April 14, 2006

Erik Unsworth & Curt Warren at MECA, Houston

erik unsworth, University of Texas at El Paso
Curt Warren is an active jazz guitarist and has been making a name for himself on the international scene. He began his professional career playing the Frankie Laine show in Las Vegas, with the Honolulu Symphony Orchestra and shows in Hawaii with Teresa Brewer and Tony Martin. While performing with the United States Navy Band, "The Commodores", he was a featured soloist at the Newport Jazz Festival, the Midwest Band Convention in Chicago, and the National Association of Jazz Educators Convention in Dallas.

In 1978, Mr. Warren began his tenure as a Professor of Guitar at the University of Texas at El Paso, teaching jazz guitar and jazz improvisation, while performing at various functions and concerts at the university. He continues to work with his own trio in El Paso jazz clubs where he has played with such greats as Herb Ellis, Bill Watrous, Carl Fontana, Rob McConnell, Bud Shank, Eddie Harris, Joe Newman, Tommy Tedesco, Al Viola, and others. With four albums to his credit--I've Got the World on a String, Jazz Ruined My Life, Jazz Ruined My Life II, New Impressions Quartet, Mr. Warren collaborated with legends such as jazz bassist Monty Budwig, Chicago jazz pianist Larry Norace, Rusty Jones on drums, and Nick Tountas on bass.

http://faculty.utep.edu/jwarren

Erik Unsworth joined the music faculty of the University of Texas at El Paso in 2003. He is a Visiting Assistant Professor of String Bass, Electric Bass, and Jazz & Commercial Music studies.

A native of Northern New York State, Mr. Unsworth received his Master of Music degree from Indiana University in 1996, while in Bloomington, his primary instructors were Mr. David Baker (jazz studies and improvisation), Mr. Bruce Bransby (string bass) and Dr. David Dzubay (composition). Mr. Unsworth also holds a Bachelor of Music degree in theory & composition from Appalachian State University, and a technical degree in studio and live recording from New York City's Institute of Audio Research.

Recent recording projects in which he has served as bassist and producer include: Miami-based latin/jazz/pop vocalist Elky Rose's Things I Do For You CD, Philadelphia area modern jazz vocalist Ellen Lebowitz' Smokin' Aloud, and 2 recordings with New York area pianist Dan DeChellis for the Sachemay record label.

http://faculty.utep.edu/eunsworth

Program

I Saw Your Breath
Red Mitchell

What I Love
Cole Porter

Rest You Please
Ron Carter

My Heart Sings
Carl Lindell

Love Letters
Victor Young

Prelude to a Kiss
Duke Ellington

Stella By Starlight
Victor Young

How Long Has it Been Going On
George Gershwin

Do You Know What It Means To Miss New Orleans
Eddie De Lange

Makin' Whoopee
Sax Kahn

Groovin' High
John Becks Billeaad