

# CD Release Concert

2011–12 Season  
143rd Concert

Tuesday 1 November 2011  
Dalton Center Recital Hall  
8:15 pm

## “HAPPILY EVANS AFTER”

### THE RON DI SALVIO TRIO

Ron Di Salvio, Piano  
Tom Knific, Bass  
Keith Hall, Drums

Ron Di Salvio	<i>Six Shades of Green</i> from the CD <i>Essence of Green</i>
Ron Di Salvio	<i>Wasabi</i> from the CD <i>Essence of Green</i>
Ron Di Salvio	<i>Mesmerize</i> from the CD <i>Happily Evans After</i>
Ron Di Salvio	<i>Blues Four Three</i> from the CD <i>Happily Evans After</i>
Ron Di Salvio	<i>My Space</i> from the CD <i>Happily Evans After</i>
Ron Di Salvio	<i>Monk's Sphere</i> from the CD <i>Happily Evans After</i>
John Knific/Tom Knific	<i>Lines of Influence</i>
Grace Hall/Keith Hall	<i>You and Me</i>
Ron Di Salvio	<i>Montunno for Monty</i> from the CD <i>Happily Evans After</i>
Ron Di Salvio	<i>Happily Evans After</i> from the CD <i>Happily Evans After</i>
Ron Di Salvio	<i>Early Spring</i> from the CD <i>Happily Evans After</i>
Ron Di Salvio	<i>Child's Play</i> from the CD <i>Happily Evans After</i>

If the fire alarm sounds, please exit the building immediately. All other emergencies will be indicated by spoken announcement within the seating area. The tornado safe area in Dalton Center is along the lockers in the brick hallway to your left as you exit to the lobby behind you. In any emergency, walk—do not run—to the nearest exit. Please turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during the performance. Because of legal issues, any video or audio recording of this performance is prohibited without prior consent from the School of Music. Thank you for your cooperation.



RON DI SALVIO was born in Brooklyn, New York, and began his musical journey at age eleven studying accordion with Alexander Matos. At age sixteen, after hearing Dave Brubeck play live at Carnegie Hall, Di Salvio discovered his passion for jazz piano. He studied improvisation with the legendary Lennie Tristano. A self-taught composer, Di Salvio formed a trio and played jazz clubs in New York's Greenwich Village in the late sixties. During this period he performed with Sonny Rollins, Joe Henderson, Enrico Rava, Renee McClean, Roland Kirk and Art Farmer.

Di Salvio currently serves on the adjunct faculty of Kalamazoo College teaching jazz piano, composition and theory. He continues to tour and give clinics, and is a member of ASCAP, MENC and JEN. He is also author of *Deltadiatonics* and *Inspirations from Schoenberg's Theory of Harmony*.

For his last project, Di Salvio produced, composed, arranged, and released *Essence of Green, a Tribute to Kind of Blue* in 2007 for Jazz Septet and SATB featuring legendary drummer Jimmy Cobb, the last remaining member of the Miles Davis Kind of Blue ensemble, plus Rodney Whitaker on double bass, director of jazz studies at Michigan State University College of Music. The CD was released on Origin Records and reached the Top 40 in the National Jazz Charts. As a follow up to this recording a live concert was featured at the 2006 Irving Gilmore International Keyboard Festivals Series Concerts with Jimmy Cobb. The concert produced a video.

TOM KNIFIC is Professor of Music at Western Michigan University where he teaches double bass and jazz studies. Adept as both a classical and jazz musician, he has been principal bassist of orchestras in the United States, Latin America, and Europe. He has performed as a soloist and in chamber music festivals in Europe, Canada, Asia, Latin America and the United States.

As a jazz artist he has appeared throughout Europe, Central and South America, Asia, Canada, Africa, and the United States, including the Aspen Festival, IAJE conferences, and the International Society of Bassists Conventions. He has given concerts and master classes at prestigious institutions including Carnegie Hall, Merkin Hall, Symphony Space, Lincoln Center, Paris Conservatory, Janacek Academy, Berlin University of the Arts, China Conservatory, Beijing, and The Library of Congress.

Knific has toured and recorded with Dave Brubeck, Randy Brecker, Art Farmer, Billy Hart, Gene Bertoncini, Harvey Mason, John Abercrombie, Fred Hersch, Toots Thielemans, Eric Marienthal, Kenny Werner, and others. He is leader of the Western Jazz Quartet, a WMU faculty ensemble in residence, which has appeared world wide and received critical acclaim for their five CDs of original music.

He has taught at the Interlochen Arts Academy, Michigan State University, and the Cleveland Institute; he has given over 100 master classes world wide. Knific appears on over 25 CDs and has recorded for the Universal, Mercury, Polonia, Koch International, SMR, Jazzheads, Centaur, Azica, Naxos and Sea Breeze labels. A prolific composer, his works are published by Editions Delatour, Paris, and ISB Editions, Dallas.

His students perform in orchestras on three continents and have toured with major jazz artists including John Scofield and Betty Carter.

Knific's teachers included Franco Petracchi, Eugene Levinson, Stuart Sankey, Lawrence Angell, Frank Deliberto, Jim Leihenseder, Bill Durango, and Dave Holland.

Knific is past president of the International Society of Bassists.

KEITH HALL is the jazz drumset instructor at Western Michigan University. He received his Bachelor of Music in jazz studies from WMU and a Master of Arts in jazz studies from Queens College in New York. Having established himself as a joyful performer and passionate educator, Keith Hall tours and records extensively with singer Curtis Stigers throughout the United States and Europe, including jazz festivals and numerous television and radio shows. A protégé of jazz drumming great Billy Hart, Hall has also performed with Marcus Belgrave, Betty Carter, Sir Roland Hanna, John Hicks, Wynton Marsalis, Michael Phillip Mossman, Hilton Ruiz, Luciana Souza, Steve Wilson, Joe Wilder, and Claudio Roditi.

Hall lived in New York City from 1996 to 2003, during which he was a regular substitute on Broadway's *Lion King*, served as Music Director at Faith Exchange Fellowship, and was adjunct faculty at New York University. He was chosen to represent the United States State Department for a European tour with the Latin-jazz ensemble Grupo Yanqui and has appeared on many recordings featuring his own groups: The Groov'tet; Paster, Ryan & Hall; and Tri-Fi.

Hall has lead the band at Christian Life Center in Kalamazoo, taught at many jazz camps around the United States, presented master classes across the globe, and is the director of the Keith Hall Summer Drum Intensive.