

King Bubba Band (Sacramento Kings house band).

Mr. Souliere is the founder and host of the Annual EGUSD Jazz Festival and has been an adjudicator/clinician working with middle, high school and college groups at the Reno Jazz Festival, Sac State Winter Jazz Festival, Rio Americano HS and WCSJ Jazz Festival.

THE 46th ANNUAL
FESTIVAL OF NEW AMERICAN MUSIC

FACULTY JAZZ NONET

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 7:00 P.M.

The Naked Truth (2022)	Greg Johnson (b. 1988)
View from Above (2022)	Greg Johnson
Sonny Bunny (2022)	Greg Johnson
Bleeding Heart (2022)	Greg Johnson
The Wanderer (2023)	Greg Johnson
Limehouse Blues (1921, arr. 2023)	Philip Braham (1881-1934) arr. by Greg Johnson
Special Edition (2022)	Greg Johnson

Mike Rocha, trumpet
Steve Roach, trumpet
Mike Souliere, trombone
Mike McMullen, alto saxophone
Greg Johnson, tenor saxophone
Duncan McElman, baritone saxophone
Joe Gilman, piano
Gerry Pineda, bass
Rick Lotter, drums

Dr. Joe Gilman is a full-time professor of music at American River College in Sacramento, an adjunct professor of jazz studies at Sacramento State, and a longtime associate of the Brubeck Institute and the Stanford Jazz Workshop. Joe was the music director of Capital Jazz Project from 1997 to 2011. He has received bachelor's degrees in classical piano and jazz studies at Indiana University, a master's degree in jazz and the contemporary media from the Eastman School of Music, and a doctoral degree in education from the University of Sarasota.

Joe was the primary pianist with jazz vibraphonist Bobby Hutcherson from 2006 -2016, and the Sacramento Jazz Orchestra since 2010. He has also performed professionally with Eddie Harris, Joe Locke, Chris Botti, Nicholas Payton, Charles McPherson, Wycliffe Gordon, David "Fathead" Newman, and Slide Hampton, and has recorded with Joe Henderson, Bobby Hutcherson, Jeff Watts, and Tootie Heath. Dr. Gilman has twice been an International Jazz Ambassador through the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and USIA, traveling to West Africa in 1999 and East and Southern Africa in 2000. His restaurant Twin Lotus Thai features delicious Thai cuisine and live music several nights each week!

Dr. Greg Johnson is quickly becoming recognized as an important voice in the jazz community. His distinctive saxophone sound and compositional style has found its way into multiple genres of Jazz, Classical and Popular music. As a saxophonist, Greg has appeared in concert and on over 40 mainstream recordings with jazz legends Curtis Fuller, Billy Taylor, Bob Mintzer, the Sinatra Orchestra and many more. He has toured and performed with notable Pop and Rock acts such as Saint Motel, Robin Thicke and Barry Manilow, Skip Martin, The Spinners, The O'Jays, Eddie Holman and Jim Peterik, at some of the biggest venues and festivals in the world.

Dr. Johnson has previously held positions at the University of Southern California, Marin School of the Arts and CSU, Stanislaus. Praised for his relatable and organic approach to improvisation, composition, and ensemble direction, he keeps an active schedule as a clinician and guest composer/saxophonist. Greg has released eleven recordings under his name and has contributed to dozens more. His recent work has appeared on the GRAMMY ballot in six categories for his albums "Philosopher's Path" and "Visions of Kansas City."

director Brian Kendrick and pianist Aaron Garner. One year later, Mike relocated to Los Angeles to pursue his Master's in Trumpet Performance and Composition from the California Institute of the Arts, graduating in 2012. Notable mentors from whom Mike studied are Larry Koonse, Darek Oles, John Fumo, Ed Carrol, Joe LaBarbara, and Paul Novros.

After completing his master's degree, Mike went on to enjoy a robust recording and performance career in Los Angeles. Among the notable artists that Mike has played with are Christina Aguilera, Bob Dylan, Gwen Stefani, Panic at the Disco, Lorde, Gordon Goodwin's Big (and Little!) Phat Band, where he still holds the jazz soloist seat, Miguel Atwood-Ferguson, Nai Palm, Jeff Bernat, Postmodern Jukebox, the John Daversa Big Band, the Alan Chan Big Band, and the Vardan Ovsepien Chamber Ensemble. Mike has also performed at Coachella and the Governor's Ball in New York. While doing all of that, Mike taught trumpet and gave lectures at Occidental College, Mount San Jacinto Community College, El Camino Community College, and MiraCosta Community College, as well as serving as an acting brass coach at Harvard-Westlake High School. In addition, Mike co-led the Lappit-Rocha septet, performing his original jazz compositions all over Los Angeles and culminating with recording their debut album, "First Take."

