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**CCJO Performance Archives**

**Unforgettable: Mandy Gaines and the CCJO Quartet**

**May 22, 2022 | 7pm | Campbell County Public Library Ft. Thomas/Carrico Branch**

The CCJO quartet welcomed world-renowned vocalist Mandy Gaines to the stage to sing favorite classics from the American Songbook and beyond.

**JAZZ@FIRST: A Time for Love: The Music of Johnny Mandel, featuring Emily Jordan and Harry Allen**

**April 24, 2022 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

Multiple Grammy and Academy Award-winning composer and arranger Johnny Mandel was known for his popular jazz songs and film scores. From *M\*A\*S\*H* to *Caddyshack* to “The Shadow of Your Smile” from *The Sandpiper*, Mandel made an indelible mark on jazz and film music. The Phil DeGreg Trio was joined by vocalist Emily Jordan and saxophonist Harry Allen as they explored some of Mandel's best-known works and paid tribute to this musical pioneer.

**BIG BAND: Angel Song: Ingrid Jensen Plays the Music of Kenney Wheeler**

**April 21, 2022 | 7pm | The Redmoor**

The late great Kenny Wheeler had the unique appeal of being both an exciting and incendiary trumpet player, as well as an introspective and genius composer. DIVA alumnus and Juno Award nominee trumpeter Ingrid Jensen possessed this poised balance of fire and reflection. The CCJO welcomed Ingrid to Cincinnati - during Women’s History Month - to perform many of Kenny Wheeler's most famous pieces, including new interpretations of his hauntingly beautiful music.

Opening Act: Lakota West Jazz Orchestra

**JAZZ@FIRST: Chick Corea’s Musical Revolution with Rusty Burge**

**March 20, 2022 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

The Phil DeGreg Trio and vibraphonist Rusty Burge presented an afternoon of music paying tribute to the musical revolutionary Chick Corea. An artist that expanded the notion of the contemporary jazz piano trio, Corea’s influence went far beyond jazz by incorporating rock and Spanish rhythms and performing on numerous electronic keyboard instruments and synthesizers. University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music professor of percussion, Rusty Burge is recognized for his unique musical timbre and incredible technique.

**BIG BAND: Cincinnati’s First Lady of Song: Mandy Gaines**

**March 17, 2022 | 7pm | The Redmoor**

Cincinnati treasure, vocalist Mandy Gaines is known around the world for her sultry and rich vocal stylings. Guests joined us for an evening of Mandy’s favorite jazz classics – many of which were her first performed with a big band – and they learned just why Mandy truly is Cincinnati’s First Lady of Song.

Opening Act: Cincinnati Youth Jazz Orchestra

**BIG BAND: A Tribute to Genius: Phil DeGreg Play Chick Corea + McCoy Tyner**

**February 17, 2022 | 7pm | The Redmoor**

Modern jazz piano has been defined by the incredible talents of a small cadre of artists, including the late pianists Chick Corea and McCoy Tyner. CCJO chairman and pianist Phil DeGreg took center stage as he paid tribute to these departed geniuses that helped redefine the sound of contemporary jazz piano from the 60s to today.

Opening Act: Winton Woods High School Jazz Band

**JAZZ@FIRST: Queen City Vintage Vibe**

**February 6, 2022 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

Longtime friends and collaborators, pianist Phil DeGreg, trumpeter Sally Lukasik and clarinetist Joe Lukasik returned to the Jazz@First stage alongside CCJO bassist Aaron Jacobs. Often presenting music with a throwback vibe, the quartet loves to explore and perform in many styles of the jazz tradition. They specialize in music performed by artists like Jelly Roll Morton, Bix Beiderbeck and Louis Armstrong. Guests enjoyed an afternoon of music sure to get your toes tapping!

**Fitton Center for the Arts Presents | A Swinging Christmas Featuring CCJO and Mandy Gaines**

**Saturday, December 10, 2021 | 7:30-8:30pm | Fitton Center for the Arts**

The Cincinnati Contemporary Jazz Orchestra will fill the Fitton Center for the Creative Arts’ stage with 17 big band musicians and sensational jazz vocalist Mandy Gaines for a wonderful evening of Christmas entertainment. With original arrangements from the Ella Fitzgerald Christmas songbook to timeless holiday songs, carols and modern classics, this is a night of music that is sure to get you swinging right through the holidays!

**BIG BAND: Jingle Jazz**

**December 9, 2021 | 7pm | The Redmoor**

We celebrated the season with the CCJO and sensational vocalist Mandy Gaines at our popular annual concert Jingle Jazz featuring new takes on your favorite holiday classics, many of which were written by members of the CCJO. Guests enjoyed a variety of Christmas classics from some of our most popular programs including Nutcracker Remix, Christmas Time is Here and our tribute to James Brown’s holiday albums, Have a Funky Christmas.

Opening Act: Walnut Hill High School Jazz Band under the direction of Andrew Peoples

**JAZZ@FIRST: Christmas Hymnprovisation with Robert Lomax**

**December 5, 2021 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

Guests swung into the holidays with the CCJO at Jazz@First’s Christmas Hymnprovisation. Based on a new album by the Phil DeGreg Trio and powerful tenor Robert Lomax, they presented traditional songs of Christmas in new fresh jazz settings. Jazz fans and all lovers of Christmas songs enjoyed hearing the hopeful message of the Christmas season in this surprising new way.

**BIG BAND: CCJO Meets Steely Dan**

**November 18, 2021 | 7pm | The Redmoor**

Few artists command more respect than Walter Becker and Donald Fagen, otherwise known as the genius yet irreverent core of Steely Dan. The CCJO put its own spin on hits like “Do It Again”, “FM” and “The Goodbye Look” and many more... all while staying true to the sophistication, complexity and humor that makes this great American band such a classic.

