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Christopher's Very Happy Band, August 25, 2017 [program]

University of Northern Iowa

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CHRISTOPHER'S
VERY HAPPY.
BAND.

PROGRAM

All selections composed by Christopher Merz

Christopher's Very Happy Song

While We Wait

*The Truth Will Set You Free**

Silent R (for my peeps in Warshington)

A Gentle Man (for Kenny Wheeler)

Chrisp Otter (oh come on, you can figure this out)

We Are Bathed In Sunlight

Be Good and Sleep



PERSONNEL

The blithe Christopher Merz, saxophones

The sparkling Steve Shanley, piano

The exultant Drew Morton, bass

The feeling-pretty-decent, -when-you-get-right-down-to-it

Dave Tiede, drums

CHRISTOPHER'S VERY HAPPY. BAND.

Now more than ever, we all need a little more Happy.ness in our lives. You have stumbled across a possible antidote to the general malaise currently afflicting our culture. The jubilant sound of **Christopher's Very Happy. Band.** results from a combination of bright sounding compositions played with joyous abandon by its four members. Individually, their performance credits include the Umbria (Italy), Montreaux (Switzerland), Ozone (Switzerland), Guinness (South Africa) Twin Cities (Minneapolis), Des Moines, and Iowa City jazz festivals. All have interests and experiences across the gamut of current musical styles ranging from Classical to pop, electronica to soul. All of this experience comes to bear in their work together.

In addition to this aggregation, many of the members of CVH.B. perform together in COLOSSUS Central, a large jazz ensemble led by Mike Conrad, as well as a myriad of other groups you haven't heard of. It is our fondest wish for this music to make you as happy as it makes us. Very Happy. Indeed.

ABOUT THE FELLAS

Christopher Merz, composer and saxophonist, is busy trying to figure out how to combine aspects of all of the music he loves (jazz, rock, pop, folk, and classical) into a satisfying and original whole. The music composed for and performed by CVH.B. inches closer to that goal. When not performing, writing, teaching or thinking about music, he spends his time trying to make his sons laugh hard enough to shoot milk out their noses.

Pulling bits and pieces from a variety of musical sources and genres helps **Dave Tiede** create a versatile sound that he can call his own. Classically trained with a wide array of professional experience in music from Jazz to Rock, and everything in between, he is able to bring a fresh, diverse feel to each new musical situation. In addition to many years of private study, Dave received his Bachelor's Degree in Music from the University of Northern Iowa. During his time at UNI, he studied under Tom Giampietro, Randy Hogancamp, Chris Merz, and Bob Washut. Along with performing, he is an educator, teaching privately and appearing as a guest speaker and clinician throughout the Midwest.

Drew Morton, bassist and multimedia artist, is a regular musician with various groups in the area. In addition to CVH.B., he also regularly performs with Jack Lion, Laranja, and Koplant No. In addition to music, Drew creates graphics and animations that often accompany music recordings and live performances. Drew is a Gemini.

Steve Shanley (a.k.a. the "new guy") is an old, balding guy, but he does not wear his sunglasses inside (or at night). A musical omnivore, Steve loves Beethoven and Brahms, but he's not ashamed to admit his obsession with the "girl groups" of the 1960s. He conducts a professional concert band, plays piano in a Latin jazz ensemble, composes for symphony orchestras, and arranges music for school bands and choirs. By day, Steve teaches at Coe College; by night, he obsesses over his front yard.

UPCOMING EVENTS

ANTHONY WILLIAMS, TROMBONE
TUESDAY, AUGUST 29, 7:30 P.M.
BENGTSON AUDITORIUM, RUSSELL HALL

MUSICALLY SPEAKING LECTURE
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 6 P.M.
ROOM 116, RUSSELL HALL

CAYLA BELLAMY, BASSOON
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 6 P.M.
DAVIS HALL, GBPAC

THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC CALENDAR OF EVENTS IS
AVAILABLE ONLINE AT WWW.UNI.EDU/MUSIC/EVENTS. TO
RECEIVE A HARDCOPY, PLEASE CALL 319-273-2028.

In consideration of the performers and other members of the audience,
please enter or leave a performance at the end of a composition.

Cameras and recording equipment are **not permitted**. Please turn off all
electronic devices, and be sure that all emergency contact cell phones and
pagers are set to silent or vibrate.

This event is **free** to all UNI students, courtesy of the Panther Pass Program.

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artist programs. Call 319-273-3915 or visit www.uni.edu/music to make
your gift.

