

10-23-2002

Guest Artist Recital: Zagreb Saxophone Quartet

Zagreb Saxophone Quartet

Dragan Sremec

Goran Mercep

Sasa Nestorovic

Matjaz Drevensek

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*“It is
my plan
to build
a school
of music
second
to none.”*

—William
Grant Egbert
(1867–1928)
Founder,
Ithaca
Conservatory
of Music

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

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VISITING ARTISTS SERIES 2002-3

ZAGREB SAXOPHONE QUARTET

Dragan Sremec, soprano saxophone
Goran Mercep, alto saxophone
Sasa Nestorovic, tenor saxophone
Matjaz Drevensek, baritone saxophone

Im Garten Deiner Liebe

Berislav Sipus

Quartet For Saxophones

Elliot del Borgo

Quickly
Gently
With Vigor

Six Croquis

Boris Papandopulo

Allegro moderato
Andante tranquillo
Allegro vivace
Andante sostenuto
Allegro vivace
Con brio

Bordel 1900
Night Club 1960

Astor Piazzolla

Concerto For Saxophone Quartet No. 1

Milko Lazar

Cascades
Spleen '99
Hommage to Mr. Rifi

Ford Hall
Wednesday, October 23, 2002
8:15 p.m.

The Selmer Company, Inc. has provided partial funding for the
Zagreb Saxophone Quartet's residency.

THE ARTISTS

It was the graduates of the Zagreb Academy of Music (Croatia) from the studio of Prof. Josip Nochtá who founded the Zagreb Saxophone Quartet. The current personnel has played together since 1989: Dragan Sremec, soprano saxophone; Goran Mercep, alto saxophone; Sasa Nestorovic, tenor saxophone; and Matjaz Drevensek, baritone saxophone. Both as an ensemble and as soloists, the members of the quartet have received a number of awards, notably "Milka Trnina", "Judita", "Darko Lukic", "Dragan Gurtl", Croatian Composers Society Award, University of Zagreb Award, Jazz Fair Award, three Porin Awards (Croatian discography award) and several first prizes at competitions in former Yugoslavia.

The quartet has performed in Austria, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, and United States. It has worked with the Zagreb Philharmonic, Croatian Radio Television Symphony Orchestra, Zagreb Soloists, Slovenian Philharmonic, Slovenian Radio Television Symphony Orchestra, Croatian Radio Television Big Band, the Croatian Army Symphony Wind Orchestra, and Croatian Navy Orchestra. The ensemble has also played under the baton of distinguished conductors Hans Graf, Pavle Despalj, Marko Letonja, Kazushi Ono, Vjekoslav Sutej and others. Renowned ensembles and soloists often appear as guests at its concerts, including the Slovenian Brass Quintet and composer Miljenko Prohaska, and saxophonist Eugene Rousseau.

The Zagreb Saxophone Quartet has given outstanding performances, highly acclaimed both by critics and audiences, at Dubrovnik Summer Festival, Split Summer Festival, 10th and 11th World Saxophone Congress, Zagreb Music Biennale, Ljubljana Summer Festival, Europhonia in Zagreb, Musicora in Paris, and Biennale de la Creation Musicale et Choregraphique de l'Essone in Orsay. Their repertoire includes pieces originally written for saxophone quartet, as well as transcriptions and arrangements of pieces by various composers belonging to different periods and styles, ranging from the baroque (Johann Sebastian Bach, Henry Purcell) to the 20th century (Astor Piazzola, Philip Glass, George Gershwin). Additionally, the ensemble's interpretive performances have inspired numerous Croatian composers—B. Bjelinski, D. Detoni, S. Horvat, O. Jelaska, I. Kuljeric, B. Lazarin, S. Majurec, B. Papandopulo, M. Prohaska, M. Ruzdjak, T. Simovic, M. Tarbuk, T. Uhlik—to write for the quartet. Numerous other composers have dedicated their pieces to them: (J. Golob, J. Gregorc, M. Lazar, I. Petric, P. Ramovs, P. Savli - Slovenia, N. Hall - New Zealand).