Opening Act: University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM) Prep Adult Jaz Combo

**JAZZ@FIRST: Time Out: Rick VanMatre Plays Brubeck**

**October 24, 2021 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

Guests took a “Time Out” with Rick VanMatre and the Phil DeGreg Trio at our Jazz@First series program highlighting the inimitable career of jazz pianist and composer David Brubeck. Considered one of the foremost proponents of cool jazz, several of Brubeck’s compositions went on to become jazz standards. Joining us again on stage was saxophonist Rick VanMatre, a musician the Chicago Star recognized as “without comparison” for his exacting yet smooth technique and his personal and poignant expression.

The concert was dedicated to the memory of saxophonist Mike Andres.

**BIG BAND: Reunited Celebration with Mandy Gaines**

**October 21, 2021 | 7pm | The Redmoor**

Guests returned to The Redmoor for a fun-filled celebration as we brought back live jazz music to the stage. CCJO artistic director Eric Lechliter premiered a newly commissioned suite of music to mark the occasion and the one and only vocalist Mandy Gaines joined us as we kick off our 2021-22 season.

Opening Act: Jazz at Dusk from the Cincinnati Jazz Hall of Fame

**JAZZ@FIRST: An Afternoon in Brazil**

**September 19, 2021 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

Phil DeGreg was back at our second home, the First Unitarian Church! Phil has a lifelong love affair with Brazilian musical traditions, a passion that has brought about some of his most celebrated musical works and albums. Attendees enjoyed an afternoon showcasing Phil on piano as well as Rusty Burge on vibraphone, Kevin McClellan on bass, Juan Megna on drums and Kiko Sebrian on percussion as they brought South American colors and rhythms to Cincy.

**CCJO Presents: Jazz On the Porch**

**August 15, 2021 | 2-4pm | Kennedy Heights Arts Center**

The Cincinnati Contemporary Jazz Orchestra Sextet held a toe tapping free concert and workshop with lively jazz arrangements in a variety of styles! After the concert, six members of the orchestra invited community music students to explore jazz improvisation alongside the professional CCJO performers.

**BIG BAND: OTR Performs: Swingin’ with the CCJO**

**August 8, 2021 | 7-9pm | Washington Park Performance Stage**

The CCJO returned to the stage for a free, celebratory evening of big band jazz! Alongside swinging classics featuring world renowned vocal sensation Mandy Gaines, the big band also performed some of our greatest hits drawn from popular artists such as Radiohead, Earth Wind & Fire, David Bowie, Ray Charles, Prince and many more.

**BIG BAND: Fitton Center for the Arts Presents | A Swinging Christmas Featuring CCJO and Mandy Gaines**

**Saturday, December 19, 2020 | 7:30-10:45pm | Virtual Event**

It's Christmas in Hamilton, and the Fitton Center had a very special gift for the holiday season! The CCJO was joined by guest vocalist Mandy Gaines for a sensational night of FREE Christmas music that kept listeners swinging right through the holidays!

**BIG BAND: Fitton on the Hill | Big Band Jazz Featuring CCJO**

**Sunday, October 4, 2020 | 2-4pm | Pyramid Hill Sculpture Park**

Guests enjoyed the changing leaves, a delicious drink and the sounds of live big band jazz on a beautiful Sunday afternoon in fall. Eric Lechliter led the Cincinnati Contemporary Jazz Orchestra with the superb Mandy Gaines on vocals for a performance of classic jazz standards, the Great American Songbook and Big Band Swing!

**JAZZ@FIRST: Something to Live For: Janelle Reichman Performs Billy Strayhorn**

**March 8, 2020 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

Billy Strayhorn wrote some of the Duke Ellington Orchestra’s most important pieces, including Duke’s famous theme “Take the A Train.” In honor of Women’s History Month, joining the Phil DeGreg Trio was virtuoso clarinetist and saxophonist Janelle Reichman. Janelle performs regularly with DIVA, the award-winning NYC all-female big band, and has guested with Jazz at Lincoln Center. Guests enjoyed an unforgettable afternoon of music as Janelle and musicians from the CCJO performed some of the greatest compositions in jazz.

**BIG BAND: We Gotta Shout: Gospel Meets Jazz**

**February 23, 2020 | 4pm | Corinthian Baptist Church**

In 1963 the legendary Clara Ward and her gospel singers entered the studio with the equally acclaimed Dukes of Dixieland to record an album which would break down cultural and musical barriers to become an instant classic! Joined once again by an all-star gospel choir led by A. Michael Cunningham, the CCJO revisited its own unique adaptation of this music for a truly special event.​

Opening Act: The Little Miami Select Women's Chorale - Artistic Director Sarah J. Baker

**Let Freedom Swing!**

**February 9, 2020 | 6pm | Robert Sonny Hill Jr. Community Center**

The Cincinnati Contemporary Jazz Orchestra brought our program Let Freedom Swing! to Middletown! The CCJO is proud to be the only regional organization officially sanctioned and trained by Jazz at Lincoln Center to provide this groundbreaking program. CCJO artistic director Eric Lechliter along with a CCJO jazz quartet led the audience in an interactive and informative musical presentation about the history of jazz and how it ties specifically into the history of democracy in our country.

**JAZZ@FIRST: On the Same Wavelength: Phil DeGreg + Joe Lukasik**

**February 2, 2020 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

Phil DeGreg and clarinetist Joe Lukasik have been musical collaborators and friends for over 20 years. This powerful duo performed favorites that range from early jazz to the Great American Songbook to choro, “the New Orleans jazz of Brazil.” Attendees enjoyed exceptional musical communication and good cheer as these two virtuosos held jazz court at First Unitarian Church.

**BIG BAND: Funky Christmas, featuring Micah Davis**

**December 12, 2019 | 7pm | The Redmoor**

This Christmas, Santa's got a brand new bag! Throughout his illustrious career, James Brown - the Godfather of Soul - recorded several holiday albums filled with funk, fun and yuletide cheer. The CCJO unveiled all new arrangements of this music and other festive holiday favorites.

