

Accessible Music Productions in conjunction with Firebird Presentations

proudly presents

**“GOODMAN & BEYOND”
A Jazz Clarinet Spectacular**

**ANDY FIRTH
Clarinet**

**With Special Guest-Jazz Legend,
Buddy DeFranco**

Featuring

GARY MOTLEY, Piano
PAUL KELLER, Bass
PETER SIERS, Drums

WEILL RECITAL HALL
AT CARNEGIE HALL
New York City
Friday Evening
March 21, 2008
at 8:00PM

Artist Biographies

Andy Firth started his performance career at the age of 14 when he appeared around South Australia featuring in small groups and big bands. By his seventeenth birthday, Andy had moved to Adelaide and co-founded his first band, The BBC Trio and the BBC Quartet (Bass, Banjo, Clarinet & drums). Andy's reputation as one of Australia's most outstanding jazz talents was further endorsed with his appearances on Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC), channel 7, 9 and 10 television shows, The Burrows Collection, Sunday; Hey, Hey! . . . It's Saturday and the Midday Show with Ray Martin. Andy is a well-respected instrumentalist of the world clarinet today having played internationally with some of the greatest performers, bands and orchestras in both classical and jazz music. His mastery of the clarinet and saxophone has earned him many accolades. Andy has shared the stage with such notable musicians as B.B. King, Diana Krall, Wynton Marsalis, Buddy DeFranco, Kenny Ball, The Dutch Swing College Band, Lee Konitz, Acker Bilk, Bud Shank, Randy Brecker, James Moody, Anthony Warlow, Maestro Tommy Tycho & Don Burrows, to name but only a few. He has also performed as soloist with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, the West Australian Symphony Orchestra, Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, the Queensland Symphony Orchestra and the Sydney Symphony Orchestra. Andy is also a regular guest performer at national and international clarinet and saxophone symposia. In addition to performing, Andy is a busy composer and arranger for all musical genres. Many of his compositions have been published and are featured on Australian radio, film and television. In 2006, Andy was awarded an "Australian MO Award" for "Best Instrumental Jazz Performer".

Clarinetist **Buddy DeFranco** has lived through almost the entire history of jazz. He has played in many of the big bands which became the hallmarks of the Swing Era: Gene Krupa, Charlie Bame, Tommy Dorsey and Boyd Raeburn. He participated in the origins of the Bebop Revolution in New York in the 1940s, making significant contributions to the harmonic concepts of that movement while playing with Charlie Parker, Lennie Tristano, Dizzy Gillespie and all the great protagonists of that "hot house" period in American music. He was featured with the legendary Count Basie Septet in 1950 and then led his own big band in 1951. From 1952 to 1956, Buddy led his own Quartet, one of the greatest small groups in the history of jazz, which included, at various times, Kenny Drew and Sonny Clark on piano. Milt Hinton and Eugene Wright on bass and Art Blakey and Bobby White on drums. A successful partnership with vibraphonist Terry Gibbs began in 1980, catapulting Buddy back to the forefront of jazz, where he has remained ever since. He is one of the timeless masters of jazz and enjoys a truly international career.

Recognized by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Great American Jazz Piano Competition, and the American Composers Forum, **Gary Motley** has been featured in *Downbeat Magazine* and on *Piano Jazz with Marian McPartland*. Recording credits include Russell Malone's *Black Butterfly* CD and his own recording, *Everything I Love*. His accomplishments include concerts at Carnegie Hall and performances with Dave Brubeck, Jon Faddis, Kenny Garrett, Eddie Daniels, Jon Hendricks and Kenny Barron. Gary recently received Creative Loafing Magazine's *Critics Choice Award* for Best Jazz Pianist. With a bachelor's degree in music from the University of Montevallo and a master's degree in jazz studies from Georgia State University, Gary is the Director of Jazz Studies at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia.

Paul Keller (Bass) began his musical studies in his hometown of Grand Rapids, MI. He continued his classical music education at the University of Michigan and eventually moved to Ann Arbor in 1986. Today, Paul is one of the busiest bassists in the Detroit area. He leads the 15-piece Paul Keller Orchestra, which plays original, obscure and classic big band material from all periods of jazz history. Paul has been recognized nationally for his association with pianist/singer Diana Krall and guitarist Russell Malone. Together they performed at the North Sea Jazz Festival, the Algonquin Hotel and the JVC and Playboy Jazz Festivals, among many others. Keller appears on Malone's CD *Black Butterfly* (Columbia) and on Krall's Grammy-nominated recording *All For You* (GRP/Impulse).

Pete Siers (Drums) earned a degree in Music Education from Aquinas College in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where he studied under the direction of Dr. Bruce Early and Rupert Kettle. As a member of the Aquinas College Jazz Ensemble, Pete was honored with several awards for outstanding soloist and outstanding rhythm section player. He has performed with Lee Konitz, Sonny Fortune, Frank Morgan, Warren Vache, Jay McShann, Frank Foster, Mose Allison, Eddie Daniels, Mulgrew Miller, James Moody, Barry Harris, Doc Cheatham, Sir Roland Hanna, Marian McPartland, Benny Golson, David "Fathead" Newman, Randy Johnston, Kristen Korb, Kenny Werner, Maria Muldaur, Sir Roland Hanna and others.

A Salute to the music of ...

... Benny Goodman

After You've Gone *H. Creamer, T. Layton*
Boppin' With Benny *A. Firth*
Running Wild *A.H. Gibbs, J. Grey, L. Wood*

... Artie Shaw

Frenesi *A. Dominquez, L. Whitcup*
Shaw Thing *A. Firth*
Carioca *E. Eliscu, G. Kahn, V. Youmans*

... Eddie Daniels

I Can't Give You Anything But Love *D. Fields, J. McHugh*

- Intermission -

... Don Burrows

Sweet Georgia Brown *B. Bernie, K. Casey, M. Pinkard*

... Buddy DeFranco

Strike Up The Band *G. and I. Gershwin*
These Foolish Things* *H. Link, H. Marvell, J. Strachey*
Scrapple From The Apple* *C. Parker*

... and BEYOND

On This Night *A. Firth*
Lady Be Good *G. and I. Gershwin*

** With Special Guest Jazz Legend, Buddy DeFranco*

This Project has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its arts funding and advisory board.

Accessible Music Productions and Firebird Presentations would like to also acknowledge the generous contributions of organizations and individuals.



The artists will receive friends in the Jacobs Room immediately after the end of the performance.