Mike, his wife Alexa, and his daughter Violet recently relocated to Lodi, where they currently reside. Mike teaches at the San Joaquin Delta College and can be heard performing all around the Central Valley and Bay Area of California.

Mike Souliere is currently the Band Director at Pleasant Grove High School and has taught music in the Elk Grove Unified School District since 2003. He previously was the Band Director at Monterey Trail High School and Director of Jazz Studies at Robert McQueen High School. Mr. Souliere is a graduate of the University of Nevada, Reno and holds a Bachelor of Music Degree in Jazz Performance and a Master of Music in Applied Trombone.

Formally lead trombone for the Sacramento Jazz Orchestra, Mike has performed professionally around Northern California and Nevada for the past 25 years. He has performed with Gordie Brown, Bob Fylling, George Graham, Tom Kubis, Wycliffe Gordon, Conrad Herwig, Bob McChesney, Brian Landrus, Reno Jazz Orchestra, Cunha Clubhouse Big Band and the

duties at Sacramento State include directing large jazz ensembles, teaching jazz trumpet, administering the jazz studies degree program, and teaching courses in jazz history. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree in trumpet performance from Indiana University, a Master of Music degree in trumpet performance from Northern Illinois University, and a Doctor of Arts degree in trumpet and jazz pedagogy from the University of Northern Colorado.

Professional appearances as an assisting artist include studio and live sessions with such jazz & pop musicians as Tito Puente, Dave Pietro, Louis Bellson, Billy Drummond, Alan Ferber, Conrad Herwig, Lou Rawls, Jon Tchicai, Ben Vereen, Melissa Manchester, Toni Tennille, Roberta Flack, Rosemary Clooney, Jeffrey Osbourne, Carl Fontana, Paquito D'Rivera, The Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Orchestra, The Glenn Miller and Jimmy Dorsey Orchestras, and others.

Steve also works as a clinician and adjudicator for jazz festivals and various workshops nationwide and has directed several California high school honor jazz ensembles including the 2016 California All State High School Jazz Ensemble, the San Mateo Honor Jazz Band, the CMEA Bay Area Honor Jazz Ensemble, the Fresno-Madera County Honor Jazz Band, the Solono County High School Honor Jazz Ensemble, the Tulare Kings County Honor Jazz Band and the Southern California Band & Orchestra Association Honor Jazz Band. Steve maintains an active schedule as a freelance artist and is a member of the Sacramento Jazz Orchestra, a group in which he co-founded.

Three-time Grammy-nominated and globally acclaimed trumpeter and composer **Mike Rocha** started playing the trumpet at age nine. While in junior high and high school, Mike performed with both the California All-State Honor Band and All-State Jazz bands, won concerto competitions, led "The Barkin' Dawgs" Dixieland band, toured Brazil with the Sacramento Youth Symphony as their principal trumpeter, and toured Japan with the Monterey Next-Gen band as their lead trumpeter.

Mike graduated Magna Cum Laude with a degree in Trumpet Performance from the Berklee College of Music in 2007 and subsequently landed the jazz trumpet seat on the Glenn Miller Orchestra international tour. The tour lasted all of 2008 across 48 states, Canada and Japan. After touring, Mike enjoyed a brief teaching stint at Delta College alongside

Rick Lotter began drumming at age four, when his family lived in Malawi, Africa. He later studied drumset, timpani and mallet percussion with Stanley Lunetta in Sacramento. He began playing professionally in his teenage years and has enjoyed a varied career in the music business as a drummer, educator, bandleader, producer, and record label manager.

Rick has worked in settings from combo and big band jazz to rock and worldbeat, and most everything in-between. Best known for his work with eclectic roots music group Mumbo Gumbo, Rick's credits include recording and performing with Capital Jazz Project, Dave Liebman, Jim Snidero, Bobby Shew, Richie Cole, Jessica Williams, Carl Anderson and Maria Muldaur, as well as numerous radio and television commercials. A dedicated music educator, Rick has given clinics and workshops at high schools and colleges throughout Northern California.

In addition to a busy performing schedule, Rick teaches at American River College in Sacramento, maintains a private teaching studio, and works with the Jazz Studies program at Sacramento State.

Duncan McElman is an award-winning baritone saxophonist and educator noted for his powerful sound, ferocious sense of swing, and deep commitment to passing on the music to future generations.