Opening Act: Walnut Hills High School Jazz Ensemble

**JAZZ@FIRST: “The Sound of Music” with Cincinnati Youth Choir**

**December 1, 2019 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

Rodgers and Hammerstein’s Academy Award winning musical for Best Picture, “The Sound of Music,” is beloved across generations. The Phil DeGreg Trio partnered with members of the award-winning Cincinnati Youth Choir directed by Robyn Lana on a concert that was perfect for the whole family!

**BIG BAND: Saving Our Love for Them: A Tribute to Nancy Wilson and Doris Day, featuring Mandy Gaines**

**November 21, 2019 | 7pm | The Redmoor**

In 2018 and 2019, the music world lost two true icons of song: the great Nancy Wilson and Cincinnati's own Doris Day. The CCJO celebrated these revered artists with the help of Cincinnati treasure and international vocal phenomenon Mandy Gaines in memory of two of the greatest voices in music history!

Opening Act: Central State University Big Band (Nancy Wilson's alma mater)

**JAZZ@FIRST: 1959: The Year that Changed Jazz**

**October 27, 2019 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

In the history of jazz recordings, there’s never been a year like 1959. Phil DeGreg assembled a killer small group to perform some of these landmark works like Miles Davis’ “Kind of Blue,” John Coltrane’s “Giant Steps” and Dave Brubeck’s “Time Out.” It may be their 60th anniversary, but audiences at First Unitarian Church heard these works LIVE and as fresh as ever.

**BIG BAND: CCJO Goes to the Movies**

**October 17, 2019 | 7pm | The Redmoor**

The CCJO celebrated The Redmoor's history as a movie theater with jazz from the silver screen. Audiences heard exciting arrangements new and old from some of cinema's most legendary films and composers. From *Rocky* to *Mission: Impossible* to *The Magnificent Seven* to *The Pink Panther*, there will be something for everyone.

Opening Act: Joining us to open the show was Jazz @ Dusk.

**JAZZ@FIRST: Byron Stripling: Satchmo and Friends**

**September 29, 2019 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

Internationally acclaimed jazz trumpet virtuoso and entertainer Byron Stripling had the leading role in the Broadway musicals “Satchmo” and “From Second Avenue to Broadway.” Byron came to Cincinnati to play and sing the music of Louis Armstrong and his contemporaries as we saluted America’s original genius of jazz.

**JAZZ@FIRST: An Afternoon in Brazil with Bruno Mangueira + Friends**

**April 28, 2019 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

Brazilian guitar virtuoso Bruno Mangueira returned to the CCJO Jazz@First stage to perform with Phil DeGreg! Guests enjoyed an afternoon showcasing South American colors and rhythms with stunningly beautiful and jazzy works from Bruno’s latest project that retained their Brazilian roots.

**BIG BAND: CCJO Meets Soul: Ray Charles & Earth, Wind & Fire**

**April 18, 2019 | 7pm | The Redmoor**

“Let’s Groove” as the CCJO once again rocked the Redmoor with soulful new arrangements of music by Ray Charles and Earth, Wind & Fire. We dared guests to sit still as the CCJO married jazz with R&B, funk and soul in high-energy, horn-fueled arrangements of songs including “Georgia,” “Sing a Song” and “September!”

Opening Act: Joining us to open the show was the Cincinnati Youth Jazz Orchestra, directed by Jenn Grantham.

Music Sponsor: Thompson Hine LLP

**CCJO @ ArtsWave Days: Soul of the Arts**

**April 13, 2019 | 6pm | SCPA Corbett Auditorium**

The CCJO was excited to participate in ArtsWave Days with a small ensemble performing at Soul of the Arts. Audiences came out to Cincinnati's School for Creative and Performing Arts on April 13 at 6pm to hear the CCJO sextet perform a set of brand new arrangements of Earth, Wind & Fire charts that were a fitting preview to our Redmoor season finale concert on April 18!

**JAZZ@FIRST: Mercy, Mercy, Mercy! The Music of Cannonball Adderley, featuring Charlie Young**

**March 24, 2019 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

Alto saxophonist Charlie Young is perhaps better known as a quintessential artist’s artist because of his tremendous talents in both section and soloistic playing. Throughout his career, Charlie has shared the stage with everyone from Ella Fitzgerald to Stevie Wonder. Trumpeter Mike Wade joined Charlie and the Phil DeGreg Trio as they performed music of the Cannonball Adderley Quintet. Known for blending jazz, gospel and funk, Charlie and Mike helped make this a high-spirited afternoon of music.

**BIG BAND: Domination: When Cannonball Adderley Met Oliver Nelson, featuring Charlie Young**

**March 21, 2019 | 7pm | The Redmoor**

In 1965, alto saxophonist Cannonball Adderley joined forces with arranger Oliver Nelson to create the renowned album Domination. Count Basie and Duke Ellington alumnus, saxophonist Charlie Young, joined the big band to bring that historic recording to life through his impeccable musicianship.

Opening Act: Walnut Hills High School Jazz Band, directed by Andrew Peoples

**Campbell County Public Library: *Let Freedom Swing!***

**March 7, 2019 | 6pm | Campbell County Public Library Ft. Thomas/Carrico Branch**

The CCJO led a performance and program called *Let Freedom Swing!* which explored the relationship between jazz and democracy, creating conversations about the parallels between these two great American traditions.

**Jazz@First: Trio Con Brio: A Tribute to Nat King Cole, featuring Andy Brown, Paul Keller and Phil DeGreg**

**February 24, 2019 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

Chicago guitarist Andy Brown and Ann Arbor bassist Paul Keller joined Phil DeGreg for a tribute to Nat King Cole. Andy and Paul have played with artists including Scott Hamilton, Warren Vache and Diana Krall. This trio con brio breathed new life into standards and shared original works with joy, beauty and chops galore!

