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



Jazz Ensembles Concert - "Modern Music for Big Band"

Wednesday, April 8, 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)

The Ensembles will play a dynamic and exciting program with music by composers who stretch the idiom of big band writing and the abilities of the performers. Music includes "Last Season" by Maria Schneider and "Who's Walking Who?" by Bob Mintzer, two of the most famous and celebrated of modern big band composers.

"Jump Down Spin Around" by Mike Holober "is an epic arrangement of a children's song in the tradition of Bob Brookmeyer," says Peter Sommer, Director of Jazz Bands. The program also features "Then Waits" by Tyler Gilmore, a Denver-based composer who writes for his own big band, Ninth and Lincoln. "Then Waits" is a "textural piece," Sommer says, "based more around tone colors in the ensemble than on traditional melody, harmony and rhythm."

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 and across the nation. Since establishing himself among the Denver area's elite jazz musicians, he 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. Mr. Sommer is a member of the Ken Walker Sextet, whose recent release on Synergy Music, Terra Firma, reached #6 on the CMJ Jazz Radio Charts and received rave reviews from JazzWeek.com and the All Music Guide Online.

Mr. Sommer has performed with the Colorado Symphony Orchestra and the Colorado Music Festival Orchestra, and has appeared at many jazz festivals throughout the state including the Telluride Jazz Celebration, Jazz in the Sangres and the Vail Jazz Festival. He has been a featured jazz soloist at North American Saxophone Alliance Regional and Biennial Conferences and has also performed at IAJE International Conferences in Anaheim and Toronto, Canada, and has performed at the World Saxophone Congress in Valencia, Spain. Mr. Sommer has performed in concert with Nguyen Le, Greg Gisbert, Ron Miles, Brad Goode, Bobby Shew, John McNeil, Clay Jenkins, Bobby Watson, Dave Pietro, Don Aliquo, Gary Smulyan, Paul McKee, Dale Bruning, Jim McNeely, Joanne Brackeen, Chip Stephens, John Riley, Roseanna Vitro and Ernie Andrews. He has also played for Tony Bennett and John Pizzarelli with the Colorado Symphony.

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