

STUDIO BIG BAND
 David Scott, director

Thursday, February 27, 2014 - 8 p.m.
 CASA LOMA ROOM

Big Swing Face	Bill Potts (1928-2005)
Samba de Carrera	Dean Sorenson (b. 1963)
Sword	Don Smith Bob Curnow (b. 1941)
Ding Dong Ding	Bob Brookmeyer (1929-2011)
Afternoon	Pat Metheny (b. 1954) Arr. Bob Curnow
Alone	Bob Curnow
Fred	Neal Hefti (1922-2008)
The Heat of the Day	Pat Metheny Arr. Bob Curnow

PROGRAM NOTES

Big Swing Face

This 'in your face' chart was written for the Buddy Rich Big Band and recorded live on their album *Big Swing Face* in 1967 at the Chez Club in Hollywood. The virtuosic drummer Buddy Rich (1917-1987) began his career in vaudeville at 18 months old, led his first band at the age of 11 and never received formal drum instruction. Buddy's self-assembled band was chock full of all stars - Ernie Watts, Bobby Shew, Jay Corre, Chuck Findley and Buddy Rich himself. This tune cleverly juxtaposes the extremes in dynamic to highlight the two faces of every great jazz band - raw power and reserved cool. Keep your ears out for a cookin' sax soli.

Samba de Carrera

Dean Sorenson is an accomplished composer, arranger, trombonist and Director of Jazz Studies at the University of Minnesota-Minneapolis. He spent two years touring with and arranging for the Glenn Miller Orchestra. Sorenson gives the whole ensemble a chance to show off in this raucous samba, from a sultry trombone and trumpet duet to a hip unison shout section.

Sword

The Celtic bagpipes of the misty Scottish moor meets uptempo, roaring big band swing in this arrangement by Bob Curnow. Don Smith is an accomplished jazz vocalist, pianist and flautist, and has recorded with numerous jazz legends including Art Blakey, Dizzie Gillespie, Benny Carter and the Thad Jones-Mel Lewis Big Band.

Ding Dong Ding

Valve trombonist and pianist Bob Brookmeyer performed and composed extensively in New York, Los Angeles and in Europe, with the likes of Gerry Mulligan, Stan Getz and the Thad Jones-Mel Lewis Orchestra. He began his career at the age of 14 and was active in the jazz community, recording, arranging and teaching at NEC up until two weeks before his death. Brookmeyer's tune was recorded with Clark Terry and the Mel Lewis Jazz Orchestra, live at the Village Vanguard in 1980. Keep your ears out for the evolution of the catchy melody over the course of the piece, as the ensemble is given the privilege to put their own spin on it at the climax.

Afternoon

Bob Curnow's big band arrangement of the laid-back Pat Metheny tune provides an excellent backdrop to that perfect summer day. The original Pat Metheny Group tune can be found on his 2002 album *Speaking of Now*, that features the vocals of trumpeter Cuong Vu. The Pat Metheny Group continues to push the boundaries on the use of electronic sounds in jazz as well as explore unconventional compositional forms.

Alone

This rock arrangement is based off of the 1970s American group Blood, Sweat and Tears that combined the styling of brass with rock band instrumentation. Bob Curnow highlights the trombonist throughout this tune that alternates between rock ballad and a big swingin' shout section. Curnow arranged, directed and mixed the entire 1974 album on which "Alone" is featured: *Stan Kenton Plays Chicago*.

Fred

American jazz trumpeter Neal Hefti's colorful career includes performing with and composing for icons such as Woody Herman's First Herd band, Buddy Rich, Count Basie and Frank Sinatra. Hefti was an important proponent of the Bebop style during his time with First Herd in the 1940's and is widely considered responsible for fine-tuning the sound of Basie's band. He received a Grammy for the 1960's Batman television score.

The Heat of the Day

For the first time in 1994, Pat Metheny and Lyle Mays teamed up with Bob Curnow's L.A. Big Band and discovered just how effective their compositions translated to the traditional jazz band. Since then, Curnow has arranged a variety of Mays/Metheny work to a great degree of success, and 'The Heat of the Day' is no exception. This arrangement takes on a life of its own as furious jazz rhythms and soothing melodies ebb and flow throughout enveloping tension and release. The original tune can be heard on the Pat Metheny Group's 1997 album *Imaginary Day*.

Program Notes by Matthew Busch

STUDIO BIG BAND

Saxophone

Kelsey Broersma, lead alto
Austin Davis
David Moreland, lead tenor
Nicolai Gervasi
Manuel Perez, bari

Trombone

Eric Davies
Joel Rangel
Brian Hotchkiss
Andrew Will, bass trombone

Trumpet

Matthew Busch
Brandon Hansen
Ubaldo Batiz
Tyler Neill
Michael McGill-Davis

Rhythm Section

Anthony Ribaya, piano
Michael Bacarella, guitar
Juan Aniceto, bass
Zach Lindh, drum set