**BIG BAND: Moanin’: The Music of Mingus with Lauren Sevian**

**February 21, 2019 | 7pm | The Redmoor**

A member of the Charles Mingus Big Band for 15 years, New York baritone saxophonist Lauren Sevian is one of the leading women in jazz music today. Lauren joined the CCJO for a concert saluting the legendary bassist, composer and arranger.

Opening Act: Joining us to open the show was the Eastside Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Aaron Todahl.

**BIG BAND: Jingle Jazz: Nutcracker Remix + More**

**December 13, 2018 | 7pm | The Redmoor**

Now THIS is how Cincinnati jazz lovers kick off the holidays! Featuring works ranging from Count Basie’s “Jingle Bells” to classics like “White Christmas,” the CCJO ensured attendees' holidays were merry and bright. And back by popular demand, the “Cincinnati style” Nutcracker Remix brought back the program that audiences hailed as “guaranteed to become a 21st century classic” and “A tribute to Ellington and Peter Illych worthy of 2017.“ It was the perfect appetizer to a holiday arts buffet!

Opening Act: Joining us to open the show was the Greater Cincinnati Youth Jazz Collaborative.

**JAZZ@FIRST: A Charlie Brown Christmas, featuring Hal Melia**

**December 9, 2018 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

It’s hard to think of Christmas without the joyful, swinging and heartfelt soundtrack of the TV special that has become part of America’s holiday tradition: *A Charlie Brown Christmas*. The Phil DeGreg Trio, along with saxophone and flute master Hal Melia, revisited the Vince Guaraldi classics and sprinkled in some other Christmas tunes of their own. This show was kid-friendly, a perfect afternoon to introduce young folks to jazz and improvisation. Guests enjoyed an afternoon of holiday cheer!

**BIG BAND: Wonderjazz: The Music of Stevie Wonder, featuring Brad Myers**

**November 4, 2018 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

The incredible compositions of 20th century pop icon Stevie Wonder were on display as the Phil DeGreg Trio and guitarist Brad Myers reinterpreted Stevie’s classics in an afternoon of rockin’ jazz. Guests enjoyed new takes on the songs that garnered 25 Grammy Awards, including “You Are the Sunshine of My Life,” “Don’t You Worry ‘Bout a Thing” and “Overjoyed.”

**JAZZ@FIRST: Out of this World: An Afternon with Scott Robinson**

**October 21, 2018 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

Scott Robinson is in a class by himself. He not only plays a dizzying array of jazz styles, but does so on a dizzying array of instruments – many of which are unique only to him! Alongside the incredible Phil DeGreg Trio, this scientist and jazz musician brought an out of this world concert to the intimate environs of First Unitarian Church!

**BIG BAND: The One-Man Band: Multi-Instrumentalist Scott Robinson**

**October 18, 2018 | 7pm | The Redmoor**

Fifty and counting. That’s the number of different instruments Scott Robinson has recorded on over the past 34 years, including clarinet, flute, trumpet and every type of saxophone ever made. Guests enjoyed this one-of-a-kind musician on the CCJO big band stage as he opened our season with his eclectic style of jazz!

Opening Act: Joining us to open the show was the Colerain High School Jazz Ensemble.

**It’s Commonly Jazz Series Presents: CCJO Featuring Adia Dobbins**

**August 16, 2018 | 6pm | Eden Park Seasongood Pavilion**

The Cincinnati Contemporary Jazz Orchestra showcased the amazing musical talents of our big band with our fabulous vocalist Adia Dobbins in the beautiful environs of Eden Park. Guests joined us for an evening of straight-ahead, swinging jazz! For more information about the series: www.itscommonlyjazz.com.

**JAZZ@FIRST: Brasilia: The Colors of Samba-Jazz**

**May 13, 2018 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

Phil DeGreg’s samba-jazz band Brasilia has been a lively presence on the Cincinnati scene for over a decade. Their repertoire includes songs in various Brazilian styles: samba, bossa-nova, choro, baião and frevo. Brasilia plays works by Antonio Carlos Jobim, Edu Lobo, João Donato, Hermeto Pascoal and others. In this band, South American rhythms merge effortlessly with fluid jazz improvisation.

**Campbell County Public Library: Beatlejazz, featuring Kim Pensyl**

**April 20, 2018 | 7pm | Campbell County Public Library Ft. Thomas/Carrico Branch**

John Lennon and Paul McCartney created unforgettable melodies that helped define music of the 1960s. Trumpeter Kim Pensyl joined the Phil DeGreg Trio in reimagining some of their classic songs as instrumental jazz pieces. The arrangements lend a new jazz twist to familiar melodies.

**BIG BAND: CCJO Meets Bowie**

**April 19, 2018 | 7pm | The Redmoor**

Ground control to Major Bowie fans… We rocked out with the CCJO, Rob Parton and vocalist Adia Dobbins in a tribute to the music of a contemporary rock icon David Bowie. The CCJO tackled some of Bowie’s most creative charts including "Life on Mars," "Let's Dance" and “Space Oddity.”

Opening Act: Joining us to open the show were the Walton-Verona High School Jazz Cats.

The concert was sponsored by avid jazz lover and Queen City convert Rebecca Knight.

**JAZZ@FIRST: Benny Rides Again: The Music of the Benny Goodman Trio**

**April 15, 2018 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

Clarinetist Benny Goodman was the rock star of the swing era, known as the leader of one of the great dance bands. But his virtuosic work with his quartet featuring pianist Teddy Wilson and vibist Lionel Hampton was stunning and groundbreaking. Clarinetist Joe Lukasik brought these gorgeous arrangements to life.

**Sorg Opera House: The Dizzy Gillespie Centennial, featuring Adia Dobbins**

**April 7, 2018 | 8pm | Sorg Opera House**

The CCJO took our Dizzy concert on the road with our first-ever performance at the newly reopened Sorg Opera House in Middletown! Dizzy Gillespie was a visionary architect of bebop, a peerless trumpet virtuoso, and a gifted educator, dancer and raconteur. The CCJO dug deep into the musical world of this jazz icon. As much a revolution as it was a movement, bebop marked a decisive line between old and new, ushering in the modern era of jazz.

