

Meet Me at the UCA

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF THE ARTS
SPRING 2009 PERFORMANCES AND EXHIBITIONS



Jazz Combos Concert

Wednesday, April 1, 7:30 p.m.

Griffin Concert Hall, University Center for the Arts

1400 Remington St., Fort Collins, Colorado

\$10, \$5/CSU Students, \$5/Youth (ages 6-17)

Jazz Combo I, directed by Professor Peter Sommer, and Jazz Combos II and III, directed by graduate student Geoff Pennington, are small groups of musicians that emphasize improvisation, the expressive premise paramount to the jazz idiom.

“This evening really features the creativity of the students in the CSU Jazz Program, highlighting their composing and arranging skills as well as their adept improvisations,” said Sommer, director of the Jazz Program at CSU.

The CSU Jazz Combos perform at many events throughout the year, giving students the opportunity to develop their improvisational skills in a performance environment while also fostering the group dynamics of small ensemble playing. The combo often plays at venues outside of campus as well, and encourages student creativity in performance, arranging, composition and real-world music business skills.

About Peter Sommer

Peter Sommer is the Assistant Professor of Jazz Studies and Saxophone at Colorado State University. As a saxophonist and composer, Mr. Sommer is in demand as a performer, clinician and recording artist throughout the state of Colorado. Since establishing himself among the area's elite jazz musicians, Peter has contributed his muscular tenor playing and creative spirit to a wide variety of musical projects ranging from mainstream bebop to avant garde and beyond. He has performed with the Ken Walker Sextet, the Colorado Symphony Orchestra and the Colorado Music Festival Orchestra, and has appeared at many jazz festivals throughout the state.

A Look at Geoff Pennington: Teacher, Student, Artist

Sitting across him in a barren, modular office with no paintings on the wall is his baby, a Parisian custom alto saxophone hand-brushed in rust gold: the very instrument that landed him at Colorado State University for jazz graduate studies in 2007.

Geoff Pennington, 26, will use his sax to perform a transcription of Cannonball Adderlie's "Autumn Leaves" solo at his graduate recital Tuesday, March 31, at 7:30 p.m. The next evening he'll stand before Jazz Combos II and III, the student ensembles he instructs and conducts, and again appear with the rust sax in hands to play in the Jazz Combo I set featuring an original tune he composed. [READ FULL STORY](#)

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