

Digital Program | Jazz in the Gardens

Tribute to Women Jazz Legends

Thursday, September 19, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.



Donna Limerick, executive producer
Marshall Keys, music director, saxophone
Janelle Gill, piano
Carroll V. (CV) Dashiell, III, drums

Maureen Monteiro, assistant producer
Christie Dashiell, vocals
Herman Burney, bass

Program

"Old Devil Moon" – Carmen McRae

"My Baby Just Cares For Me" – Nina Simone

"I Wish I Knew How It Would Feel to Be Free" – Nina Simone

"Return to Paradise" – Shirley Horn

"This Can't Be Love" – Shirley Horn

"Dearly Beloved" – Nancy Wilson

"Unconditional Love" – Geri Allen

"How High the Moon" – Ella Fitzgerald

"Dreamland" – Christie Dashiell

About the Artists

Marshall Keys plays the saxophone with a sense of grace and emotion that is wholly without cliché. He is a versatile musician with an expansive range, known for having a solid, soulful tone and for improvisations that begin simply before developing into elaborate, smartly constructed melodies. Keys received a National Endowment for the Arts grant and was commissioned by the Smithsonian to perform the music of Wayne Shorter. He was guest performer and lecturer at the Romare Bearden Exhibit at the National Gallery of Art. He has toured Africa and Central and South America for the State Department as a Jazz Ambassador and has played jazz festivals in the US, Germany, Ireland, Holland, Mexico, Panama, and Indonesia. Keys's recent endeavors include playing in the Washington National Cathedral Band and collaborating with saxophonist Paul Carr in the Carr/Keys project. He has worked with many of the world's fine musicians including but finds the vibrant jazz community in Washington DC to be a continuing source of inspiration and motivation.



This summer marks the fourth year that Marshall has collaborated on Jazz in the Gardens at Hillwood.



Washington, DC-born and North Carolina-raised vocalist and composer **Christie Dashiell** lives at the musical crossroads of jazz, rhythm and blues, gospel and soul. Known for her improvisational prowess and effortlessly rich and clear tone, she has become one of the most sought-after artists on the scene today. Growing up in a musical family, Christie has been singing all of her life. She is the third of four multi-talented and musical children of jazz bassist, Carroll Dashiell, Jr. Her musical lineage is deeply rooted.

Christie is a graduate of Howard University and the Manhattan School of Music. While at Howard, Christie sang in the university's premier vocal jazz ensemble, Afro-Blue. As a member of the Afro-Blue, she appeared on NBC's "The Sing Off." She has twice received recognition in DownBeat Magazine's Student Music Awards as Outstanding Soloist and Best Vocalist in the Graduate College division and was selected as a semifinalist in the 2015 Thelonious Monk Institute International Vocals Competition.

In 2016, Dashiell released her debut solo album, *Time All Mine*, debuting on Billboard's Jazz Album and Contemporary Jazz Album Charts at numbers thirteen (13) and twenty-two (22), as well as JazzTimes' Top 50 Writer's Ballots, Critics' Poll. In addition to performing with her quartet, she works with many artists including Grammy-Nominated vocal ensemble, Sweet Honey in the Rock. She has appeared as a featured artist on Blue Note Record's, Supreme Sonacy, Marquis Hill's album, *The Way We Play*, Wynton Marsalis' work, "The Ever Fonky Lowdown" with Wynton Marsalis and The Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, and most recently the social-justice compilation album, *Black Lives: From Generation to Generation*. She has been seen in concert on various national and international stages including, Jazz at Lincoln Center Shanghai, The Baku Jazz Festival in Azerbaijan, and Bunkamura Orchard Hall in Tokyo. Dashiell is on faculty at Temple University, Howard University and The University of the District of Columbia.

Christie's long-awaited sophomore album features seven original compositions and two arrangements that explore themes of freedom, legacy, grief and joy. Funded in part by Chamber Music America's Performance Plus Grant, the collection of music fuses the sounds of improvised music and various styles of Black American Music. Titled *Journey in Black*, the album boasts a stellar cast of musicians, including Shedrick Mitchell, Marquis Hill, Allyn Johnson, Romeir Mendez and Carroll Dashiell, III with creative guidance from NEA Jazz Master, Dianne Reeves.

