

Guest Artist and Faculty Recital

2011–12 Season
38th Concert

Tuesday 27 September 2011
Dalton Center Recital Hall
8:15 p.m.

GENE BERTONCINI, Guitar
TOM KNIFIC, Bass

Program to be selected from the following:

Antonio Carlos Jobim	<i>Chega de Saudade</i>
Joaquín Rodrigo/ Chick Corea	<i>Concierto de Aranjuez/Spain</i>
Antonio Carlos Jobim	<i>Corcovado</i>
Antonio Carlos Jobim	<i>Dindi</i>
Brooks Bowman	<i>East of the Sun</i>
John Lennon/McCartney	<i>Eleanor Rigby</i>
Duke Ellington	<i>"Ellington Medley"</i>
Tom Knific	<i>Her Hymn</i>
Antonio Carlos Jobim	<i>Insensatez</i>
Antonio Carlos Jobim	<i>Inutil Paisagem</i>
Michael Moore	<i>The Lilter</i>
Neal Hefti	<i>Li'l Darlin'</i>
Tom Knific	<i>Lullaby</i>
Tom Knific	<i>The Muezzin of Göreme</i>
Antonio Carlos Jobim	<i>O Grande Amor</i>
Johnny Mandel	<i>The Shadow of Your Smile</i>
Antonio Carlos Jobim	<i>Zingaro</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.



GENE BERTONCINI and TOM KNIFIC have collaborated for over 20 years throughout the U.S. and in Asia. Highlights have included duo recitals at the International Society of Bassists convention in Houston and the International Association for Jazz Education convention in Los Angeles. Bertoncini and Knific performed a week of concerts at The Stereophile Club in Seoul Korea, and appeared in Merkin Hall, NYC as part of the OPUS 21 series. Bertoncini appears on two of Knific's CDs, *Home Bass* and *Siena*. They both appear together on Renata Artman Knific's CD, *West of Everywhere*.

GENE BERTONCINI is one of the pre-eminent jazz guitarists active today. His fluid technique and lyricism have won him international praise and accolades as the "Segovia of jazz." An eloquent and versatile improviser, Bertoncini has been heard with an extraordinary range of jazz greats, including performances and recordings with Benny Goodman, Buddy Rich, Wayne Shorter, Hubert Laws, Paul Desmond among others, as well as such distinguished singers as Tony Bennett, Lena Horne, Nancy Wilson, Vic Damone, and Eydie Gorme.

The Washington Post proclaimed his solo appearance in New York City the best jazz concert of the year 1999. Bertoncini's acclaim is hardly confined to this country. His CD, *Someone to Light Up My Life* which features his own arrangements of the compositions of the great bossa nova composer Antonio Carlos Jobim, won international raves. Brazilian critic's and listener's polls also named him the best acoustic jazz guitarist. Bertoncini has just released a striking new solo CD, *Quiet Now* on the heels of his highly successful *Acoustic Romance*, which reached the top ten of the jazz playlists. Jazziz magazine's March 2004 issue ranked it Number 1 in their list of the top 20 acoustic guitar CDs. His newest CD is called *Concerti* and features Bertoncini with a string quartet and bass.

A prolific and popular studio musician, Bertoncini honed his professional chops as a member of the Tonight Show band during Johnny Carson's tenure, and he has worked with composers and arrangers such as Lalo Schifrin and Michael Legrand and has performed with the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra.

In addition to an active performing and recording schedule, Bertoncini teaches at the Eastman School of Music and William Patterson University. A New York City native, he graduated from the University of Notre Dame with a degree in architecture. According to the New Yorker magazine, "Bertoncini is an affecting, highly original guitarist that moves easily back and forth between classical and jazz guitar."

Bertoncini was nominated as the best jazz guitarist of the year (2009) by the New York Jazz Press Association, and featured extensively in the August 2011 edition of Jazz Times magazine.

TOM KNIFIC has performed with many of the great jazz and classical artists of our time on tour and on record. They include Gene Bertoncini, Billy Hart, Randy Brecker, Dave Brubeck, Fred Hersch, and others. He and Eric Marienthal co-led the "Dream Band" with Toots Thielemans, Kenny Werner and Harvey Mason in the first live interactive concert multi-cast over the Internet. As a classical artist, he has recorded with Pepe Romero, Andre Watts, Philippe Entremont, and the Merling Trio. He has appeared as a soloist with orchestras throughout the U.S. and has performed as principal bassist with orchestras and chamber orchestras in the U.S. and Europe. He has appeared at chamber music festivals throughout North America and Europe and is a founding member, bassist and composer for the contemporary music group, OPUS 21. Knific is professor of double bass and chair of the jazz studies area at Western Michigan University. He has also taught at the Interlochen Arts Academy, Michigan State University, Cleveland Institute of Music, and has presented over a hundred master classes worldwide.

As a composer, Knific has written two dozen works in a variety of idioms. He has been commissioned by OPUS 21, the International Society of Bassists, and leading instrumentalists, and received numerous grants and awards for his writing. His music may be heard on six CDs, and is published by Editions Delatour, Paris, and ISB Publications, Dallas.

A renowned educator, Knific's students have toured and recorded with Betty Carter, Vincent Herring, Cedar Walton, John Scofield, and performed in orchestras on three continents. In addition, he received the Down Beat magazine Achievement in Jazz Education award in 2004. Knific is leader of the Western Jazz Quartet. The WJQ has appeared on four continents and has received rave reviews for their five CDs of original music. He has appeared on 30 recordings including four solo CDs, *Home Bass*, 1998; *Siena*, 2004; *Lines of Influence*, 2009; and *The Muse*, featuring Fred Hersch, 2011. He has recorded on the Universal, Mercury, Koch International, SMR, Centaur, Sea Breeze, Jazzheads, Azica, Blujazz and Polonia labels. Knific is Past President of the International Society of Bassists and hosted the 2005 world convention in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Recent highlights include performances in Mozambique, Africa, and master classes and concerts at the China Conservatory, Beijing.