

UNIVERSITY of VIRGINIA

McINTIRE DEPARTMENT of


music

presents

Free Bridge Quintet

Bird Song: The Music of Charlie Parker

Saturday, October 22, 2022

8:00 pm

Old Cabell Hall

University of Virginia

Program

Calvin Brown, piano
John D'earth, trumpet
Jeff Decker, alto/tenor sax
Robert Jospé, drums
Peter Spaar, bass

Confirmation

Shaw 'Nuff

Parker's Mood

My Little Suede Shoes

Donna Lee

Quasimodo

Segment

Ornithology

All songs composed by Charlie Parker

Program Notes

The impact of Charlie Parker's arrival on the jazz scene in the early 1940's cannot be overstated. Parker turned the world of jazz around unlike any musician before or since. He changed the way jazz was played and opened up possibilities in the music that had never before been attempted or even considered. He widened the improvisational boundaries of rhythm, harmony and melody. But, importantly, he did not reject what had come before. Rather, he found new ways to express what Sidney Bechet and Louis Armstrong had said earlier. And he always expressed his Kansas City blues sensibilities proudly. While he seemed to play an impossible number of notes in every solo, his solos never diverged from the emotions, rhythmic nuance and melodic logic that governed all Parker played. Today, jazz is still using the same musical language and rhythmic and harmonic innovations popularized by Parker. Simply put, there is no more revered and important figure in the history of jazz than Charlie Parker.

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“Man, there's no boundary line to art!” —Charlie Parker

“It's just music. It's trying to play clean and looking for the pretty notes.” —Charlie Parker

“If you don't live it, it won't come out of your horn.” —Charlie Parker

“Music is your own experience, your own thoughts, your wisdom.” —Charlie Parker

“Don't be afraid, just play the music.” —Charlie Parker

“Once I could play what I heard inside me, that's when I was born.” —Charlie Parker

“You've got to learn your instrument. Then, you practice, practice, practice. And then, when you finally get up there on the bandstand, forget all that and just wail.” —Charlie Parker

# Upcoming Jazz Events

**The UVA Jazz Ensemble: PLAY IT FORWARD!**

**Featuring the music of JoVia Armstrong & guest violinist, Leslie Deshazor**

Friday, November 4, 8:00 pm, Old Cabell Hall

**Jazz Chamber Ensembles**

Sunday, November 13, 7:00 pm, Old Cabell Hall

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## *Special Thanks To:*

The Department of Music, Ted Coffey, Marcy Day,  
Joel Jacobus, Tina Knight, Kim Turner, Leslie Walker,  
and all the students, interns, and volunteers  
who made this performance possible.

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