University Jazz Ensemble

Monday, November 23, 2026 at 7:30pm
Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center for the Performing Arts

Pacific Lutheran University
The College of Professional Studies and School of Music, Theatre & Dance present

University Jazz Ensemble

Cassio Vianna, *director*

with guest artist
Brian Monroney, *guitar*

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Welcome to Eastvold Auditorium.
Please disable the audible signal on all watches and cellular phones for the duration of the concert.
Use of cameras, recording equipment, and all digital devices is not permitted in the concert hall.

PROGRAM

Grove City Groover ..... **John Fedchock (b. 1957)**
Jaden Pulido-Hughes, *trombone* • Max Minjares, *trombone* • Martin Teague, *tenor sax*

Ace of Hearts ..... **Patty Darling (b. 1962)**
Dylan Ryan, *trombone* • Lawrence Balajadia, *tenor sax*
Elizabeth Williams, *trumpet* • Steven Blankenship, *alto sax*

For the Rise of a New Day ..... **Cassio Vianna (b. 1976)**
Brian Monroney, *guitar* • Max Minjares, *trombone*

One to Go On ..... **David Caffey (b. 1950)**
Martin Teague, *tenor sax* • Brian Monroney, *guitar*

Cadência ..... **Juventino Maciel (1926-1993)**
arr. Cassio Vianna
Angel Rodriguez Gil, *bari sax* • Logan Johnson, *trumpet* • Brian Monroney, *guitar*

Vortex (Endless Winter) ..... **Patty Darling**
Justin Mendoza, *trumpet* • Ben Hegge, *drums*

About the Ensemble

The University Jazz Ensemble (UJE) is the critically-acclaimed large ensemble representing jazz and creative music at Pacific Lutheran University. The ensemble performs four concerts per year on the PLU campus. Every four years, the UJE takes an international tour with the University Wind Ensemble. Past tours have included Scandinavia, China, Australia, Spain, Portugal, and Ireland. The ensemble repertoire includes traditional jazz big band works from all eras of the music, as well as new compositions and arrangements by contemporary composers.

About the Director

Cassio Vianna is Associate Professor of Music and Director of Jazz Studies at PLU, where he directs the University Jazz Ensemble and teaches jazz classes and lessons. A native of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Vianna is a pianist, music educator, scholar, and a Latin Grammy-nominated composer. His compositions and arrangements for jazz ensemble have received international recognition, including awards from the National Band Association, Jazz Education Network, Ithaca College Jazz Composition Competition, and the International Society of Jazz Arrangers and Composers (ISJAC). His works for jazz big band have been performed by artists such as Chris Potter, Eric Marienthal, Ernie Watts, Martha Reeves, the United States Army Field Band (Jazz Ambassadors), and the Colorado Jazz Repertory Orchestra, among others. Vianna has been featured as a lecturer, adjudicator, and performer at festivals and conferences in the U.S., Latin America, and China. Vianna holds a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Rio de Janeiro, a Master of Music degree from Western Oregon University, and a Doctor of Arts degree in jazz studies from the University of Northern Colorado.

About the Guest Artist

During nearly four decades as busy sideman and session musician, guitarist **Brian Monroney** has performed or recorded with artists including Gloria Estefan, Natalie Cole, Barry Manilow, and Tom Jones (with whom Brian toured as guitarist and musical director for nearly eighteen years). In addition to gigs and recording, Brian works as an arranger, music copyist, and teacher.

Brian has played with a number of notable Pacific Northwest artists, bands, and organizations, including: Greta Matassa, Jim Knapps' SCRAPE, Lee Oskar, Bill Anschell, and Teatro Zinzanni. He also occasionally plays shows for Seattle Theater Group and Seattle Music – past engagements include "Motown, the Musical", 8-Bit Big Band, and Stardew Symphony.

Brian has a BM in studio music and jazz (1987) from the University of Miami School of Music (now known as the Frost School). He previously taught there, and at University of California, Northridge. A resident of the Pacific Northwest since 2012, Brian currently lives in Tacoma and teaches jazz guitar at PLU.

UNIVERSITY JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Saxophones
*Steven Blankenship
Daniel Santos
Martin Teague
Lawrence Balajadia
Angel Rodriguez Gil

Trombones
*Max Minjares
Dylan Ryan
Jaden Pulido-Hughes
Alexander Pitruzzella, *bass trombone*

Trumpets
*Jacob Boseley
Justin Mendoza
Logan Johnson
Elizabeth Williams
Joshua Green

Rhythm Section
*Eleanor Sherry, *piano*
Cameron McLennan, *bass*
Jarin Szewczyk, *bass*
Ben Hegge, *drums*

*section leaders

Find out more about jazz studies at PLU at www.plu.edu/jazz,
on Facebook: Pacific Lutheran University Jazz Studies;
and subscribe to our Youtube channel: Pacific Lutheran University Jazz Studies.

Want to skip the line at the door?
Tickets are available for purchase online with no processing fees up until the start time of each ticketed performance.
Visit www.plu.edu/musictickets prior to any event to purchase your tickets ahead of time.
Simply select the event you'd like to attend and click the "Tickets" button.