"Quintet for SATB Saxophone Quartet and Piano" (Plattsburgh, NY)

Dominic Dousa, University of Texas at El Paso

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SUNY Plattsburgh Music Department presents

Faculty Saxophone Recital

featuring

Daniel Gordon
with the
Frontier Saxophone Quartet
and
Karen Becker, piano

Sunday, 3 pm
March 25, 2007

Krinovitz Recital Hall
Hawkins Hall

Sponsored by the Music Department with support from the Student Association through the Campus Arts Council.
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Daniel Gordon
with the
Frontier Saxophone Quartet and Karen Becker, piano
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Program

Allegro
from Brandenburg Concerto No. 6, BWV 1051
Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)
arr. R. Smith

Saxophone Quartet No. 1 (1973)
I. Allegro moderato
II. Scherzo—Allegro molto
III. Adagio molto
IV. Alla marcia, con spirito
Gordon Jacob
(1895-1984)

Here Comes Julian (1980)
Ulla in Africa (1976)
Heiner Wiburny
(b. 1944)

— Intermission —

Quintet (2006)
for SATB saxophone quartet and piano
Dominic Doucet
(b. 1973)

— World Premiere —

Lament for an Unknown Infant Victim of War (1979)
for saxophone quartet and grand piano
Ronald Caravan
(b. 1946)

Shadow of a Flame (2007)
for saxophone quartet and piano
Janne Ikonen
(b. 1975)

— World Premiere —

Frontier Quartet with Karen Becker

About the performers...

Gary Scavone (soprano) specializes in the performance of contemporary concert music and encourages new works incorporating the saxophone. He studied saxophone with Ronald Caravan and Sigurd Rascher at Syracuse University, as well as with Jean-Marie Londeix at the National Conservatory of France Bordeaux while on a Fulbright Scholarship. He is a former member of the Aeolian Saxophone Quartet and the New York Chamber Saxophones, and often played with the San Francisco Saxophone Quartet while living in the San Francisco Bay area. Dr. Scavone is currently Assistant Professor of Music Technology at McGill University in Montreal,
A North Country native, Todd Pray (alto) moved back to the area upon graduating from the Ithaca College School of Music with a Master’s Degree in Saxophone Performance and a Bachelor’s Degree in Music Education. He is currently employed at Peru Central School, where he conducts and teaches the High School and Middle School Bands, Jazz Band, Marching Band, Music Theory, and all band instrument lessons for grades 6-12. Besides his teaching role in Peru, Mr. Pray tries to stay active as a soloist and ensemble performer. He has been fortunate enough to play at Lincoln Center in New York City, and other performances in various wind ensembles, symphony orchestras, saxophone quartets, and other ensembles have taken him on tours through Maryland, Virginia, and New York State. Since returning to the area, Mr. Pray has performed regularly with the Adirondack Wind Ensemble (AWE). It was in preparation for the first AWE performance that Mr. Gordon and Mr. Pray began discussing the possibility of forming a professional saxophone quartet. It is very exciting for everyone involved that what started as a simple idea has grown into a reality.

Claudia Schaetze (tenor) was born in Germany. She holds degrees in saxophone performance from the Musikhochschule Würzburg, Akademie für Tonkunst in Darmstadt, Conservatoire de Musique de Bordeaux, and Bowling Green State University, Ohio. Her teachers have included Günter Priesner, Linda Bangs, Jean-Marie Londeix, and John Sampen. She has also participated in master classes with Iwan Roth, Eugene Rousseau, Sigurd Rasch, Frederick Henke, Donald Sinta, and the Rasch Saxophone Quartet. She has given many recitals in duos with piano and organ and played in a vast number of orchestras and ensembles, such as the Nota Bu-Ensemble Düsseldorf, Bochumer Symphoniker, Bayer-Philharmoniker Leverkusen, Rasch Saxophone Orchestra (CD released by Bis Records), Deutsche Oper am Rhein in Düsseldorf, and Bergische Symphoniker. Between 1998 and 2001, she gave numerous performances as the baritone player of the Tetraphonics Saxophone Quartet in New York, Montréal, Florence, and throughout Germany. One focal point of her musical activity is performing contemporary music as a soloist, including performances at the “Tage für Neue Musik” in Darmstadt, Germany, at the Symposium “Music of Japan Today III” in Clinton, New York, and at the 14th World Saxophone Congress in Ljubljana. She has premiered solo and chamber music composed by Harald Genzmer, Larry T. Bell, Günter Becker, Bernard Rands, and Derek Healey. Some of her orchestral and chamber music performances have been broadcast on radio and television, such as “Westdeutscher Rundfunk,” “Phoenix,” “Hessischer Rundfunk,” “Bayrischer Rundfunk,” and “Deutschlandfunk.” Claudia Schaetze is on the Music Faculty at Marianopolis College and regularly gives saxophone clinics in Quebec and Italy. She is the alto player of Quatuor de Saxophones Nelligan and performs, as well, in different classical and jazz settings.

