

2015

Concert recording 2015-03-05

Michael Hernandez

Michael Mortarotti

Diane Hunger

Thomas Giles

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The University of Arkansas
Fulbright College of Arts & Sciences
Department of Music presents

MUSIC
UNIVERSITY
OF ARKANSAS

Mana Saxophone Quartet

Michael Hernandez, soprano saxophone

Michael Mortarotti, alto saxophone

Diane Hunger, tenor saxophone

Thomas Giles, baritone saxophone

Thursday, March 5, 2015

7:30 p.m. - Stella Boyle Smith Concert Hall

**Three Contrapuncti from
The Art of Fugue BWV 1080**

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Contrapunctus I
Contrapunctus IV
Contrapunctus IX

Premier Quatuor op. 53 (1857)

Jean Baptiste Singelee (1812-1875)

I. Adagio-Allegro
II. Adagio Sostenuto
III. Allegro Vivace
IV. Allegretto

~ Intermission ~

Rondo (1970)

Zdenek Lukas (1928-2007)

Saxophone Quartet (2014)*

Stephen Dankner (b. 1944)

I. Molto Moderato
II. Andantio Giovale
III. Adagio-Allegro Molto
IV. Recitatives
V. Presto Meccanico

BIOGRAPHY

Championed by Chamber Music Magazine as “Saxophone Ambassadors”, the Mana Quartet has, since its inception in 2007, presented fresh interpretations of 21st-century repertoire and many virtually unheard of 20th century masterworks. Using vintage instruments built to the specifications of the saxophone’s inventor, Adolphe Sax, Mana’s passionate presentations offer audiences a chance to view the saxophone in a new light – a striking aesthetic characterized by intrinsic warmth, dynamic range of character, and absolute versatility. Mana redefines the saxophone quartet and the saxophone’s place in classical music.

In 2009, the group became the first saxophone quartet in history to receive the coveted Grand Prize at the Coleman International Chamber Ensemble Competition, quickly elevating them to the professional chamber music arena. Since then, the group has taken on a growing list of residencies at major music festivals and universities, as well as countless community outreach concerts and events throughout the United States and Europe. Mana is repeatedly featured on NPR’s Performance Today, with orchestras across North America in featured concerto appearances, and maintains a high profile on the chamber circuit.

Mana is currently the Resident Chamber Ensemble at the National Music Festival, where they recently performed Philip Glass’s Concerto for Saxophone Quartet with the festival orchestra and hosted their 5th annual Mana Saxophone Institute, an internationally attended two-week intensive apprenticeship program. In 2011, Mana was invited to join the Bravo! Vail Valley Music Festival, as the Young Professionals in Residence. From 2009-2011 Mana served as the Artistic Ensemble in Residence at the Hot Springs Music Festival, where they gave the United States Premiere of Swedish composer Anders Nilsson’s Concerto Grosso for Saxophone Quartet and Orchestra, in 2010

The Mana Quartet is a D’Addario Performing Ensemble and performs exclusively on Reserve Classic reeds.

We hope you enjoy tonight’s performance.

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please visit our calendar of events online - <http://music.uark.edu>**

**Ushering and stage management for this concert
provided by Sigma Alpha Iota and Phi Mu Alpha.**