**BIG BAND: The Sound of the Baskervilles: A Sherlock Holmes Suite, featuring Alan Barnes**

**March 22, 2018 | 7pm | The Redmoor**

It’s elementary, my dear Watson. You simply must partake in this evening of mystery and intrigue at The Redmoor. The CCJO will welcome London’s own Alan Barnes as the evening’s composer, lead soloist and narrator whom the Guardian noted “could be a comedian, if jazz every fails him.” This musical/literary performance will explore the characters, atmosphere and stories of Sherlock Holmes by means of readings, commentary and a set of Alan’s brilliant original jazz compositions. Alan is a prolific international performer, composer, arranger, bandleader and touring soloist whose range and brilliance have made him a “first call” for studio and live work since his arrival on the scene more than 30 years ago.

**JAZZ@FIRST: English Saxophonist Alan Barnes: Jazz from Across the Pond**

**March 18, 2018 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

Alan Barnes, one of Europe’s best-known jazz saxophonists and arrangers, makes a rare visit from the U.K. Alan is one of the funniest and most entertaining jazz musicians on the planet. Prepare to be charmed as he interprets tunes from the Great American Songbook with style, virtuosity and humor.

**BIG BAND: The Dizzy Gillespie Centennial, featuring Adia Dobbins**

**February 22, 2018 | 7pm | The Redmoor**

Dizzy Gillespie was a visionary architect of bebop, a peerless trumpet virtuoso, and a gifted educator, dancer and raconteur. The CCJO dug deep into the musical world of this jazz icon. As much a revolution as it was a movement, bebop marked a decisive line between old and new, ushering in the modern era of jazz.

**JAZZ@FIRST: Finger-Popping: The Music of Horace Silver, featuring Mike Wade and Brent Gallaher**

**January 28, 2018 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

Pianist/composer Horace Silver pioneered the “hard-bop” style of jazz in the 1950s, creating great melodies and arrangements that are soulful, harmonically beautiful and frequently funky. Two of Cincinnati’s best jazz soloists – saxophonist Brent Gallaher and trumpeter Mike Wade – brought flair and personality to this joyful music.

**BIG BAND: Nutcracker Remix: Ccjo + Friends Celebrate The Holidays, Featuring Adia Dobbins**

**December 14, 2017 | 7pm | The Redmoor**

Guests swung in the holidays with the CCJO as they enjoyed world premiere arrangements of Tchaikvosky’s *Nutcracker* written by members of the Orchestra. From Funk to Swing, these fresh, original orchestrations reflected styles sure to please. The group also welcomed the mesmerizing Adia Dobbins back to the stage as they premiered contemporary arrangements of familiar songs both sacred and secular, from Count Basie’s “Jingle Bells” to classics like “White Christmas” and “Zat You Santa Claus?”

**JAZZ@FIRST: Melodious Monk, featuring Kim Pensyl**

**November 19, 2017 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

People tend to remember pianist Thelonious Monk as the eccentric “high priest of bebop” featured on the cover of Time Magazine in the ‘50s. But his mark as a composer is indelible, and his strong melodies are constantly re-interpreted in every generation and in many styles. Kim Pensyl brought his lovely, poignant flugelhorn sound to Monk’s music in this wonderful acoustic setting.

**BIG BAND: A Big Phat Concert: Studio & Jazz Legend, Trumpeter Wayne Bergeron**

**November 3, 2017 | 7pm | The Redmoor**

The CCJO welcomed to Cincinnati one of the most sought-after musicians in the world: trumpeter Wayne Bergeron. Whether it was as lead trumpeter for Maynard Ferguson or on over 350 TV and motion picture soundtracks, Wayne’s music can be heard around the world. In the studio, Wayne has recorded with artists as diverse as Green Day, Michael Bublé, Diana Krall and Earth Wind and Fire. You can hear his trumpet playing on soundtracks including *La La Land*, *Moana*, *Frozen* and *Despicable Me*, as well as at the Academy Awards, Golden Globe Awards, American Idol and the Grammy Awards.

**JAZZ@FIRST: Conrad Herwig: Virtuosic Jazz Trombone**

**October 22, 2017 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

Three-time Grammy-nominated musician Conrad Herwig is acknowledged as one of the most profound and virtuosic trombonists in the world. He has performed and recorded jazz greats including Eddie Palmieri, Jack DeJohnette, Frank Sinatra and countless others. Audiences enjoyed his creativity, sound and fluidity as he played his own music and contemporary arrangements of familiar songs.

**BIG BAND: The Latin Side Of Hancock, Shorter + More, featuring Trombonist Conrad Herwig**

**October 19, 2017 | 7pm | The Redmoor**

For our opening night, we welcomed Grammy-nominated, NYC-based, jazz trombonist Conrad Herwig to the Queen City! Conrad, considered one of the world’s most complete jazz musicians, sits atop both the performing and jazz education fields and has an abundance of composer and arranger credits as well. A master of the Latin and Latin Jazz genres, Conrad has released 20 recordings as a leader in addition to contributing to nearly 200 other recording sessions with some of the most notable artists in jazz. He has performed and recorded with artists including Miles Davis, Joe Henderson, Eddie Palmieri, Tito Puente, Frank Sinatra, Joe Lovano and Tom Harrell.

**JAZZ@FIRST: The Music Of Chick Corea, featuring Rusty Burge**

**September 17, 2017 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

Chick Corea is one of the most influential jazz pianists and creative jazz composers of the last 60 years. Vibist Rusty Burge along with the Phil DeGreg Trio explored his wide range of rhythmically intriguing and melodically colorful compositions, many of which have become jazz standards.