Daniel Gordon (baritone) has been a member of the music faculty at SUNY Plattsburgh since 1994. His responsibilities include teaching studio saxophone, directing the Saxophone Ensemble and Symphonic Band, and instructing various classroom courses. Gordon’s credits as a saxophonist and conductor include appearances at Alice Tully Hall and Bruno Walter Auditorium at New York City’s Lincoln Center, the American Embassy in Paris, the Circle of Fine Arts in Madrid, Pollack and Redpath Halls in Montreal, the Kuhmo Chamber Music Hall in Finland, and several smaller venues in Italy, Spain, Finland, France, Canada, and the U.S. During the summers of 1997-1999, he was part of the saxophone teaching corps at the Domaine Forget International Music Festival along with the renowned saxophone virtuoso Jean-Marie Londeix, with whom he had studied at the National Conservatory of France in Bordeaux under the auspices of a Fulbright Scholarship. He has been the saxophone instructor at the Suomen Työväenmusiikkiliitto summer festival in Finland since 2005.
Gordon spent the 2004-05 academic on sabbatical with his family in Finland studying various aspects of Finnish music. Among the highlights of his year were six solo recitals and seven guest-conducting appearances around the country. He also performed Lars-Erik Larsson’s *Concerto for Alto Saxophone and Strings* with the Jyväskylä Polytechnic String Orchestra, which received media coverage on Finnish national television. Since his return, Gordon has performed several concerts of Finnish music. Today’s program includes the premiere of *Shadow of a Flame* by the Finnish composer Janne Ikonen, who Gordon met during his sabbatical.

Gordon’s associations with the other performers on tonight’s program go back many years. Todd Pray is a charter member of the saxophone section in the Adirondack Wind Ensemble, a professional performing ensemble that Gordon founded in 2002. Gordon has worked with Pray’s former teacher, Steven Mauk, on several projects over the last 20 years. Claudia Schaezel has worked with Gordon for the past several years after being introduced by former SUNY Plattsburgh pianist Pamela Reimer. Schaezel studied with the same teacher as did Gordon and Gary Scavone in France, and has worked with many of the same saxophonists as Gordon has over the last two decades. Gordon and Gary Scavone were also undergraduates together at Syracuse University in the mid 1980s, where, inspired by their admiration and respect for their teacher Ronald Caravan, they spent hour after hour playing duets in the basement of Crouse College. A few years later, they took that act on the road and traveled together as street musicians through 13 European countries over two summers. Gordon’s book about those experiences, *Sax on the Streets: Confessions of an American Street Musician in Europe*, was recently published by Synergethbooks. It can be purchased online at writeronlinebooks.com/book/saxonthestreets.htm.

Pianist *Karen Becker* is in her second year as Assistant Professor of Piano at SUNY-Plattsburgh in upstate New York. There she has presented the inaugural season of her recital series “Karen Becker and Friends” as well as appearing as soloist with the Champlain Valley Oratorio Society, and acting as Music Director of the colleges’ production of "Urinetown: the Musical." In December 2005, Karen returned to Colorado to act as Music Director/Arranger for the “Christmas Review” at the Lake Dillon Theater and in the summer of 2006 to act as Music Director for the summer stock theater season, conducting performances of “I Love You, You’re Perfect, Now Change,” “Once on this Island,” and “Gypsy.”

Dr. Becker holds degrees from the Eastman School of Music, the Juilliard School, and a D.M.A. from the University of Wisconsin where she was a student of Van Cliburn medal winner Christopher Taylor. While at the University of Wisconsin, she was featured as soloist in the Concerto for Piano and Winds by Igor Stravinsky, with the Contemporary Chamber Ensemble—an organization she helped found, as well as serving as pianist with the UW-Symphony and Chamber Orchestra. In New York City, after receiving her Masters Degree from Juilliard, Karen worked as pianist for the American Opera Project at New York City Opera, piano soloist for the Summergarden series at the Museum of Modern Art, and as a keyboard player in the Philip Glass Ensemble. She also was featured on the Music from Japan series at Columbia, and was a champion of contemporary music, playing premieres by John Cage, and rarely heard music by Charles Koechlin, and Erik Satie.

During her ten years in Colorado, before relocating to Plattsburgh, in addition to presenting concerts of solo and chamber music throughout the west, Karen worked as the pianist for the Colorado Symphony, Colorado Symphony Chorus, Colorado Children’s Chorale, and Central City Opera. Becker also served on the faculty of the Aspen Opera Theater Center at the Aspen Music Festival for three summers.
Frontier Saxophone Quartet

The Frontier Saxophone Quartet, founded in 2003, is a chamber music ensemble comprised of soprano, alto, tenor, and baritone saxophones. Its members are active performers in the North Country and Montreal. The name Frontier reflects various facets of the group: the international mix of its members, the cross-border cooperation that allows their musical collaboration to take place, and the group's frequent performances of new works that explore the "musical frontier." In keeping with Frontier's efforts to promote new music, today's program includes two premières: one by Texas composer Dominic Doucet, and a second by Finnish composer Janne Ikonen. In addition to new works, the Frontier Quartet's repertory consists of original works and occasional transcriptions for saxophone quartet that exploit the sonorous and blending qualities of this group of instruments.

