists Damon Warmack and Josh David Barrett. On occasion they were joined by flautist George Makinto and percussionist Luisito Quintero. The core of the group remained the same for years. They toured all over the world and Kevin was signed to a contract with Motema Music. They produced another live CD simply called "Tenth World - Live", which also led to wide acclaim. They are ready to release another Album, "Live at The Dirty Dog", and are currently writing music for yet another CD called "Resurrection".

Kevin moved from the New York area in 2016 and currently resides in West Michigan. Since arriving on here he has worked with Western Michigan University and GVSU as the lead drummer and co-instructor for their African Dance Department. He is also a guest instructor at Michigan State University. Since moving to Michigan, he has become one of the most sought-after percussionists in the state. In 2018 and 2019 his group Tenth World played the Detroit Jazz Festival, The Lansing Jazz Festival, The South Haven Jazz Festival, The Wheatland Music Festival, The Grand Jazz Festival, The Blue Llama Jazz Club and The Dirty Dog Jazz Club in Detroit. He is on the faculty at The Jazz and Creative Institute and Triumph Music Academy and he serves on the Board of the West Michigan Jazz Society.

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



**Reminder: All memberships are due for renewal in January 2021. Since Covid-19 changed all our lives, our membership numbers are way below last years! Have you forgotten to renew??**

**PLEASE! PLEASE! PLEASE!** support us by renewing or beginning membership.

Besides our regular memberships, we now offer perks with these NEW annual membership levels for Musicians, groups, and venues!!

- Individual Jazz Musician-(\$35...or \$20 for students)
  - ◆ Premium jazz notes gig listing periodically
  - ◆ Premium web listing for gigs periodically
  - ◆ Artist bio added online and featured social media post after joining
  - ◆ Added to WMJS referral list (posted online)
- Jazz Band (2-4 members)- add to existing donor level (\$100)
  - ◆ Premium jazz notes gig listing periodically
  - ◆ Premium web listing for gigs periodically
  - ◆ Band bio added online and featured social media post after joining
  - ◆ Added to WMJS referral list (posted online)
  - ◆ Each band member will be covered as a member (Up to 4)
  - ◆ This would be registered to the director of the group or four members of the group only if the band exceeds four members (for a group such as a big band)
- Featured Jazz Venue- add to existing patron level (\$250 or equivalent product donation)
  - ◆ Listed as an official WMJS partner venue
  - ◆ 1/3-page ad in jazz notes annually
  - ◆ Premium web listing annually
  - ◆ Social media post after joining
  - ◆ Must host jazz events on a minimum quarterly basis for consideration
  - ◆ Recommended to offer a benefit to WMJS members (such as a free appetizer)
  - ◆ These same benefits could be offered, but could also include the underwriter benefit if the venue donated at the benefactor level (\$500+)
- Sponsor- add to existing benefactor level (\$500 minimum donation or equivalent product donation)
  - ◆ Listed as an official WMJS sponsor
  - ◆ 1/2-page ad in jazz notes annually
  - ◆ Premium web listing annually
  - ◆ Social media post after joining
  - ◆ Underwriter level sponsor for 1 event per year included (first come, first served. Ex: WMJS Jazz Gumbo presented by "XYZ corporation"). They could also receive verbal recognition to the audience at an event for supporting WMJS.



**MEMBERS ONLY**

Have you heard about our MEMBERS ONLY Facebook group? This group is for members of the West Michigan Jazz Society to connect with each other! This group is made for all of the jazz fans, artists, and WMJS board members that are active members to discuss anything related to the mission of WMJS. Exclusive content and updates will be available in this group for active members. Please contact us to be added or request to join on our Facebook Page!

## All Figured Out - Derek Brown and The Holland Concert Jazz Orchestra (Album Review)

**Derek Brown** is no stranger to innovation on the tenor saxophone. Already a recognized, proficient player, he took the “slap-tonguing” saxophone technique to new levels of virtuosity with his “beatbox sax” style of percussive playing. Combine this with circular breathing and an expansive vocabulary on the instrument, and he has no limit to the length of tunes he can play or the variety of ideas he can articulate as a solo artist. His talents for arranging around this multi-layered performing approach have been critically acclaimed by outlets like NPR’s Weekend Edition, Jazziz Magazine, and Downbeat Magazine, and his videos all across the internet have received millions of views to compliment his Billboard charting status as a professional creative.

