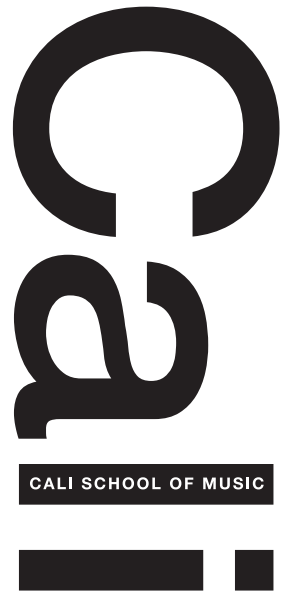


**MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**JAZZ ENSEMBLE**

featuring

Randy Brecker, *Trumpet*

Dr. Oscar Perez, *Director*



**SUNDAY | APRIL 27 | 3:00PM**  
**ALEXANDER KASSER THEATER**

**Daniel Gurskis**

Dean, College of the Arts

**Anthony Mazzocchi**

Director

John J. Cali School of Music

**John J. Cali**  
**School of Music**

**MONTCLAIR**  
STATE UNIVERSITY



**Montclair State University**  
**Jazz Ensemble**  
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**PROGRAM**

Program to be selected from the following:

Transit	Composed and arranged by Darcy James Argue
Sing, Sing, Sing	Composed by Louis Prima, lyrics by Peter Eldridge and Darmon Meader arranged by Darmon Meader for New York Voices
There's a Mingus a Monk Us	Composed Randy Brecker and arranged by Frank Reinshagen for the WDR Big Band
Some Skunk Funk	Composed by Randy Brecker and Arranged by Vince Mendoza
Infant Eyes	Composed by Wayne Shorter and arranged by Paul McKee
Secret Heart	Composed by Randy Brecker and arranged by Jim McNeely
Well You Needn't	Composed by Thelonious Monk and arranged by Joe Clark for the Randy Brecker Big Band
Straphangin'	Composed by Michael Brecker and Arranged by Vince Mendoza
The Dipshit	Composed by Randy Brecker and Arranged by Jorg A. Keller
Jackknife	Composed by Randy Brecker and arranged by Jim McNeely

The **MONTCLAIR STATE JAZZ ENSEMBLE**, under the direction of Jazz Studies coordinator **Oscar Perez**, is honored to present a varied program of music from Duke Ellington, Bob Brookmeyer, Bob Mintzer, Chick Corea, Michael Philip Mossman, Sy Johnson, Thad Jones, and on his centennial birthday, the inimitable Charles Mingus. The MSUJE, comprised of majors in Jazz Studies and other music majors, is dedicated to performing music representative of contemporary literature composed for the large jazz ensemble and music of historical importance to the genre. Last year, we featured new trumpet faculty Marcus Printup, well-known as a longtime member of the Jazz Lincoln Center Orchestra, along with vocal professor Aubrey Johnson and long-standing guitar faculty member Dave Stryker in our Spring '22 concert.

Last spring also saw the MSUJE, Cali's Wind Symphony, and the University Singers performing at the Metropolitan Museum's Grace Rainey Rogers Concert Hall. Our December 2021 Crawford Concert featured Vertical Voices alongside our vocal jazz ensemble, Vocamotion. In recent years, the MSU Jazz Ensemble has performed with a variety of guest soloists, including long-time friend and colleague David Bixler, the Grammy award-winning leader of the New York Voices, Darmon Meader, trumpeter/arranger Michael Philip Mossman, Grammy-nominated trombonist/composer Alan Ferber, trumpeter/composer John Daversa, trumpeter Ingrid Jensen, saxophonist/composer Ed Palermo, harmonica virtuoso Hendrik Meurkens, percussionist/composer Roland Vazquez, jazz guitar legend Bucky Pizzarelli, Grammy award-winning vocal group New York Voices (2006 Crawford Concert), trumpeters Terrell Stafford and Tony Kadleck, saxophonists Don Braden, Dave Demsey, and Andy Fusco, trombonist Tom "Bones" Malone, guitarist Dave Stryker, vocalist Holli Ross, and drummer Steve Johns.