E. GLENN GILTZ AUDITORIUM, HAWKINS HALL, SUNY PLATTSBURGH
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STARRING LESLIE & GEORGE HEARN

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South Pacific
Rodgers & Hammerstein

MUSIC by RICHARD RODGERS LYRICS by OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II
BOOK by OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II & JOSHUA LOGAN
ADAPTED from the Pulitzer Prize-Winning novel "Tales of the South Pacific" by James A. Michener

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MUSIC EVENTS SPRING 2007

>>Champlain Valley Oratorio Society & SUNY Plattsburgh Choral Union present By George Gershwin.
   Jo Ellen Milano, director. Sat, Mar 31, 8 pm. Tickets available through CVOS members, Corner-Stone
   Bookshop, or the Grand Onion. $17 General, $12 Seniors/Students, $5 Children 12 and under. SUNY
   Plattsburgh students can purchase $2 tickets at Angell College Center Desk until March 30 at 5 pm.

>>Symphonic Band Concert, Daniel Gordon, director. Tues, Apr 12, 7:30 pm, E Glenn Giltz Auditorium;
   FREE.

>>Karen Becker and Friends Sun, Apr 15, 3 pm. E. Glenn Giltz Auditorium, FREE.

>>Bivac Quartet Lecture—Performance Series "The Evolution of the String Quartet" Part II: 20th-Century
   Masterpieces. Thur, Apr 19, 7 pm, Krinovitz Recital Hall, FREE.

>>Bivac Quartet/Composer Collaboration Final work session and performance of completed work by
   Dr. William Pfaff, Assistant Professor. Fri, Apr 20, 3 pm, Krinovitz Recital Hall, FREE.

>>South Pacific in Concert (Rodgers & Hammerstein) starring Broadway's own: George and Leslie Hearn.
   In association with Essex Theatre Co. Derrick Hopkins, director & Timothy Moomingstar, music director.
   Fri-Sat, Apr 20-21, 8 pm., E. Glenn Giltz Auditorium. Reserved seating. Tickets $40, $30, $20. Faculty/
   Staff/Seniors/Students $25 & $15. SUNY Plattsburgh Students $7 & $5. Tickets go on sale March 22 at the
   Hartman Theatre Box Office 564-2253. Box Office Hours Mon 11-1, Tues 4:30 – 7; Wed 11-2 & 4:30-7; 
   Thurs 11-12:30 & 4:30-7; Fri 11-2 & 4:30-7.

>>Bivac Quartet Concert, Sun, Apr 22, 3 pm. The Church in the Hollow, Saranac, NY. Tickets $10,
   Call 293-7613.

>>Chamber Ensembles Concert, Brass Ensemble, Clarinet Choir, Flute Ensemble, and Saxophone
   Tues, Apr 24, 7:30 pm, E. Glenn Giltz Auditorium, FREE.

>>Sinfonia Chamber Ensemble Concert, Elizabeth Gorevic, director. Wed, Apr 25, 7:30 pm, E. Glenn Giltz
   Auditorium, FREE.

>>Jazz Fest Concert Jazz Ensemble & Contemporary Combo, Guest Artist Charles Ellison, trumpet.
   Herm Matlock, director. Fri, Apr 27, 7:30 pm, E. Glenn Giltz Auditorium. Tickets $8 General,
   $5 Faculty/Staff/Students/Seniors, $2 SUNY Plattsburgh Students. Ellison Workshop TBA.

>>Guitar Concert, Michael Angelo Fratino, director. Wed, May 2, 7:30 pm, Krinovitz Recital Hall, FREE.
   Arrive early—limited seating.

>>Syracuse Symphony; Thur, May 3, 7:30 pm, E. Glenn Giltz Auditorium. Tickets $10, $8, $5 & $2.

>>Gospel Fest Concert, Dexter Criss, director. Sat, May 5, 7 pm, E. Glenn Giltz Auditorium. Advance tickets
   available at Angell College Center desk, Great Adirondack Soup Company and Sahara Mediterranean.

Krinovitz Recital Hall & E. Glenn Giltz Auditorium are both located in Hawkins Hall.
All dates and events are subject to change. Call 564-2180 for more info.

Please turn off all pagers, cell phones and electronic alarms.

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For your added safety, please locate the nearest exit and,
in the event of an emergency, follow the ushers' instructions.