10-3-2004

Guest Artist Recital: The Ambassador Duo - Clifford Leaman, saxophone, & Derek Parsons, piano

The Ambassador Duo
Clifford Leaman
Derek Parsons

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VISITING ARTISTS SERIES 2004-5

THE AMBASSADOR DUO

Clifford Leaman, saxophone
Derek Parsons, piano

Ford Hall
Sunday, October 3, 2004
7:00 p.m.
Pull (1995)  
Illuminations (2004)  
Election Year (1994)  
Tantrum (2000)  
  Obsessive Behavior  
  Lost  
  Fits and Fists  
Estampes  
  Le soirée dans Grenade  
  Jardins sous la pluie  
Sonata (1997)  
  Prelude  
  Recitative  
  Variations  
  Toccata  
Klonos (1993)  
Crazy Rag (2000)  
James Matheson  
  (b. 1970)  
Reginald Bain  
  (b. 1963)  
Benjamin Boone  
  (b. 1963)  
Stacy Garrop  
  (b. 1969)  
Claude Debussy  
  (1862-1918)  
Mark Kilstofte  
  (b. 1958)  
Piet Swerts  
  (b. 1960)  
Jean Matitia  
  (b. 1952)  
INTERMISSION
THE AMBASSADOR DUO

The Ambassador Duo, formed in 1990, is comprised of saxophonist Clifford L. Leaman and pianist Derek J. Parsons. Both members hold the Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees in performance from the University of Michigan where they met as graduate students in the mid-1980's. Currently Dr. Parsons serves on the faculty of Furman University in Greenville, South Carolina and Dr. Leaman serves on the faculty of the University of South Carolina.

Prior to his appointment at the University of South Carolina, Leaman served on the faculties of Furman University, Eastern Michigan University, and the University of Michigan. In great demand as a soloist and clinician, he has performed and given clinics extensively throughout the United States, Canada, and China. His recordings include Henry Brant's *Concerto for Saxophone with Nine Instruments* (Redwood Records), Ernst Pepping's *Suite für Trompete, Saxophon, und Posaune* (CRS), and Benjamin Boone's *Election Year* (University of Arizona Recordings). An avid supporter of contemporary music, he has commissioned and given the world premiere performances of numerous pieces, including concertos by Pulitzer Prize winning composers Leslie Bassett and Michael Colgrass. His recording of Bassett's *Concerto for alto saxophone and orchestra* with the University of Michigan Symphony Orchestra is available through Equilibrium Recordings (EQ-63). Dr. Leaman is an artist-clinician for the Conn-Selmer Company, Inc. and performs exclusively on Selmer saxophones.

Parsons, a native of Newfoundland, Canada, began his musical studies at the age of four and gave his first piano concerto performance at age twelve. He has performed extensively throughout the eastern United States and Canada as both soloist and collaborative musician, including performances for SCETV, South Carolina Educational Radio, and CBC Radio and Television in Canada, and has performed with such prominent musicians as saxophonist Donald Sinta, baritone Kevin McMillan, and the Penderecki String Quartet. He is in demand as a pianist, orchestral soloist, clinician, and adjudicator in the Carolinas and abroad.

Since their debut at the 1990 Southwest Contemporary Music Festival and Conference in San Marcos, Texas, the Ambassador Duo has been active throughout the United States, Canada, and Europe. Their repertoire covers a wide range of musical styles, from baroque
transcriptions to the most recent avant-garde works for saxophone and piano. They are regularly invited to perform at the national meetings of the North American Saxophone Alliance, and were invited to give the world premiere performance of Mark Kilstoft's *Sonata* at the XI World Saxophone Congress in Valencia, Spain. The Ambassador Duo has released two critically acclaimed compact disc recordings on the Equilibrium label entitled *Brilliance* (EQ-21) and *Excursions* (EQ-55); and they have recently recorded a third disc due to be released in 2005 on the same label.

**CALENDAR**

**October**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<td>5</td>
<td>8:15</td>
<td>Chamber Orchestra; Jeffrey D. Grogan, conductor</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>8:15</td>
<td>Premium Blend; Student Organization</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>8:15</td>
<td>Percussion Ensembles; Conrad Alexander and Gordon Stout, directors</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>8:15</td>
<td>Symphony Orchestra; Jeffrey D. Grogan, conductor</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>12:00</td>
<td><em>Master Class; Nancy Ambrose King, oboe</em></td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>7:00</td>
<td>Faculty Recital; Rebecca Ansel, violin</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>9:00</td>
<td>Ithacappella; Student Organization</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>8:15</td>
<td><em>Guest Lecture; Stephen Hartke, composer—2004-5 Karel Husa Visiting Professor of Composition</em></td>
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<td>11</td>
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<td>Faculty Recital; Music of Stephen Hartke</td>
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<td>Wind Ensemble; Stephen Peterson, conductor</td>
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<td>7:00</td>
<td>Faculty Recital; Debra Moree, viola</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>7:00</td>
<td>Faculty Recital; Richard Faria, clarinet</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>7:00</td>
<td><em>Guest Recital; Irina Vorobieva, piano</em></td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>8:15</td>
<td>Trombone Troupe; Student Organization</td>
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**November**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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| 3    | 8:15 | *Guest Recital; Ensemble X*  
*Ithaca College Concerts 2004-5* |
| 4    | TBA  | *Vocal Improvisation Workshop; New York*  
*TBA*  
*Instrumental Improvisation Workshop; New York Voices* |
| 5    | 7:30 | *Pre-Concert Lecture; Steve Brown and Lauri Keegan*  
8:15 | *Guest Recital; New York Voices (admission charge)*  
8:15 | Faculty Recital; Charis Dimarás, piano |
| 9    | 8:15 | Opera Workshop; Patrick Hansen, director |
| 10   | 8:15 | Faculty Chamber Recital; Ithaca Wind Quintet |
| 11   | 8:15 | Faculty Chamber Recital; Ithaca Brass |
| 13   | 7:00 | *25th Choral Composition Competition Concert*  
16   | 7:00 | Piano Ensemble; Phiroze Mehta, coach |
| 17   | 8:15 | Brass Choir; Keith Kaiser, conductor |
| 18   | 8:15 | Contemporary Chamber Ensemble;  
Jeffrey D. Grogan, director  
*The Shirley and Chas Hockett Chamber Music Concert Series*  
*Guest Recital; Fleisher-Jolley-Tree-O*  
29   | 8:15 | *Master Class; David Jolley, French horn*  
9:00 | *Master Class; Michael Tree, violin/viola*  
8:15 | Percussion Ensemble; Conrad Alexander, director |