4-3-2005

Concert: Kenny Werner Trio, Visiting Artists Series 2004-5

Kenny Werner
Kenny Werner Trio

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VISITING ARTISTS SERIES 2004-5

KENNY WERNER

7:00 p.m. Lecture
Hockett Family Recital Hall

KENNY WERNER TRIO

8:30 p.m. Concert
Ford Hall

Sunday, April 3, 2005
Program To Be Selected From The Following Tunes

**Peace**

- Pinocchio/Fall
- All Things You Are
- Jabali
- Peace
- Stella By Starlight
- Evidence
- Chach

**Beat Degeneration**

- Little Blue Man
- Trio Imitation
- Yump
- Guru
- Voncify the Emulyans
- Melodies of 2002
- Beat Degeneration

**Form and Fantasy**

- Amongkst
- Sicilienne
- Nardis
- Tears In Heaven
- Dolphin Dance
- My Funny Valentine
- Bill Remembered
- Time Remembered/Lonnies Lament
Kenny Werner was born on November 19, 1951 in Brooklyn, NY. At the age of eleven, he recorded a single with a fifteen-piece orchestra and appeared on television playing stride piano. He attended the Manhattan School of Music as a concert piano major. In 1970, he transferred to the Berklee School of Music. In 1977, he recorded his first Long Playing album that featured the music of Bix Beiderbecke, Duke Ellington, James P. Johnson and George Gershwin, and later that year he played with Charles Mingus on “Something Like A Bird.” In 1981, Werner recorded his own solo album of original compositions entitled Beyond the Forest of Mirkwood.

In the early 80's he toured extensively and recorded with Archie Shepp. In 1984 he joined the Mel Lewis Orchestra. He received performance grants from the National Endowment for the Arts in both 1985 and 1987. Werner was commissioned to compose and conduct a memorial piece for Duke Ellington that was performed at the Church of St. John the Divine in New York by the Manhattan School of Music's Stage Band and the New York City Choir. He has also written compositions for the Mel Lewis Jazz Orchestra--now known as the Vanguard Jazz Orchestra. He has since written big band charts for groups such as the Cologne Radio Jazz Orchestra (WDR), the Danish Radio Jazz Orchestra, The Metropole Orchestra (Holland) and the Umo Jazz Orchestra (Finland).

In 1981, he formed his first trio with bassist Ratzo Harris and drummer Tom Rainey. Their first trio CD for Sunnyside records was entitled, Ken Werner - Introducing The Trio. They played together for fourteen years. That trio was generally acknowledged as being the most creative, intense and innovative to be heard in a long time. Since 1971, Kenny has also enjoyed a close friendship and musical collaboration with brilliant saxophonist Joe Lovano. Since 1989 he has served as pianist, arranger, and musical director for the noted film, television, and Broadway star, Betty Buckley.

From the mid-1990s to the present, he most often plays in duet with Toots Thielemans or performs his own music, usually with his current trio that features Ari Honig on drums and Johannes Wiedenmueller on bass. Most recently he is performing his works for jazz orchestra, orchestra, and other ensembles. He has been invited to classical festivals to play his music and write for those various ensembles. In September 2002 his Beat Degeneration CD came out, and in January 2003 came the new CD of his big band compositions with the Brussels Jazz Orchestra entitled Naked In the Cosmos. Peace is his latest CD.

Kenny Werner has performed or recorded with artists: Lee Konitz, Stan Getz and Dizzie Gillespie (both with the Mel Lewis Jazz Orchestra), Joe Henderson, Dave Liebman, Chico Freeman, Jim

Monday, April 4, 2005
In-Class Residency Activities
9:00 a.m. Vocal Pedagogy
10:00 a.m. Jazz Improvisation
Nabenhauer Recital Room