East Bay Jazz Orchestra
and CSU Chamber Combo
Dann Zinn, director

with special guest artists
from the California Jazz Conservatory
Liberty Ellman, guitar
Jeff Denson, bass
Gerald Cleaver, drums

P R O G R A M

CSU Chamber Combo
Roger Doering, trumpet
Liberty Ellman, guitar
Gordon Stanley, bass
Rio Nickerson, drums

Summertime
from Porgy and Bess

George Gershwin
California Jazz Conservatory Faculty Ensemble
Dann Zinn, tenor saxophone
Liberty Ellman, guitar
Jeff Denson, bass
Gerald Cleaver, drums

Order of tunes to be announced from the stage
Day of Reckoning                     Dann Zinn
Autumn Song                           Jeff Denson
Red Rover                             Dann Zinn
Pier 23                                Dann Zinn
Song of a Solitary Crow               Jeff Denson
Corazón                                Dann Zinn

East Bay Jazz Orchestra
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Broadway                          Bird / McRae / Woode, arr. Bob Florence
The Syndicate                    Aaron Lington
Little Niles                     Randy Weston, arr. Bob Florence
Alicia                           John Treanor, arr. Bob Meyer/Dann Zinn
Friday Night at the Cadillac Club Bob Berg, arr. Frederick “Dave” Snider
P E R S O N N E L

East Bay Jazz Orchestra

Dann Zinn, director

**Saxophone**
- Ramon Jimenez-Torres - soprano/alto
- Joe Cohen - tenor
- Miranda Rocco - baritone

**Trombone**
- Ricardo Garcia
- Iris Lozano
- Gabriel Valdillez

**Trumpet**
- Chris Marquis
- Danny Ramirez

**Rhythm Section**
- Julius Field-Ridley - guitar
- Alvin Tai - guitar
- Victor Serda - bass
- Richard Masulis - drums

G U E S T   A R T I S T   B I O G R A P H I E S

Based in Brooklyn New York, guitarist / composer **Liberty Ellman** has performed and or recorded with a host of standout creative artists including: Joe Lovano, Myra Melford, Wadada Leo Smith, Butch Morris, Vijay Iyer, Steve Lehman, Greg Osby, Rudresh Mahanthappa, Nels Cline, Somi, Nicole Mitchell, Matana Roberts, Ledisi, JD Allen, Michele Rosewoman, Adam Rudolph, Stephan Crump, Jonathan Finlayson, Jason Moran, Okkyung Lee, and Ches Smith.

Mr. Ellman is perhaps best known for his long tenure in Henry Threadgill's groundbreaking ensemble, Zooid. The group has recorded several critically lauded albums. Their most recent recording *In For A Penny, In For A Pound* earned a Pulitzer prize.

As a composer and bandleader Mr. Ellman has produced several critically acclaimed recordings: *Orthodox* (Red Giant Records), *Tactiles*, *Ophiuchus Butterfly*, *Radiate*, and *Last Desert* (Pi Recordings). Ellman's compositional style has been described as "At once highly controlled and recklessly inventive," and "quite original and subtle." Ben Ratliff of the New York Times wrote: “Mr. Ellman's ballads are special, exotic things: their melodies are memorable.”

Quote from the Wall Street Journal: “Along with his contemporaries, Mr. Ellman is helping define the sound of jazz in the 21st century.” Voted #1 Rising Star Guitarist in the 2016 Downbeat Critics Poll, he was also honored in the 2015 Jazz Times expanded critics poll, as one of the four guitarists of the year alongside Bill Frisell, John Scofield and Julian Lage.
Jeff Denson is award-winning bassist, vocalist and composer who has released 9 albums as a leader and performed in many of the world's top jazz festivals and venues such as the Berlin Jazz Festival, the JVC Jazz Festival Paris, the Montreal Jazz Festival, The Kennedy Center and the Village Vanguard to name a few. He has done extensive freelance work throughout the US, Europe, and Canada and has performed and/or recorded with distinguished musicians such as Bob Moses, Joe Lovano, Carl Allen, Kenny Werner, Anthony Davis, Edward Simon, Walter Smith III, Warren Wolf, Jane Ira Bloom, Lionel Loueke, Ted Poor, Gerald Cleaver, Cuong Vu, Dan Weiss, Ralph Alessi, Charles McPherson, Lee Konitz and Brian Blade, amongst others. Jeff has received rave reviews in such periodicals as the Washington Post, NY Times, SF Chronicle and Downbeat Magazine, and has received such prizes as the German Cultural Award in 2006 and Downbeat Magazine Rising Star Critic’s Poll awards for “Electric Bassist,” “Male Vocalist” and “Double Bassist” the last four years in a row (2018-2021). Jeff won the Downbeat Rising Star Critic’s Poll for Electric Bassist this year, 2021! He also had the unique distinction of being the bassist of the Lee Konitz New Quartet for over a decade and is currently the Dean of Instruction and Chair of the Bass Department of the California Jazz Conservatory.

Born May 4, 1963 and raised in Detroit, Gerald Cleaver is a product of the city's rich music tradition. Inspired by his father, drummer John Cleaver, he began playing the drums at an early age. He also played violin in elementary school, and trumpet in junior high school and high school. As a teenager he gained invaluable experience playing with Detroit jazz masters Ali Muhammad Jackson, Lamont Hamilton, Earl Van Riper, and Pancho Hagood. While attending the University of Michigan as a music education major, he was awarded a Jazz Study Grant, from the National Endowmen for the Arts, to study with drummer Victor Lewis. He graduated in 1992 and began teaching in Detroit where he worked with Rodney Whitaker, A. Spencer Barefield, Marcus Belgrave, Donald Walden, Wendell Harrison, and with visiting musicians Hank Jones, Tommy Flanagan, Barry Harris, Kenny Burrell, Frank Foster, Cecil Bridgewater, Ray Bryant, Eddie Harris, Dennis Rowland, Howard Johnson, Diana Krall and Don Byron. In 1995 he accepted an appointment as assistant professor of Jazz Studies at the University of Michigan, and in 1998 also joined the jazz faculty at Michigan State University. He moved to New York in 2002. He has performed or recorded with Franck Amsallem, Henry Threadgill, Roscoe Mitchell, Lotte Anker, Reggie Workman, Marilyn Crispell, Matt Shipp, William Parker, Craig Taborn, Kevin Mahogany, Charles Gayle, Mario Pavone, Ralph Alessi, Jacky Terrasson, Jimmy Scott, Muhal Richard Abrams, Dave Douglas, Tim Berne, Jeremy Pelt, Ellery Eskelin, David Torn and Miroslav Vitous, among others. Cleaver has released two recordings as a leader. His 2001 recording Adjust (Fresh Sound New Talent) was nominated in the Best Debut Recording category by the Jazz Journalists Association. His latest release, Gerald Cleaver’s Detroit (FSNT), is an homage to his hometown and to the late, great Detroit drummers Roy Brooks, Lawrence Williams, George Goldsmith and Richard “Pistol” Allen. Cleaver leads the bands Violet Hour, NiMbNi and Uncle June.