**It’s Commonly Jazz Series Presents: Ccjo featuring Adia Dobbins**

**August 17, 2017 | 6-8pm | Eden Park Seasongood Pavilion**

A beautiful summer evening free performance that showcased the amazing musical talents of the CCJO and vocalist Adia Dobbins.

**BIG BAND: Come Together: A Concert of Gospel and Jazz**

**July 7, 2017 | 7:30pm | Memorial Hall**

Come Together paid tribute to a memorable moment where the worlds of gospel and jazz came together for a March 1963 recording that joined the legendary Dukes of Dixieland with Clara Ward and Her Gospel Singers. This landmark recording had never been performed for a live audience and included 11 contemporary versions of the gospel songs on the record arranged by Eric Lechliter. The CCJO was joined by vocalists representing over a dozen church choirs from around the Tri-State. Leading the ensemble was A. Michael Cunningham. Adrian serves as the minister of music at New Jerusalem Baptist Church and has previously led rehearsals for the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra Classical Roots concert Community Mass Choir.

​Concert Sponsors: ArtsWave, Al Harris, and Matt & Holly Kraick

**JAZZ@FIRST: Remembering Kenny Poole, featuring Andy Brown**

**Sunday, April 30, 2017 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

The concert celebrated the memory of Cincinnati jazz guitar legend Kenny Poole, a nationally recognized master of mainstream and swing repertoire. The Phil DeGreg Trio was joined by amazing Chicago guitarist Andy Brown, a dedicated student of Kenny’s music. Additionally, there was a display of memorabilia about Kenny.

**BIG BAND: CCJO Meets Prince, featuring Adia Dobbins**

**March 23, 2017 | 7:30pm | The Redmoor**

“Let’s Go Crazy:” the CCJO featured brand new arrangements of music by the legendary artist Prince featuring incredible vocalist Adia Dobbins!

Concert Sponsors: Ryan Mitchell, LeAnne Anklan and Matt Anklan

**JAZZ@FIRST: Jelly Roll Morton Revisted, featuring The Buffalo Ridge Jazz Band**

**March 19, 2017 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

Jelly Roll Morton was the first great jazz composer, and his melodies and arrangements helped define early New Orleans jazz. Phil DeGreg was joined by the Buffalo Ridge Jazz Band to play this joyful classic music that dates back to the beginning of jazz.

**JAZZ@FIRST: A Tribute To Stan Getz, featuring Harry Allen**

**February 19, 2017 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

Internationally renowned tenor saxophone star Harry Allen joined the Phil DeGreg Trio for an afternoon of great American melodies, as well as some of the Jobim music that Getz brought to the USA during the bossa nova movement of the 1960’s. Harry has over 30 albums to his credit, and tours regularly with all the jazz greats like Scott Hamilton, Ken Peplowski, and many others.

**CCJO + CAC: Art + Improv: Nearest Neighbors**

**February 18, 2017 | 1pm | Contemporary Arts Center**

In response to the Nearest Neighbor exhibition, the CCJO and the CAC presented a musical response to the art. The exhibition crosses the lines between commercialism and artistic expression in photography. The newly arranged and composed music was inspired by the photographic works in the exhibit, playing with both formal and abstract structures in world premiere jazz charts by CCJO director of education and trumpeter Matthew Anklan. Steven Matijcio, CAC curator, and Matthew shared a presentation that ties the music and art together surrounded by the artwork in the gallery. Audiences heard music ranging from familiar standards to free form improvised works that directly reflect the dichotomy of the photographer and his pieces.

Concert Sponsors: Macy’s, ArtsWave

**BIG BAND: The Sound: Stan Getz Revisited, featuring Harry Allen**

**February 16, 2017 | 7:30pm | The Redmoor**

Internationally acclaimed saxophonist Harry Allen joined the CCJO in this tribute to the great Stan Getz. The music was melodic and swinging, with styles ranging from the thundering big band ensemble to the gentle grace of the bossa nova. We enjoyed having this true virtuoso here in the Queen City!

**JAZZ@FIRST: Bruno Mangueira Quartet, featuring Bruno Mangueira**

**January 22, 2017 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

Guitarist Bruno Mangueira, one of the extraordinary new voices in Brazilian jazz, returned to Cincinnati. He performed his hauntingly beautiful compositions, along with some classic Brazilian melodies, with the Phil DeGreg Trio.

**BIG BAND: Night In Brasil, Featuring Bruno Mangueira**

**January 19, 2017 | 7:30pm | The Redmoor**

Brazilian guitarist Bruno Mangueira presented the Cincinnati premiere of his exquisite compositions scored for jazz orchestra. The CCJO captured the rhythms and colors of Brazil, featuring Bruno’s hauntingly beautiful guitar playing.

Concert Sponsors: Centauro – ON and Ohio National Financial Services

**JAZZ@FIRST: Beatlejazz, featuring Kim Pensyl**

**November 27, 2016 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

John Lennon and Paul McCartney created unforgettable melodies that helped define music of the 1960s. Trumpeter Kim Pensyl joined the Phil DeGreg Trio in reimagining some of their classic songs as instrumental jazz pieces. The arrangements lend a new jazz twist to familiar melodies.

**BIG BAND: Big Band Vocal Divas, Featuring Kristy Parton And Leslie Beukelman**

**November 10, 2016 | 7:30pm | The Redmoor**

Celebrating the music and song stylings of Sarah Vaughan, Ella Fitzgerald, Rosemary Clooney and other American music divas.

**JAZZ@FIRST: The Music Of Bill Evans, featuring Rick VanMatre**

**October 16, 2016 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

One of the most influential modern jazz pianists, Bill Evans and his trio were revered the world over for his lyrical and harmonically lush pianism; he made the piano sing like no other. Evans mostly performed jazz standards, but his compositions were exquisite and have become classics in the jazz world. Saxophonist Rick VanMatre joined the Phil DeGreg Trio to interpret these musical gems.