For 2020, Derek Brown has returned to his Alma mater, Hope College, to continue his inventive work, further expanding on his beatboxing saxophone style through new compositions arranged for large ensembles for his upcoming third release, *All Figured Out*. He takes time to arrange, chart, rehearse, and record a live, in-studio concert with a host of musicians that make up the Holland Concert Jazz Orchestra, a group directed by **Dr. Jordan VanHemert**, a current professor at Hope College who also works with the Hope College Jazz Arts Collective. There are also members of the Holland College Orchestra and the Brazilian Drumming Ensemble, adding a variety of sounds and textures to Derek’s compositional tool set. There are a host of talented artists that are easy to recognize, from established band directors

like trombonist Mark Wells (East Grand Rapids High School Band Director, **Big Band Nouveau, Grand Rapids Jazz Orchestra**) to respected

young professionals like drummer **Madison George** (WMU Jazz student, multiple award-winning group Lushh, Earth Radio) and organist **Clif Metcalf**



(Hammond endorsed artist and current Hope College student). With such a clear level of experience between all the ensemble participants, Derek crafts an exciting variety of tunes to take his solo act into the “featured soloist” territory of artistry.

Right away, the album opens up with “Prelude,” a lush expression of different sounds that highlight the instruments you’ll hear on the record while also introducing you to Derek’s strong presence as a band leader and personality as a performer. “Human Error” is the first, full composition on the record, centering on some strong saxophone work flowing around a syncopated bassline. The tune features solos from Derek, guitarist Lee Heerspink, and Madison George before ending on a high note that pushes towards the next track. “Again” feels like thematic material pulled straight from a 70’s sitcom, grooving with such an upbeat flare that is just begging for TV syndication. Alto saxophonist Dr. Jordan VanHemert weaves in and out of rhythmic and melodic ideas sourced from the bebop jazz lexicon, pacing his ideas to great effect with his use of chromaticism and melodic phrasing outside of the tonal center. Derek Brown takes full advantage of his skill sets on the saxophone, from flowing bebop jazz lines

*continued on page 10*

to squealing high notes to percussive slap-tonguing expressions, all with the infectious confidence to elevate the ensemble. “A Simple Gesture” shifts things into a fun, spirited half-time groove that kicks off with a beatbox sax solo from Derek to enthusiastic applause from the in-studio audience. His musicianship and phrasing shine on this number, and the songwriting makes great use of space and rhythm in how the ensemble accompanies each soloist. Mark Wells starts through a bluesy solo with powerful low brass flare, followed by Derek’s solo highlighting his virtuosity behind the range and articulation of his instrument, and wrapping up with pianist Andrew DePree, who sits comfortably in the pocket while throwing out some bluesy licks, perfectly complementing Derek’s more active soloing. These moments make for a wonderful demonstration of the Michigan talents sourced for this record.

“Vantage Point” is a tune that plays around with the compositional idea of passing harmonic and melodic material between the different ensemble sections. From this initial idea, the tune then opens to some soulful organ playing and solo trading between Clif Metcalf and Derek. There are a couple wonderful moments where only a few instruments are left playing and the rest of the ensemble is clapping, allowing a shift in the dynamics, textures, and providing a softer starting point to then grow into the climax of the tune. The title-track, “All Figured Out,” shows Derek’s singing abilities, speaking to that constant pressure in society to be all-knowing, when everyone is still learning and growing. Clif Metcalf returns for a solo, showing his phrasing chops with some choice blues licks and gritty chordal work. There is also the addition of a lyrical, bluesy solo from alto saxophonist Tim Grieme, who studied jazz in West Michigan with Dr. Jordan VanHemert, currently attends GVSU and is a member of the In **The Blue Jazz Ensemble**. Derek’s solo plays off the arrangement well, setting up some trumpet hits with his percussive slap-tonguing on one of his passes. “The Pursuit” feels like

speeding down the Autobahn until your car takes flight to the skies, with rich ensemble textures soaring to powerful high points that include some wonderful string layers from the Holland Concert Orchestra. The “break-in-the-clouds” moment definitely appears when the tune opens up for interacting saxophones solos between Derek and tenor saxophonist **Caleb Elzinga** (GrooveGround, Blushing Monk), who is a recognized live and studio saxophone musician and has been a regular collaborator with Derek since Derek moved back to West Michigan. Derek lays down a beatbox accompaniment for Caleb to soar over, showcasing his ability to keep the momentum in his solo ideas while trading lick for lick with Derek’s fluid motion. Right before the end, Madison George sneaks in an energetic solo that plays off the rhythmic backbeat of the accompaniment before driving the ensemble home to the end of the piece.

