

THE UNITED STATES NAVY BAND

Captain William J. Phillips, Leader

presents



THE SEVENTEENTH INTERNATIONAL SAXOPHONE SYMPOSIUM

HOSTED BY
GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA

JANUARY 21 & 22, 1994

THE UNITED STATES NAVY BAND
"COMMODORES" Jazz Ensemble
Senior Chief Musician Gerard J. Ascione, Director

SEVENTEENTH INTERNATIONAL SAXOPHONE SYMPOSIUM

George Mason University
Fairfax, Va.

January 22, 1994, 8 p.m.

Charles McPherson, guest artist

YES OR NO

Wayne Shorter
arr. Steve Owen

Chief Musician Jim Hayward, alto saxophone
Musician First Class Marty Nau, alto saxophone

SONG FOR MY FATHER

Horace Silver
arr. Musician First Class Scott Silbert

Musician First Class Hal Fryer, baritone saxophone

THE WAY YOU LOOK TONIGHT

Jerome Kern
arr. Musician First Class Scott Silbert

Musician First Class Marty Nau, alto saxophone

WHERE HAS SUMMER GONE

Don Menza

Musician First Class Scott Silbert, tenor saxophone

MOMENTS NOTICE

John Coltrane
arr. Tom Kubis

Musician First Class Phil Burlin, tenor saxophone

EUROPA

arr. **Michael Crotty**

Chief Musician Jim Hayward, tenor saxophone

ONE FINGER SNAP

Herbie Hancock
arr. Bob Mintzer

Musician First Class Bill Moore, trumpet
Senior Chief Musician Harvey Coonin, trombone
Senior Chief Musician Jerry Ascione, piano

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SELECTIONS FEATURING CHARLES McPHERSON

PROGRAM SUBJECT TO CHANGE



GERARD J. ASCIONE



CHARLES MCPHERSON

Senior Chief Musician Gerard J. Ascione is the director and piano instrumentalist of the "Commodores," the United States Navy Band's jazz ensemble from Washington, D.C.

The son of Armand and Victoria Ascione of New Castle, Pa., Senior Chief Ascione began his musical studies on piano and French horn. After graduating from New Castle High School, he attended Youngstown State University in Youngstown, Ohio where he studied French horn with Lois Hopkins and William Slocum. While at the university, he received a scholarship and presented honor recitals in his sophomore, junior, and senior years before receiving his bachelor's degree in 1975.

Ascione studied with Harold Danko of the Thad Jones and Mel Lewis Bands. He also performed with the Greenville and Westminster, Pa., symphonies.

He joined the Navy in 1977 and was first assigned to the United States Naval Academy Band in Annapolis, Md. In 1980 he reported to the United States Navy Band and was assigned to the Commodores jazz ensemble. Ascione graduated from the Senior Enlisted Academy in Newport, R.I., in March 1989 and became the director of the Commodores later that year.

He is married to Senior Chief Musician Gail Cole Ascione, a clarinetist with the Navy Band. They have two children, Laura and Andrew.

Charles McPherson is a native of Joplin, Mo., where the great swing bands originated with musicians such as Charlie Parker, Buster Smith, Coleman Hawkins, Ben Webster, Count Basie and many others.

He moved with his family to Detroit, Mich. where he mastered the alto saxophone and studied music with renowned pianist Barry Harris. His professional career began at age 19 when he left Detroit for New York City. There he performed from 1960 to 1972 with Charles Mingus' Jazz Workshop.

Since the sixties he has continued to tour and perform with Barry Harris and as leader of his own group. His performances have taken him to concerts and festivals throughout the United States and Canada, Europe, Japan, South America and Africa. He has toured with such jazz artists as Billy Eckstine, Lionel Hampton and Nat Adderley.

He has appeared on over 11 albums with the likes of Toshiko Akiyoshi, Art Farmer, Kenny Drew, Lionel Hampton, Barry Harris, Ted Harris, Bobby Jones, Sam Jones and Charles Mingus. As a leader he has recorded over 15 albums for major jazz labels, including "BeBop Revisited" and "Live at the Five Spot" for Prestige; "Live in Tokyo" and "New Horizons" for Xanadu; and "Today's Man" and "Charles McPherson" for Mainstream.

His recent Discovery recordings include "The Prophet" and "Illusions in Blue." He occasionally teaches a course at San Diego State University.