Along with a concert performance each semester on the MSU campus, the band served as the clinic ensemble for Dennis Mackrel at the 2016 NJAJE Conference, has performed at Cecil's Jazz Club in West Orange, Trumpets Jazz Club in Montclair, Shanghai Jazz in Madison, the Villanova Jazz Festival, and The University of the Arts Jazz Festival, and has appeared locally as guests of the Bloomfield Youth Band and Belleville High School Jazz Festival. Select students have also been chosen to participate in the NJAJE Intercollegiate Jazz Band since the inception of that ensemble twenty years ago.

## BIOGRAPHIES

### RANDY BRECKER

A seasoned jazz veteran, virtuosic trumpeter and prolific composer, Randy Brecker's horn has graced the bandstands and recordings of Horace Silver, Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers, Charles Mingus, Clark Terry, Joe Henderson, Duke Pearson, Frank Foster and Thad Jones/Mel Lewis Orchestra. As a first call studio player, Brecker's trumpet has also energized innumerable studio sessions by artists ranging from James Taylor, Bruce Springsteen and Parliament-Funkadelic to David Sanborn, Jaco Pastorius, and Frank Zappa.

In the realms of cutting-edge jazz-rock fusion, Brecker has been a major contributor to Blood Sweat and Tears, Larry Coryell's Eleventh House and Dreams, a group he co-founded with his brother Michael and drummer Billy Cobham.

After departing BS&T in 1969, Randy appeared with Horace Silver and many other jazz acts feeling a need to stretch his desire to improvise freely. By 1973, Randy and his sax playing brother, Michael had become the most in-demand studio players in New York City. In 1975 they decided to form their own band, "The Brecker Brothers".

The Brecker Brothers became a band of immeasurable influence and impact. Hailed by pop and jazz critics alike, their first album, which Randy produced, was nominated for four Grammy awards. The Brecker Brothers went on to record a total of 6 albums and receive seven Grammy nominations between 1975 and 1981. In the late 70's, Randy also recorded on Charles Mingus' last album,

Me Myself an Eye. He has since performed on various incarnations of Mingus Dynasty and the Mingus Big Band.

After the Brecker Brothers took a hiatus in 1982, Randy toured and recorded extensively as a key member of Jaco Pastorius' Word of Mouth. Several more solo projects followed with numerous tours around the world with many different artists.

A ten year break from the Brecker Brothers ended in 1992 with the release of the GRP project "Return of the Brecker Brothers" and "Out of The Loop" in 1994 which received 2 Grammy awards and resulted in both USA and European tours.

Randy has been heavily influenced by Brazilian music. For the 1998 Concord Jazz release "Into The Sun" Randy received the Grammy award for best "Contemporary Jazz Performance".

In the past few years he has made recordings and concert appearances with The Trumpet Summit band (featuring Jon Faddis, Lew Soloff, Terrel Stafford), The Jazz Times "Superband" (featuring organist Joey DeFrancesco, drummer Dennis Chambers and tenor saxophonist, Bob Berg), Brecker Brothers Acoustic Band, and special reunion of Larry Coryell's 11th House.

Randy is now signed with ESC Records. First Cd on this label was "Hangin' in The City" which was released worldwide in April 2001 to considerable commercial and critical success. The release included all new funk/hip-hop and jazz compositions featuring the cream of the crop of NYC players.

Randy's latest two CDs as a bandleader won

both a Grammy: In 2003 his CD “34th N Lex” for the ESC label featuring Michael Brecker, David Sanborn, Fred Wesley, Ronnie Cuber and his regular working band won a Grammy as “Best Contemporary Jazz Album” and the newly released CD “Some Skunk Funk” featuring Michael Brecker and the WDR Big Band just won this past February another Grammy as “Best Large Ensemble CD”.

