



UNIVERSITY OF
Redlands
CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC

STUDIO BIG BAND
Dr. David Scott, director

Wednesday, January 15, 2023 at 8 p.m.
CASA LOMA ROOM

Granada	Augustin Lara (1897-1970) arr. Johnny Richards
Coral Reef	Neal Hefti (1922-2008)
When Sunny Gets Blue	Marvin Fisher (1916-1993) arr. Johnny Richards
Corner Pocket	Freddie Green (1911-1987) arr. Myles Collins
The Shortest Dissonance Between Two Points	Les Hooper (b. 1940)
How High the Moon	Morgan Lewis (1906-1968) lyrics by Nancy Hamilton (1908-1985) arr. Patrick Williams
Day In the Life	Beatles John Lennon (1940-1980) Paul McCartney (b. 1942) arr. Ben Davis
What You Dealin' With	Wycliff Gordon (b. 1967)
Life in the Bubble	Gordon Goodwin (b. 1954)

CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We are gathered on the land of the Serrano and Cahuilla peoples, and we acknowledge the important contributions of this community, their elders both past and present, as well as future generations. The University of Redlands Conservatory of Music is committed to continuing to learn about the land we inhabit, the people who have been displaced from this land, and building community with its original caretakers.

PROGRAM NOTES

Granada Augustin Lara (1897-1970)
Arranged by Johnny Richards (1911-1968)

Augustin Lara was a Mexican composer, singer, and pianist, considered one of the most important figures in the history of Mexican music. He later moved to Mexico City to pursue a career in music. Throughout his career, Lara composed over 1000 songs, many of which became enduring classics of Mexican music. His compositions often drew from the rich traditions of Mexican folk music, as well as influences from jazz and popular music. He was known for his romantic ballads and his ability to convey deep emotions through his music. Lara's career took off in the 1930s, when he began recording and performing his songs with the backing of a full orchestra. His songs quickly became popular in Mexico and throughout Latin America, and he established himself as one of the most successful and popular songwriters of the era.

Coral Reef Neal Hefti (1922-2008)

You have heard Neal Hefti's music but may not know his name. He is the composer of the Batman Theme Song as well as jazz standards: "Cute," "Li'l Darlin'," and others. A prolific composer and arranger, he wrote music for film, tv, and popular bands of the time. He wrote music for Earl Hines, Woody Herman, Buddy Rich, and Count Basie. When arranging, Hefti would cater the arrangement to the strengths of the bands; If there was a really good trumpet player in the band, he would write a part that emphasizes that player's abilities.

When Sunny Gets Blue Marvin Fisher (1916-1993)
Arranged by Johnny Richards

Mr. Fisher was born in New York, a son of Fred Fisher, a Tin Pan Alley composer whose songs included "Chicago," "Dardanella" and "Peg o' My Heart." As a teen-ager, he attended the Institute of Musical Art, now the Juilliard School, for a year, studying piano and theory. He then worked as an arranger for the orchestras of Glenn Miller, Jimmy and Tommy Dorsey, Les Brown and Johnny Green in the 1930's and 40's. His most notable compositions are "When Sunny Gets Blue" and "Destination Moon."

Corner Pocket Freddie Green (1911-1987)
Arranged by Myles Collins

Freddie Green is known throughout the jazz guitar world as Count Basie's guitar player, who never or very rarely soloed. When learning how to play guitar like Freddie Green, a guitarist has to learn how to make consistent quarter note strums feel like dancing. Freddie Green came from the era of jazz when guitarists didn't play through guitar amps, so he had a large acoustic jazz guitar and would strum forcefully to cut through the dynamics of a big band. Although Green was not a prolific composer, he is credited for writing both "Corner Pocket" and "Down for Double" for Count Basie.

The Shortest Dissonance between Two Points Les Hooper (b. 1940)

Les Hooper is a professional music arranger and orchestrator known for his work in film, television, and popular music. He has arranged and orchestrated music for a wide range of artists and projects, including major motion pictures, hit television shows, and chart-topping albums. Hooper's arrangements are characterized by their attention to detail and their ability to enhance the emotional impact

of the music. He is skilled at creating rich, complex textures using a wide variety of instrumentation, and is particularly adept at combining traditional orchestral instruments with modern electronic sounds.

How High The Moon

Morgan Lewis (1906-1968)
Lyrics by Nancy Hamilton (1908-1985)
Arranged by Patrick Williams (1939-2018)

“How High The Moon” was first introduced in the 1940 musical revue “Two for the Show” and quickly became a jazz standard, recorded by many jazz musicians and vocalists. The song features a catchy and memorable melody, accompanied by a syncopated and swinging rhythm. The lyrics of the song talk about the feeling of being in love and reaching the heights of happiness with someone. Since its introduction, “How High the Moon” has been recorded by many jazz musicians, including Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holiday, and Oscar Peterson, as well as by non-jazz artists like Elvis Presley and Diana Ross. The song has been arranged and performed in many different styles, including swing, bebop, and latin jazz.

A Day In the Life

John Lennon (1940-1980) and Paul McCartney (b. 1942)
Arranged by Ben Davis (b. 1992)

Appearing on the Beatles’ 1967 album, “Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band,” this composition combines multiple distinct compositional styles. The original recording has two distinct sections, the first written by John Lennon and the second by Paul McCartney. When originally arranging this piece, I considered excluding the McCartney portion of the song as it is so different from the John Lennon theme. However, I borrowed from their concept by implementing a completely different feel for the McCartney section. This arrangement is meant to transform a bobbing tune into a wild, frantic, and psychedelic chase.

What You Dealin’ With

Wycliffe Gordon (b. 1967)

Gordon is a virtuosic trombonist and composer. The original recording is an upbeat, swinging tune that showcases Gordon’s playing and his ability to create catchy and memorable melodies. The song features a driving rhythm section and solos from several band members in addition to some band, rap? As a performer, Wycliffe Gordon is known for his energetic and charismatic stage presence, and “What You Dealin’ With” is a perfect example of his ability to engage and entertain audiences.

Life in the Bubble

Gordon Goodwin (b. 1954)

“Life in the Bubble” is a song written by Gordon Goodwin, an American jazz pianist, saxophonist, and composer. The song was released on his album “Life in the Bubble” in 2014 and it has been a staple of his live performances since. The Big Phat Band’s album’s title, Life in the Bubble, is a fun commentary on modern culture. “I think we tend to construct bubbles around us where we think everybody must love big band music because I love it and everybody in my bubble loves it,” Goodwin explains. “I remember, when I was a kid, radio stations didn’t have the same kind of corporate playlist that they do now. It would be up to each disc jockey to play a wide range of stuff. Life in the Bubble is reflective of the Big Phat Band’s philosophy where, even though we came out of Count Basie, we don’t just play swing music, we play funk, rock and roll, and even hoedown.”

STUDIO BIG BAND

SAXOPHONES

Nick Gomez, lead alto
Steven Ragsdale, alto
Corin O’Brien, lead tenor
Jonathan Lopez, tenor
Kayla Rios, bari

TROMBONES

Ernest Lopez
Jase Gooden
Michael Medina
Steven Medina (bass)

TRUMPETS

Angel Rivas, lead trumpet
Paul Dempsey
Justin Pompa
Shant Kalanjian

RHYTHM SECTION

Alejandro Ruiz, piano
Ben Davis, guitar
Joshua Grothem, bass
Aidan Conley, Quentin Jones, drum set

VOCALS

Macy Ritchie