**BIG BAND: Stan, Woody, Buddy And John: An Evening With John Von Ohlen, featuring John Von Ohlen**

**October 13, 2016 | 7:30pm | The Redmoor**

Cincinnati’s own John Von Ohlen joined the CCJO in a night of big band drummer feature charts by Stan, Woody, Buddy and John! Audiences favorites included Malaguena, Stompin’ at the Savoy, Big Swing Face and the West Side Story Suite.

**JAZZ@FIRST: An Afternoon Of Cole Porter, featuring Lynne Scott**

**September 11, 2016 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

Cole Porter was one of the genius composers of the Great American Songbook, who created songs of exquisitely crafted melodies married to lyrics of uncommon wit. The Phil DeGreg Trio and vocalist Lynne Scott performed jazz arrangements of some of his best songs, including infrequently heard verse introductions.

**Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra Presents: Sensory Winds with the Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra Wind Quintet, Musicians from the CCJO and Saxophonist James Carter**

**August 28, 2016 | 4pm | Cincinnati Art Museum**

From Puerto Rico to Paris, this program was a sumptuous mix of Latin American and French elegance, starring CCO winds and a jazz bassist and drummer from the Cincinnati Contemporary Jazz Orchestra along with saxophonist James Carter. The event began with a Cincinnati Art Museum tour curated by CCO music director candidate Sarah Ioannides that highlighted the visual elements of the performance pieces. Sensory Winds featured a cross-culture of music that moves effortlessly among the Jazz, Latin and Classical genres.

**It’s Commonly Jazz Series Presents: CCJO featuring CCJO Jazz Faculty**

**August 18, 2016 | 7pm | Eden Park Seasongood Pavilion**

A beautiful summer evening free performance showcasing the amazing musical talents of the CCJO.

**Cincinnati Parks Presents: American Salute with the CCJO, Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra and CCM Preparatory Department**

**June 30, 2016 | 7:15pm | Burnet Woods**

Musicians from the CCJO saluted the Red, White and Blue with our friends from the Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra and the CCM Preparatory Department at American Salute.

**Seven Hills Neighborhood Houses and the Carl Lindner Ymca Present: West End Speaks Plan Release Celebration & Jazz Concert with the CCJO**

**June 18, 2016 | 6pm | Carl Lindner YMCA**

The release of the West End Community Quality-of-Life Plan was celebrated with a jazz performance by CCJO of our Let Freedom Swing! program for the first time with the full 17-piece orchestra! Guests enjoyed dinner, refreshments and giveaways.

**BIG BAND: A Tribute to Flugge and Price**

**April 28, 2016 | 8pm | The Redmoor**

The music lived on as we celebrated the lives of two incredible Ohio composers/arrangers: Mark Flugge and Joseph Price. Columbus pianist Mark Flugge passed away in 2014 and Cincinnati’s own Joseph Price passed away in 2011. Flugge formerly served on the faculties of Eastman School of Music and Capital University. As a soloist, he performed with the Columbus Jazz Orchestra, Columbus Symphony and ProMusica Chamber Orchestra. Price wrote and arranged for top artists and arts organizations, including Wynton Marsalis, Harry Connick Jr., Doc Severinsen and the Cincinnati Pops Orchestra.

**JAZZ@FIRST: Time Out: The Music of Dave Brubeck**

**April 10, 2016 | 2pm | First Unitarian Church**

CCJO pianist Phil DeGreg kicked off the Orchestra’s new adult educational Sunday matinee series Jazz@First on Sunday, April 10 featuring saxophonist Rick VanMatre and The Phil DeGreg Trio and presented a program of music by one of the great American jazz pianists and composers, Dave Brubeck. Brubeck was considered to be one of the foremost proponents of cool jazz and the first composer to popularize the use of unusual time signatures and cross meters in his music, which are now common in all jazz-related genres today.

**BIG BAND: Cincinnati Composers' Night**

**March 10, 2016 | 8pm | The Redmoor**

The ranks of the CCJO boast some of the region’s most accomplished and creative big band composers. We held our popular annual performance featuring our own talented writers – as well as many other talented Greater Cincinnati composers – showcasing beautiful contemporary jazz arrangements on Thursday, March 10.

**ArtsWave Presents: *Let Freedom Swing!***

**February 27, 2016 | 2:30pm | Taft Museum of Art**

*Let Freedom Swing!* is a narrated, interactive performance that explores the relationship between jazz and democracy, and creates conversations about the parallels between these two great American traditions. Musicians from the CCJO and educators from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music shared examples of featured artists, works and composers. After the session, attendees had the chance to meet the musicians and ask their own questions about the session topics, the music, and the instruments they saw on stage. *Let Freedom Swing!* is an engaging introduction to jazz and its role in the fabric of our nation for musicians and non-musicians alike!

**BIG BAND: CCJO Meets Radiohead**

**February 18, 2016 | 8pm | The Redmoor**

Five Englishmen who developed their own unique sound, Radiohead was one of the mostinnovative and provocative bands of the 1990s and 2000s. For CCJO Meets Radiohead, the ensemble presented a cutting-edge concert intersecting the rock styles of Radiohead with jazz orchestra.

**BIG BAND: Jingle Jazz: Christmas Time Is Here**

**December 10, 2015 | 8pm | The Redmoor**

We celebrated the season with the CCJO at our popular annual concert, Jingle Jazz. This holiday performance featured new arrangements of your favorite holiday classics, many of which were written by members of the CCJO. Also featured were selections from CCJO artistic director Rob Parton’s Big Band of Chicago album, *Christmas Time is Here*.

**BIG BAND: A Sinatra Centennial Celebration**

**November 19, 2015 | 8pm | The Redmoor**

We celebrated the Centennial birthday of one of jazz music’s most iconic artists, Frank Sinatra with contemporary arrangements of your favorite charts made famous by “The Voice,” performed by Chicago vocal great Mark Madsen.