Randy Brecker is a true musical pioneer who continues to perform extensively around the world in a variety of settings. His quest for musical excellence while constantly expanding his trumpet style and encyclopedic catalogue of compositions are unparallel.

### **OSCAR PEREZ**

A New York City native, **Oscar Perez**, has performed, traveled and recorded in the musical groups of **Phoebe Snow, Lakecia Benjamin, Rudresh Mahanthappa, Wycliffe Gordon, Christian McBride, Charenee Wade, Dave Stryker, Steve Turre, Eddie Allen, Ted Chubb, the Mingus Big Band, Abel Mireles LatiNext Project, Charlie Porter, Roseanna Vitro, Bruce Williams and Don Braden**. Oscar is Coordinator of Jazz Studies at the Cali School of Music at Montclair State University. He has been an educator through Carnegie Hall, the Kupferberg Center at Queens College, Jazz House Kids in Montclair, Jazz at Lincoln Center and has held faculty positions at Drew University and the Manhattan School of Music.

Perez earned a Doctorate in Jazz Arts Advancement from the Manhattan School of Music under the tutelage of **Stefon Harris, Ingrid Jensen, and Jim McNeely**. Previous studies at the New England Conservatory, University of North Florida and the Aaron

Copland School of Music at Queens College, gave him the opportunity to serve under the guidance of **Danilo Perez, Michael Mossman**, and **Sir Roland Hanna**, respectively. During his formative years he shared the stage with jazz legends **Bunky Green, George Russell, Dianne Reeves** and **Curtis Fuller**.

He is the recipient of the 2006 **ASCAP/IAJE Commission** in honor of **Billy Strayhorn**. Oscar's group featuring **Antonio Hart** premiered the work at the 2007 International Association of Jazz Education Convention. He has also been commissioned to arrange music for **Chick Corea, Regina Carter, Arturo Sandoval**, R&B vocalist **Jon B**, and the **MSM Jazz Orchestra** featuring **Sean Jones**. His critically acclaimed CD **Afropean Affair**, is the result of a New Works Grant by **Chamber Music America** for his septet **Oscar Perez Nuevo Comienzo**. He placed 2nd in the 2014 Jacksonville Jazz Piano Competition. His latest endeavor, **Prepare a Place for Me**, is available through all media outlets.

# Montclair State University

## Jazz Ensemble

### Saxophones

Luke Caruana, Jazz Studies, Staten Island, NY  
Kyle Gentile, Jazz Studies, Ho Ho Kus, NJ  
Ryan Huston, Jazz Studies, Tom's River, NJ  
Will Travis, Jazz Studies, Hollis, ME  
Tristan Shafran, Woodwind Doubling, Saddle Brook, NJ

### Trumpets

John Rivas, Jazz Studies, Clifton, NJ  
Gabriel Chalick, Jazz Studies, Naples, FL  
Will Schetelich, Jazz Studies, Scotch Plains, NJ  
Matthew Gabriel Leal, Jazz Studies, Nogales, AZ  
Jameson Klinsky, Finance, Jackson, NJ

### Trombones

Dan Harkins, Jazz Education, Mount Olive, NJ  
Aidan Andreoli, Woodwind Doubling, Tulsa, OK  
James Boland, Artist Diploma, Hamilton, NJ  
Sofia Huf, Performance, Woodbury, MN

### Rhythm Section

Karen Xie, Jazz Studies, Brooklyn, NY - Piano  
Levi Taple, Jazz Studies, Minneapolis, MN - Guitar  
Thomas Horner, Jazz Studies, Trenton, NJ - Bass  
Joseph Cooper, Jazz Studies, St Louis, MO - Drums

### Montclair State University Vocamotion 1

Mia Grizzuti	Jillian Pongonis
Elizabeth Legg	Ammy Zea
Annabelle Kempf	Andrew Meister
Elena Latiano	Jay Greengold
Cristina Clare	Jeffrey Castellano
Chloe Stavis	Jordan Mirrione
Alexa Tabbacchino	Marcello Fois