“Hoping for The Best” further elevates that feeling of joy that permeates this entire album, expressing a delight in making music with so many individuals and hoping for everyone’s mutual success along the way. Derek’s soloing throughout plays around with developing his slap-tonguing ideas alongside the bass line while also cutting through the accompaniment with fast-paced melodies and powerful high notes. The album ends with “The Good Fight,” a tune that features The Brazilian Drumming Ensemble at Hope College in some key spots, both as a standalone group and within the full ensemble. This arrangement features a lot of what makes this album so great to listen to: interlocking rhythmic ideas, an ebb and flow how layers and textures get introduced and when they disappear or evolve, exploring other sounds and genres (when it abandons a mixed meter accompaniment for a bluegrass-style pulse), and involving so many different instrument sounds and genres. The track ends with Derek’s final sax note soaring into the stratosphere, offering one final expression to an album packed full of wonderful listening experiences.

Derek Brown really outdid himself with All Figured Out. To take something so inventive and place it within a larger ensemble context really showcases his ability as a performer, arranger, and composer. Whether it's playing rhythmically with "beatbox sax" vocabulary, gliding across the jazz history books with his bebop language, or effortlessly expressing musical ideas alongside so many great Michigan collaborators, Derek has shown his ability to take his playing prowess and writing skills into new avenues. It is an intersection of fleshing out a technique into concrete compositional ideas, involving a community around his Alma mater to emphasize his education and roots on the instrument, and crafting memorable moments for performers and listeners alike on every tune. This is a new staple in the modern big band catalog and deserves all the attention and programming!

#### Album Liner Notes:

All songs composed/arranged by Derek Brown and performed by the Holland Concert Jazz Orchestra unless noted:

1. Prelude - Featuring members of the Hope College Orchestra
2. Human Error - Solos: Derek Brown, Madison George
3. Again - Solos: Jordan VanHemert, Derek Brown
4. A Simple Gesture - Solos: Mark Wells, Derek Brown, Andrew DePree
5. Vantage Point - Solos: Derek Brown and Clif Metcalf
6. All Figured Out - Vocals/Lyrics: Derek Brown. Solos: Tim Grieme, Clif Metcalf, Derek Brown
7. The Pursuit - With members of the Hope College Orchestra. Solos: Derek Brown and Caleb Elzinga, Madison George
8. Hoping for the Best - Solos: Derek Brown
9. The Good Fight - Featuring the Hope College Jazz Arts Collective and Brazilian Drumming Ensemble. Solos: Derek Brown

#### The Holland Concert Jazz Orchestra

Director-Jordan VanHemert

Alto 1- Tim Grieme; Alto 2- Charlie Jordan;  
 Tenor 1- Bill Bier/Tommy Pancy; Tenor 2- Caleb Elzinga; Bari- Mike Hamann. Trumpet 1- Shawn Nichols; Trumpet 2- Austin Hunt; Trumpet 3- Keith Walker; Trumpet 4- Rick Holland.  
 Trombone 1- Mark Wells; Trombone 2- Aaron Hettinga; Trombone 3- Logan Vanderlaan;  
 Bass Trombone- Adam Graham. Guitar- Lee Heerspink; Hammond Organ- Clif Metcalf;  
 Piano- Andrew DePree; Bass- Liam Coussens;  
 Drums- Madison George

#### The Hope College Jazz Arts Collective

Alto Sax- Houston Patton; Tenor Sax- Elijah Maxwell; Bari Sax- Patrick McGeehan; Trumpet- Daniel Wade; Trumpet- Will Zywicki; Piano- Leah Reinardy; Bass- Clif Metcalf; Drums- Carlos Flores

#### Members of the Hope College Orchestra

Violin I- Anna Janowski; Violin II- Lian Robinson;  
 Viola- Abigail Finnegan; Cello- Elizabeth Bachwich

#### Hope College Brazilian Drumming Ensemble

Director- Dr. Christopher Fashun

Anna Janowski, Lian Robinson, Elizabeth Bachwich, Ryan DeWitt, Samantha Mattingly, Emma Wayland

