



Wednesday, April 27, 2022 at 7:30pm
Discovery Theatre

Carl DuPont, bass-baritone

The Melissa "Jazzmom" Fischer Quartet

Melissa Bledsoe Fischer, piano
Pat Owens, trumpet/flugelhorn

Ray Booker, bass
John Damberg, drums

"King For a Day" from *The Real Ambassadors* (1961)

Strange Meadow Lark (1960)

"They Say I look like God" from *The Real Ambassadors* Words: Iola and Dave Brubeck

"Lord, Lord" from *The Gates of Justice* (1969) Words: Iola Brubeck; I Kings: 8:27-30

It's a Raggy Waltz (1962)

I See Satie (1987)

Bossa Nova USA (1962)

Intermission

The Duke (1955)

"Repent, Follow Me" and "Sermon on the Mount" from *The Light in the Wilderness* (1968)
Text from Matthew 4: 17, 19 (Mark 1:15-20); Matthew 5: 3-14 (Luke 6:20-23)

Blue Rondo à la Turk (1959)

Theme From *Mr. Broadway* (1964)
(Composed for the television series *Mr. Broadway*.)

All My Love (1999)

Take Five (1959) Composed by Paul Desmond

Carl DuPont is an artist, innovator, and educator dedicated to *Transformational Inclusion* in the arts and *Care of the Professional Voice*. He has held center stage in performances at The Glimmerglass Festival, Opera Carolina, First Coast Opera, Toledo Opera, Opera Saratoga, Sarasota Opera, Cedar Rapids Opera, El Palacio de Bellas Artes, Opera Company of Brooklyn, the IN Series, Carnegie Hall, and Leipzig Opera. He has been invited to present research and recitals in Salzburg, Rome, Stockholm, New York, Portland, and Miami. This season Carl returned to Opera Columbus in an acclaimed production of *Fellow Travelers* after previously appearing there as Don Basilio in *The Barber of Seville* and Leporello in *Don Giovanni*. A graduate of the Eastman School of Music, Indiana University, and the University of Miami, Carl currently serves as a voice professor at the Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University. There, he has developed a course on art song by African American composers, co-chairs the Culturally Inclusive Task Force, and serves on the Anti-Racism, Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee. His articles can be found in *The Laryngoscope* and *Voice and Speech Review* and he can be heard on the world premiere recording of the *Caldara Mass in A Major*, *The Death of Webern*, and his solo album of art songs by Black composers entitled *The Reaction*.

Melissa Bledsoe Fischer is in high demand as a jazz artist, band leader, and educator. With over 30 years of performing and concertizing in Alaska, Melissa's career highlights include appearing with the Anchorage Symphony Orchestra (Ella Fitzgerald Tribute Concert), Alaska Chamber Singers, Jazz @ the 4th Avenue Theatre Concert Series, and performing in concert with legendary trumpet/flugelhorn jazz great Bobby Shew and New York trombonist Michael Davis. She has opened for Mose Allison, Randy Crawford, Spyro Gyra, blues legend James Cotton, Craig Chaquico, Jeff Golub, and Warren Hill. Raised in Anchorage, Melissa holds a B.A in Piano Performance from Linfield College and a Master of Arts in Teaching from UAA. Melissa is currently the director of choral music at Bettye Davis East Anchorage High School. To date, Melissa has released five highly acclaimed "Jazzmom" albums, and she has been voted "Anchorage's Best Singer" and "Best Solo Act" by *Anchorage Press* readers.

Ray Booker is a 'long-time' Alaskan musician and retired IT professional now residing in Washington State. In the span of his career, he has accompanied and opened for a variety of well-known national and international performers such as Ramsey Lewis, Spyro Gyra, and Eddie Harris. Ray served for a number of years on the Board of Directors for Food Bank of Alaska and founded the Jazz Fighting Hunger Project, with proceeds contributing to put upwards of 450,000 meals on the tables of Alaskans in need.

John Damberg is a master vibist, marimbist, percussionist, composer and educator who has enjoyed a successful career in music spanning 55 years. John currently lives in Anchorage, where he is the leader of the John Damberg Latin Jazz Quintet, co-leader of JoMaLa, Instructor of Percussion at the University of Alaska Anchorage, President of the Alaska Jazz Workshop (AJW), and past President and Vice-President of the Percussive Arts Society Alaska Chapter. John is an active performer on the Alaska and Pacific Northwest music scenes and he is an ardent promoter of jazz and percussion education.

Pat Owens has played trumpet and flugelhorn professionally for over 45 years. He has vast experience in all styles of music, playing and recording with jazz, rock, funk, blues and Latin groups, as well as musical shows and classical ensembles. In recent years, he has performed with Count Basie Orchestra vocalist Carmen Bradford, saxophonist Greg Yasinsky and The Box Tops. Pat resides in Anchorage with his wife, Danese, and enjoys spending time with their three grandsons.



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Laura Koenig, Artistic Director

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