A native of Carmichael, California, McElman attended Rio Americano High School and was a three-year member of their renowned "AM Jazz Ensemble," where he earned soloist awards at various regional and national competitions, including the Charles Mingus Festival and the Essentially Ellington Festival and Competition. He was a two-year member of the SFJAZZ High School All Stars Orchestra, where he was part of a band that won first place in the prestigious Monterey Next Generation Jazz Festival and the Charles Mingus Festival. During his high school years, Duncan was selected for the baritone saxophone chair in the 2017 Jazz Band of America, as well as the 2017 Monterey Next Generation Jazz Orchestra, with whom he performed at Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola at Jazz at Lincoln Center and the 60th Monterey Jazz Festival alongside Jeff Hamilton and Gerald Clayton.

In May 2021, Duncan completed his undergraduate studies at the University of Miami Frost School of Music. While at Frost, he studied with Gary Keller and Troy Roberts and was a featured soloist in performances

alongside such jazz luminaries as Maria Schneider, Dave Leibman, Wycliffe Gordon, Brian Lynch, John Daversa, and Shelly Berg, among others. During his undergraduate degree, he was the recipient of several notable awards. In 2019 he was selected as the baritone saxophone chair for the prestigious JAS Jazz Academy in Aspen, Colorado, working under the direction of Christian McBride. In 2020 his combo focusing on early (pre-1940) jazz music was awarded "Best College Combo" by the Teagarden Jazz Festival, where Duncan also earned the honor of being selected "best overall college musician."

In 2023, Duncan received his master's degree in Music Performance (Jazz) at California State University, Sacramento, where he served as a Graduate Assistant and studied under professors Brian Landrus and Jacam Manricks, as well as performed with the schools top big band and jazz combo. He was recently awarded a coveted "Outstanding Performance" award in the Graduate College division by Downbeat Magazine during their 2022 Student Music Awards. He went on to win the Graduate College Small Ensemble Division in 2023 as a member of the Sac State Grad Combo. That same group also won the college combo division of the 2023 California Jazz Championships. As part of that Graduate Assistantship, Duncan spent the 2023 school year directing the school's second big band, leading the group to the finals of the same 2023 California Jazz Championships, ending the year with an unprecedented second-place finish in the College Big Band Division.

A highly regarded musician and educator, **Mike McMullen** has been active for over 50 years in a wide variety of musical contexts. He studied jazz saxophone in San Francisco with Joe Henderson, studio woodwinds in Los Angeles with Phil Sobel, and composition and arranging with Dick Grove through a NARAS scholarship.

Mike led a variety of jazz groups in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Europe before returning to settle back in California in 1990. He directed the jazz program at UC Davis for 11 years, directed a specialized youth program for Mondavi Center, and recently retired from the jazz program at CSU Sacramento. Mike was a founding member of Capital Jazz Project and has been a woodwind doubler in the pit with Broadway Sacramento for over 30 years.

Aside from his work as a leader, Mike has performed, recorded, or toured with a long list of jazz and commercial artists. Personal favorites include Dave Liebman, Tony Bennett/Lady Gaga, Doc Severinson, Ray Charles, Natalie Cole, Bobby Shew, Sonny Fortune, Bobby Hutcherson, Moacir Santos, Kenny Wheeler, and the Moody Blues. This past spring, he performed in the orchestra for Andrea Bocelli at Golden 1 Center.

Born in Tarlac (Philippines) to an Irish-American mother and a Filipino father, **Gerry Pineda** moved to the United States at eighteen months of age. His father was an aerospace engineer whose job required that he relocate often. As a result, Gerry grew up living in several states.

Gerry began his musical journey at the age of nine with piano lessons. A year later he had switched to guitar lessons and eventually to the electric and double bass. After discovering jazz at fifteen years old, Gerry became interested and influenced by such bassists as: Jimmy Blanton, Slam Stewart, Milt Hinton, Paul Chambers, Charles Mingus, Ray Brown, Scot Lafaro and Eddie Gomez.

Initially self-taught, Gerry began his formal double bass studies in high school while living in Cincinnati, Ohio. He studied with Barry Green and Richard Topper at University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. Upon graduating high school Gerry moved to Southern California to attend Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles. After two years, Gerry transferred to California State University, Sacramento where he received a BM in Jazz Studies and an MM in Double Bass Performance.

Gerry has been a professor of Jazz Studies at Sacramento State since 2005 teaching applied jazz bass, jazz improvisation/ theory and directing various jazz combos. Along with his teaching duties at California State University Sacramento, Gerry maintains a private studio, busy gig schedule and serves as a clinician and adjudicator at regional jazz workshops and festivals. Gerry has performed with these artists: Nick Fryer, Joe Gilman, Eddie Harris, Brian Kendrick, Patrick Langham, Geoffrey Keezer, Joe Mazzaferro, Tim Reis, Greg Tardy and Ernie Watts.

Steve Roach has been the Director of Jazz Studies at California State University, Sacramento since 2001. He has also served as Director of Jazz Studies at Baylor University and has held teaching positions at the University of Northern Colorado and Northern Illinois University. Steve's