Dalton Wed@7:30pm: Live and Interactive!

Wednesday 21 February 2018
Dalton Center Recital Hall
7:30 p.m.
Pre-Concert talk with Dr. Robert White at 7 p.m.

VINCE MENDOZA, Composer/Conductor

with
UNIVERSITY JAZZ ORCHESTRA
Scott Cowan, Director

Members of the WMU SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Andrew Rathbun, Director

“Vince Mendoza Orchestral/Jazz Project”

Vince Mendoza
Homecoming

Vince Mendoza
OJOS

Vince Mendoza
One Times One

Vince Mendoza
Keep It Up

Vince Mendoza
Spring, Again

UNIVERSITY JAZZ ORCHESTRA

Vince Mendoza
Beauty and Sadness

Vince Mendoza
Otono

Vince Mendoza
Ambivalence

Vince Mendoza
Poem of the Moon

Vince Mendoza
Miracle Child

Members of the WMU SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

This concert is a Bullock Performance Institute (BPI) presentation. BPI events are made possible through the cooperation and support of several community fine arts units: the Donald P. Bullock Music Performance Institute; the Western Michigan University College of Fine Arts and School of Music; and WMU’s chapters of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia and Sigma Alpha Iota music fraternities.

Building emergencies will be indicated by flashing lights and spoken announcement within the seating area. If the notification is for fire, please exit the building immediately. 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 forbidden without prior consent from the School of Music. Thank you for your cooperation.
One of the most versatile and prolific composer–arranger–conductors of the last two decades, multi-Grammy Award winner VINCE MENDOZA has written arrangements for a wide variety of pop and jazz artists, from Joni Mitchell, Sting, Melody Gardot, Elvis Costello and Bjork to Joe Zawinul, John Scofield, Charlie Haden, Al Di Meola, Dave Liebman, Randy Brecker, the Yellowjackets, and the GRP All-Stars. His compositions have appeared on recordings by the likes of saxophonist Joe Lovano, guitarist John Abercrombie, drummer Peter Erskine, pianist Joey Calderazzo and singer Kurt Elling. As a leader, Mendoza has released 10 recordings for the Blue Note, ACT, Blue Jackel and Zebra labels, including 1997’s *Epiphany* (with the London Symphony Orchestra) and 2011’s *Nights on Earth*, featuring an all-star cast and members of the Metropole Orkest, which Mendoza has led as chief conductor for the past six years.

Mendoza was recently honored with a Grammy Award for his work on the John Scofield 54 album on Emarcy records. It is his 6th Grammy and 25th nomination. He was also nominated by the Jazz Journalists Association as “arranger of the year”. His new CD *Nights on Earth* on Horizontal and Art of Groove records will be released on Oct. 7.

Born in 1961 in Norwalk, Connecticut, Mendoza began learning classical guitar and piano from an early age. His musical influences ran from Bach to Aretha Franklin to Henry Mancini. However, discovering Miles Davis, Gil Evans, and later, Igor Stravinsky and Alban Berg gave him a further complex perspective of the construction of musical forms and ideas. Taking up the trumpet during high school, he later earned a degree in music composition at Ohio State University, before moving to Los Angeles. The music of Joe Zawinul and Wayne Shorter became a strong influence on his big band writing. He began working in the studios, composing music for television, while continuing to add to his extensive body of work written for big band. He completed his post-graduate composition and conducting studies at the University of Southern California. During this time, he met a kindred spirit in drummer Peter Erskine, who included him in his mixed ensemble recording, *Transition* on Denon records. Mendoza contributed several compositions to this recording as well as on some of Erskine’s subsequent recordings. They have since become frequent collaborators.

There is no end to the versatility of his skills or opportunities to exercise them. Mendoza has written commissioned compositions and arrangements for world-renowned classical and jazz groups that include the Turtle Island String Quartet, the Debussy Trio, the L.A. Guitar Quartet, the Metropole Orchestra, the Berlin Philharmonic, and the BBC. His music was featured at the Berlin Jazz Festival. He has performed major works at the Montreux and North Sea Jazz Festivals. And he actively conducts concerts of his music in Europe, Japan, Scandinavia, and the U.K. His CD *Epiphany* is a stunning set of compositions for the London Symphony Orchestra and jazz soloists. Effortlessly combining his beautifully crafted orchestral arrangements, strong melodic compositions, extended forms and inspired jazz soloists, this is an album only Mendoza could conceive and execute with such grace. Joined by old friends, Abercrombie, Brecker, Erskine, Lovano and Kenny Wheeler, as well as the sublime bass work of Marc Johnson and piano of John Taylor, Mendoza sets the scene of each piece with the orchestra, allowing these seven great jazz “voices” to deliver the next layer of emotive harmony and expression. With such a huge palette of both sounds and sonorities the results conjure up strong narratives. Mendoza’s skill for “casting” the hard-edged brilliance of Michael Brecker for the harder tempos alongside the soft lyricism of Joe Lovano for the poetic pulse of quieter songs defines his huge talents as a truly modern composer, conductor and arranger.

### UNIVERSITY JAZZ ORCHESTRA

**Saxophone**  
Benjamin Schmidt-Swartz, soprano  
Stephanie Ondracek, alto  
Caleb Elzinga, tenor  
Eddie Codrington, tenor  
Lauren Elliott, baritone

**Trumpet**  
Brent Proseus  
Michael Moore  
Yakov Tsvetitskii  
Jesse Lemons  
Sam Gustavson

**Trombone**  
Tyla Bullion  
Will Ford  
Joseph Stoltz  
Connor Clayton

**Rhythm**  
Ivan Akansiia, guitar  
Grayson Nye, piano  
Zach Rosenstiehl, bass  
Kyle Wheeler, drums

### Members of the WMU SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

**Violin I**  
Eric Dalmou  
Negar Afsaz  
Isabella Lysakowski  
Harmony Kelly  
Gabby Lyndhurst  
Lindsey Dills  
Xinyi Lu

**Violin II**  
Joe Buzzelli  
Meredith Schmidt  
Morgan Laut  
Alexis Terrai  
Kaela Hartmann  
Russell Matthews  
Shaylee Faugh  
Sophia Mauer  
Andrew Rayl

**Cello**  
Kenny Kressin  
Maura Phelps  
Becca Spurbeck  
Jie Yang  
Andrew Gigu  
Sam Kelly  
Allison Rutkowski  
Conor Loring  
Grace Kovach

**Double Bass**  
Colin Taber  
Alex Theisen  
Shannon Giberson  
Dylan Tulett  
Russell Elkus  
Neal Lensenmayer  
Zach Rosenstiehl

**Flute**  
Pablo Sanchez  
Sarah Bortz  
Brittany Bissa  
Bronté Spondiike

**Oboe**  
Marcus Jackson  
Sara Morden  
Dylan Tanner  
Brittany Eyerly, english horn

**Clarinet**  
Emily Mikel Rowe  
Jacob Murlin  
Tyler Conway  
Lindsey Streeter

**Bassoon**  
Evan Zanger  
Kathy Hernandez  
Jake Wilkins  
Emily Mastenbrook

**Horn**  
Dominic Hayes  
Zach Nicely  
Kaitlin Hosey  
Ben Hayward  
Karlee Kamminga

**Tuba**  
Jay Bennett

**Timpani**  
Bradford Crossland  
Kyle Evan Leffert

**Percussion**  
Jeffrey Wetherford III  
Spencer Gravel