**Sycamore Presbyterian Church Presents: CCJO Quintet Concert at Sycamore Presbyterian Church**

**November 5, 2015 | 7:30pm | Sycamore Presbyterian Church**

Great jazz a little north of the city! Members of the Cincinnati Contemporary Jazz orchestra brought an exciting new quintet to Sycamore Presbyterian Church in Mason, OH. The concert featured fun, accessible, original compositions and pieces that have stood the test of time. The concert was free and open to the public (free will donations supported The Loveland Initiative).

**BIG BAND: Like It Is: An Evening with Trombonist John Fedchock**

**October 29, 2015 | 8pm | The Redmoor**

The CCJO kicked off their first subscription series concert of the year, Like It Is: An Evening with John Fedchock. Grammy-nominated arranger and world-class trombonist John Fedchock joined the CCJO in a concert celebrating the release of his latest album, *Like It Is*. We were proud to bring to town an artist who is continuing to have a hand in guiding and shaping the direction of modern big band music.

**Washington Park Presents: Friday Fusion with the CCJO and Kathy Wade**

**August 28, 2015 | 7pm | Washington Park**

The CCJO took the stage for the finale performance for Friday Fusion at Washington Park, complete with the vocal stylings of the inimitable Kathy Wade.

**It’s Commonly Jazz Series Presents: CCJO featuring CCM Jazz Faculty**

**August 20, 2014 | 6pm | Eden Park Seasongood Pavilion**

A beautiful summer evening FREE performance that showcased the amazing musical talents of the acclaimed CCM Jazz Faculty and the CCJO.

**BIG BAND: Suite Ellington**

**June 4, 2015 | 8pm | The Monastery Studio**

The CCJO presented a “suite” night of Ellington at the intimate Monastery Studio.

**Clifton Gaslight Business District Presents: Big Night Clifton**

**May 22, 2015 | 7pm | Clifton Plaza**

Featured the CCJO Little Big Band in a free concert as part of the BIG NIGHT Clifton Concert Series.

**Big Band: Cincinnati Composers’ Night**

**May 21, 2015 | 8pm | York Street Cafe**

Featured pieces and arrangements by CCJO musicians, local jazz legends and some of the hottest emerging composers in jazz today.

**Big Band: All Aboard: Big Train by Wynton Marsalis**

**May 3, 2015 | 4pm | Natural Underground Railroad Freedom Center**

It was “All aboard!” for a journey back to a time when the great road bands toured the country via rail, featured a full performance of Wynton Marsalis’ critically acclaimed “Big Train.”

**Three Rivers Jazz Festival Presents: Showcase Concert, featuring CCJO**

**March 28, 2015 | 7pm | Taylor H.S. Three Rivers Performing Arts Center**

The CCJO served as ensemble-in-residence for the first annual Three Rivers Jazz Festival and performed the evening’s Showcase Concert. The performance featured some of the day’s outstanding young soloists in a concert program that moves from the classics of the big band era to the standards of tomorrow.

**BIG BAND: CCJO Session @ The Greenwich**

**January 26 and February 9, 2015 | 7:30pm | The Greenwich**

The CCJO opened our extensive books for informal sessions at The Greenwich!

**BIG BAND: Jingle Jazz**

**December 11, 2014 | 8pm | Next Chapter Bar and Grill**

The CCJO rang in the holiday season to a packed house with jazzy versions of holiday favorites.

**BIG BAND: Mode For Joe: The Music of Joe Henderson**

**October 23, 2014 | 8pm | Next Chapter Bar and Grill**

An evening that celebrated the adventurous music by legendary saxophonist and composer Joe Henderson.

**It’s Commonly Jazz Series Presents: CCJO featuring CCM Jazz Faculty and Special Guest Dave Stryker, Guitar**

**August 14, 2014 | 6pm | Eden Park Seasongood Pavilion**

A beautiful summer evening free performance that showcased the amazing musical talents of the acclaimed CCM Jazz Faculty and special guest jazz guitar virtuoso Dave Stryker.

**Cincinnati Parks Presents: American Salute with the CCJO, Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra and CCM Preparatory Department**

**July 3, 2014 | 7:15pm | Burnet Woods**

Musicians from the CCJO saluted the Red, White and Blue with our friends from the Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra and the CCM Preparatory Department at American Salute! The evening was capped off by a FREE fireworks display at dusk!

**BIG BAND: Cincinnati Composers’ Night**

**April 24, 2014 | 8pm | York Street Cafe**

CCJO Cincinnati Composers’ Night featured pieces by local jazz composers and arrangers including several members of our own ensemble!

**Memorial Hall Presents: Simply Swinging**

**April 18, 2014 | 8pm | Memorial Hall**

The concert featured guest artist Steve Lippia, vocalist, for Memorial Hall’s Signature Series.

**Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra Gala Concert**

**March 8, 2014 | 7:30pm | Masonic Center**

The CCJO was the featured guest artist ensemble for CCO’s 40th Anniversary gala concert.

**BIG BAND: Jingle Jazz**

**December 12, 2013 | 7:30pm | Blue Wisp Jazz Club**

The CCJO kicked off the holiday season with new interpretations of traditional yuletide tunes – an experience that was warm, innovative and swingin’!

**BIG BAND: The Music of Pepper Adams**

**October 29, 2013 | 7:30pm | Blue Wisp Jazz Club**

The CCJO was joined by special guest arranger Tony Faulkner and biographer Gary Carner featuring the world premiere of Faulkner’s new Pepper Adams Suite.

**Constella Festival: Fiesta Mojo with Jimmy Heath**

**October 3, 2013 | 7:30pm | Corbett Auditorium at UC's College-Conservatory of Music**

The CCJO was joined by special guest NEA Jazz Master and 3-time Grammy nominee, Jimmy Heath.

**Carmine Caruso Jazz Trumpet Competition Gala Concert**

**September 14, 2013 | 7:30pm | Corbett Auditorium at UC's College-Conservatory of Music**

The CCJO was joined by Jon Faddis, Bobby Shew, Byron Stripling and the Competition winners.