

Nazareth COLLEGE

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

presents

"MUSIC OF 1924 & 2014"

(In Celebration, Nazareth College, 90 years)

***Paul Smoker*, trumpet**
***Ken Filiano*, double bass**

Wilmot Recital Hall
3:00 PM, Sunday, September 21, 2014

PROGRAM & NOTES

In 1924 many important musical works, still currently performed, were composed. Among them was the classic **Rhapsody in Blue** by George Gershwin (1898-1937), which he premiered on piano February 12, along with the Paul Whiteman Orchestra. Gershwin improvised the piano part, since he had notated (in haste) only the orchestra instruments. [For the complete story see <http://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/rhapsody-in-blue-by-george-gershwin-performed-for-first-time>.] But we won't deal with that today, since we are just trumpet and bass.

Along with brother Ira (1896-1983), lyricist, that year he also composed **Fascinatin' Rhythm** and **The Man I Love** for the Broadway musical Lady Be Good. (But *Man* was dropped before production.) That same year, Vincent Youmans (1898-1946) and lyricist Irving Caesar (1895-1996) penned **Tea for Two** for No, No, Nanette. Ken and I will be examining all three during the course of today's concert, albeit in a new music context. They have become standards, part of the Great American Song Book, and still performed and used as vehicles for improvisation. (Other familiar songs from 1924 include *I Want to Be Happy*, *It Had to Be You*, *Oh Lady Be Good*, *I'll See You in My Dreams*.) We'll also present some other spontaneous environments.

Some other events from 1924—Lenin dies and is succeeded by Stalin; J. Edgar Hoover takes over the FBI; Edwin Hubble announces that there are other galaxies; the Washington Senators win the World Series. AND, Nazareth College is founded. Today we celebrate and pay homage to that beginning.

Ken and I have frequently played together during the past 20 years. Here is a list of recordings that we have made together:

No Stock Options (Paul Smoker/Damon Short 5-tet);
Mirabile Dictu (Smoker/Filiano/Salerno);
Halloween '96 and *Halloween, the Sequel* (Smoker/Golia 4-tet);
Large Music 1 & 2 (Smoker/Filiano/Magnuson/Grassi);
Extended Family & Exposed (Fred Hess/Smoker/Filiano/Short);
The Vampire's Revenge (Dom Minasi).

BIOGRAPHIES

Paul Smoker attended the University of Iowa (DMA in trumpet) where he was also a member of the Iowa Brass Quintet, touring throughout the United States, and the U of Iowa Center for New Music. For over twenty years he taught trumpet, jazz, and 20th-century 'classical' music at the Universities of Iowa, Northern Iowa, Wisconsin-Oshkosh and Coe College.

The **Paul Smoker Trio** began to receive international attention in the early 1980's, recording and playing jazz festivals throughout the U.S., Canada, and Europe. Since then he has made over fifty recordings as leader of his own groups and with Anthony Braxton, Joint Venture, Vinny Golia, *et al.* He has also worked with Art Pepper, Evan Parker, and David Liebman, among others. At age 19 he was playing with Dodo Marmarosa, pianist for Charlie Parker in the late 1940's.

Paul presently conducts jazz studies and ensembles at Nazareth College. The **Paul Smoker Notet** has three recordings, *Live at the Bop Shop*, *Cool Lives*, and the new *Landings*.

Web page—<http://paulsmoker.com>.

Ken Filiano has been performing throughout the world for thirty years, collaborating with leading artists in multiple genres, fusing the rich traditions of the double bass with his own seemingly limitless inventiveness. Ken leads two quartets, **Quantum Entanglements**, and **Badalona's Dilemma** (Vinny Golia, Warren Smith, Michael TA Thompson), and is a co-leader of The **Steve Adams/Ken Filiano Duo** and **TranceFormation** (Connie Crothers, Andrea Wolper.) His extensive discography includes a solo bass CD, *subvenire* (NineWinds), and *Dreams From a Clown Car* (Clean Feed), which presents his compositions for Quantum Entanglements (Michael Attias, Tony Malaby, Michael TA Thompson).

Ken has performed and/or recorded with Karl Berger, Bobby Bradford, Anthony Braxton, Connie Crothers Quartet, Bill Dixon, Ted Dunbar, Giora Feidman Quartet, Vinny Golia ensembles, Taylor Ho Bynum, Jason Kao Hwang, Joseph Jarman, Raul Juarena, Joelle Leandre, Frank London, Tina Marsh, Warne Marsh, Dom Minasi, Barre Phillips, Roswell Rudd, ROVA Saxophone Qt., Paul Smoker, Peeter Uuskyla, Fay Victor Ensemble, Pablo Zielger, and many more.

Ken is on the teaching roster at the New School in New York, and has been a guest artist lecturer at School of Visual Arts and Hunter College (New York). He teaches master classes in bass and improvisation, and has a private bass studio in Brooklyn.