Recorded Feb 21-22, 2020 by Drew Elliot at the Hope College Recording Studio

Mixed by Drew Elliot

Mastered by Black Belt Mastering

Website: <https://derekbrownsax.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/derekbrownsaxophone>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/beatboxsax/>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/beatboxsax>

- Dutcher Snedeker

## A Message from Reuben Stump, 2020 WMJS scholarship recipient and bassist



I will soon begin my third year in the Jazz Studies program at the University of Michigan, and I have been performing around the state for several years. As a kid,

I grew up in a musical household and this had a significant impact on me; we were always listening to jazz and I became familiar at a young age with recordings by Louis Armstrong, Ella Fitzgerald, Louis Prima, and lots of Nat King Cole. My parents regularly took me and my brother to live performances, and because my dad enjoys antiques and collecting musical instruments, I had access to a variety of different instruments that I got to try out.

I have always loved playing the Ukulele, and I took Flute lessons and played in bands throughout middle school, junior high and high school.

Once in high school, I joined the jazz band on electric bass since I could not join on flute. During my sophomore year I started taking bass lessons with Ed Fedewa on upright, and this is the instrument I have been studying and performing with ever since. Getting exposed to professionals on faculty in Jazz Studies at UofM, and being able to work and jam with talented peers in Ann Arbor and Detroit has helped me focus on finding my own sound; at the same time I am also expanding and developing skills in composing, arranging, and recording.

The next 9 months will bring more challenges as universities and schools decide how to deliver education and students like me must

decide how best to meet their career goals. The role that organizations like WMJS play in providing scholarships cannot be emphasized enough, and I am deeply grateful for having received a scholarship this past academic year. I want to sincerely thank all the members of the WMJS for their support of jazz music and jazz musicians.

Stay healthy and take care,  
Reuben Stump

WMJS is passionate about helping young jazz musicians continue their education. Please help us help them by contributing to our scholarship fund today!

Easy to do with just a few clicks on our website [www.wmichjazz.org](http://www.wmichjazz.org) or write a check and mail to WMJS Scholarship fund P.O. Box 150307, Grand Rapids, MI 49515



WMJS will be hosting virtual "jazz talks" on our Facebook page every Wednesday evening beginning on September 30th (except for dates of WMJS board meetings). Please stay tuned on our events Facebook page to see live streams from jazz artists discussing topics such as their career, how COVID-19 has affected them, and how you can support their current projects.

WMJS members that have not renewed in 2020 still can renew online. WMJS needs your help to make sure that future events in 2021 are successful! Invite a friend to join us in-person or online soon.

With frequent changes in live and streaming music this summer, be sure to check in at [www.wmichjazz.org](http://www.wmichjazz.org), the musicians' websites and Facebook pages to keep up to date.

## **Live Jazz Around West Michigan October through December 2020**

### **October through December EVERY TUESDAY**

Jazz Tuesdays at Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, 7-10pm

### **October through December EVERY SATURDAY**

John Shea, Noto's Supper Club, 6:30-9:30pm, dinner reservations required  
616-493-6686

### **OCTOBER**

#### **FRIDAY- OCT 2**

In the Blue at Third Nature Brewing Co, Rockford, 7-9pm

#### **TUESDAY's- OCT 6, 13, 20, 27**

The New Standard at Snug Harbor Restaurant on the deck, Grand Haven, 6-9pm

#### **THURSDAY- OCT 8**

My Thin Place at Sandy Point Beach House, West Olive, 6:30-9:30pm

#### **SUNDAY- OCT 11**

Jim Cooper Quartet at Harbor Light Brewery, South Haven, 4-6pm

#### **THURSDAY, OCT 22**

My Thin Place Trio at Grand Rapids Sandy Point, 822 Ottawa, 6:30-9:30pm

### **NOVEMBER**

#### **SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 8**

Jim Cooper Quartet at Harbor Light Brewery, South Haven, 4-6pm

#### **TUESDAY's - NOVEMBER 3, 10, 17, 24**

The New Standard at Snug Harbor Restaurant on the deck, Grand Haven, 6-9pm

#### **THURSDAY - NOVEMBER 12**

My Thin Place at Sandy Point Beach House, West Olive, 6:30-9:30pm

### **DECEMBER**

#### **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 8, 15, 22, 29**

The New Standard at Snug Harbor Restaurant, Grand Haven, 6-9pm

Congratulations to former  
WMJS vice-president  
Kathleen Jones  
and Ian LeVine  
who tied the knot  
this past summer!



# Virtual Performances

**LIVE FROM JIMMY'S BASEMENT**  
presents **ORGANISSIMO** Sundays!



Every Sunday  
tune in for  
**organissimo**  
7pm EDT

**VIRTUAL TIP JAR**  
paypal.me/jimalfredson  
@Jim-Alfredson (Venmo)  
\$JimAlfredson (Cash app)



Tune in to Mike and Edye Hyde's Facebook page EVERY SUNDAY at 7pm.



Check out Jim Alfredson on Facebook and YouTube with performances by rotating musicians from Moriarty's, EVERY TUESDAY at 7pm, "Live from Jimmy's Basement." <https://www.facebook.com/jazztuesdaysatmoriartys>.

**Owen James**  
Solo Guitar



**The Sunday Solo Set at Six**  
Live Jazz, Bossa Nova, Pop/Rock Classics and your requests!  
*Every Sunday on Facebook Live,  
Sep. 13th thru Dec. 20th  
at  
6:00 PM*



Join John Shea EVERY FRIDAY with Fred Knapp and Denis Shebukhov and EVERY Wednesday with Rob Hartman on Facebook, 7-9:30 pm, even on Dec 25th!

The first deck concert West Michigan Jazz Society sponsored in Kevin Hubbard and Shannan Denison's backyard was so much fun, they had to repeat it! On September 12 at 5:30 the **Jordan VanHemert Quartet** provided the entertainment. Jordan asked one of his students to join the quartet for a number. Let us all hope fall stays gentle so these outdoor events can continue awhile!



student, Tim Grieme joins the band



Jordan VanHemert



Charles Johnson - bass



Ivan Akanssiima



David Alvarez III



Easy, unique and appreciated gift idea!! Purchase WMJS membership for a birthday, anniversary, wedding or a holiday gift! Perfect for students, seniors and music lovers of all ages!

This is the time of year people as well as businesses are thinking about making year end donations to offset their end of the year taxes.

Consider WMJS! And please ask your company to consider a donation to WMJS as well. Sure would appreciate it :)



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# Jazznotes

Newsletter for members of the West Michigan Jazz Society

**Fall 2020**

If you would like your jazz event included in our media publications please send your schedules to [jlbasham@i2k.com](mailto:jlbasham@i2k.com) by the **10th** of the month.

## West Michigan Jazz Society Board Members

Board meetings are now held virtually on Zoom. 4th Wednesday of each month, 6:00 pm

If anyone wants to view them they can ask for the link

WMJS main number . . . 616-490-9506

Email . . . [info@wmichjazz.org](mailto:info@wmichjazz.org)

**Michelle Needham – President**

**Dan Ohlman – Vice President**

**Jim Reed – Treasurer**

**Shannan Dennison – Secretary**

Tim Froncek

Peni Reed

Kevin Jones

John Miller

Jerry Scott

Mary Rademacher

Jordan Van Hemert

**REMINDER: ALL MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE DUE JANUARY 1, 2021. YOUR PROMPT ATTENTION WOULD HELP US GREATLY AS WE STRUGGLE THROUGH THIS YEAR OF SHUTDOWNS. THANKS SO MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

This Fall Issue of Jazz Notes was produced by:

Editor: Donna Kahny

Staff: Jan Basham, Nancy Reahm

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**Students** \$20 ☐

**Student Musician** \$20 ☐

**Single** \$35 ☐

**Individual Jazz Musician** \$35 ☐

**Couple** \$50 ☐

**Donor** \$100 ☐

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(\$250 or equivalent product donation)

**Benefactor** \$500 ☐

**Sponsor** \$500 ☐

(\$500 minimum donation or equivalent product donation)

**Donation Only** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ☐

If a dual membership, BOTH names must be listed

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Interested in volunteering? ☐

Receive JazzNotes by e-mail ☐ or by mail ☐

Detach and mail with check made payable to

**West Michigan Jazz Society**

P.O. Box 150307, Grand Rapids, MI 49515

616-490-9506

(or join online)

[www.wmichjazz.org](http://www.wmichjazz.org)

Fall 2020