Carroll V. Dashiell, III is a drummer/percussionist living in the Washington D.C. Metropolitan area. CV, (as he is called) was born in Washington, DC and raised in Greenville, NC. Displaying an interest for the drums at an early age, his performance history includes a premiere performance at Carnegie Hall as the featured drummer and soloist with the East Carolina University Jazz Ensemble at the age of 14. CV was the drummer for the 2006 and 2007 International Association of Jazz Educators Annual Conference Vocal Jam Session. In 2008 C.V. also appeared as the Drummer/Principal Percussionist for the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority 100th Anniversary Celebration in Washington D.C. with the Kelvin Washington Orchestra.



He has also appeared as the drummer from 2005-2012 Congressional Black Caucus Awards Television Show with the Clarence Knight Orchestra featuring artists Sheryl Lee Ralph, Isaiah Washington, Stephanie and Marlon Jordan, Alfre Woodard, Avery Brooks, Regina Bell, Phil Perry, Gabriel Union and Louis Gossett Jr. Some of the other Artist CV has worked with include Wallace Ronney, Geri Allen, Grady Tate, Benny Golson, The Yellowjackets, Bob Mintzer, Antone "Chooky" Caldwell, The National Symphony Orchestra, The Alexandria Symphony Orchestra, Connaitre Miller, Alan Baylock Jazz Orchestra, Bohemian Caverns Jazz Orchestra, Ashford & Simpson, Terell Stafford, Bobby Watson & Horizon, Patti Label, and Debbie Allen just to name a few.

During his time at Howard University, CV was the drummer for the Howard University Jazz Ensemble under the direction of Fred Irby, III where he was the 2006 and 2008 Zildjian Scholarship Recipient. In addition to accompanying *Afro Blue*, the Downbeat award winning Howard University Vocal Jazz Ensemble. CV was the Principal Percussionist, and

Timpianist for 2 years in the Howard University Wind Ensemble. During his time in the Wind Ensemble, CV was Co-Principal Percussionist in the First Annual Historically Black College Wind Ensemble as a freshman. In 2010 CV was named Best Collegiate drummer in Downbeat Magazine's Student Poll edition. CV also served as the Drumline Instructor for the T.C. Williams High Marching Band. Currently, CV serves as the drummer/programmer on the Music Ministry at the Historic Metropolitan Baptist Church where Dr. H. Beecher Hicks Jr. is the Senior Servant. Carroll also does various performances, workshops and clinics throughout the Metropolitan area.

Herman Burney is a native of Washington, DC, but was raised in the arts-nurturing state of North Carolina where he grew up listening to Mahalia Jackson, Aretha Franklin, and James Cleveland. During his early years Herman played clarinet, drums and tuba and later took up electric bass for a "hard-core funk group" in high school. After meeting jazz titan George Duvivier in 1987, Herman finally settled on his beloved double bass.

Herman has traveled all over the world to establish an impressive list of performance credentials as bassist for Nneena Freelon, Marcus Roberts, Freddy Cole, Natalie Cole, Wynton Marsalis, Frank Wess and many others of equal renown. Since returning from tours in Japan and Russia, Herman has been mixing his 1st and 2nd cds—First was titled "First Fruits", the second- "Offering" – which was released in 2011, contains mostly original tunes. When Herman is "at home" he is teaching at George Washington University and the Sitar Arts Center in D.C.



There's an ethereal journey that pianist **Janelle Gill** brings listeners on that transcends the boundaries of jazz. Through her work of self exploration as it exists in music, she has tapped into a vein of fluidity that heals with sound. Born and raised in Washington, D.C. Janelle is a graduate of Duke Ellington School of the Arts and attended Howard University. Her unique musical expression has brought her to work closely with musicians such as Delfeyo Marsalis, Oliver Lake, David Murray, The Blackbyrds, Maurice Hines' in his *Tappin' Through Life* as well as local artists including Marshall Keys, Nasar Abadey, and Kris Funn. Some of the venues she has been in concert at include the Kennedy Center, The Library of Congress, DC Jazz Festival, North Sea Jazz Festival, Montreux Jazz Festival, and Baku Jazz Festival. As Janelle continues to be a student of life and welcomes new experiences she recently expanded her titles to musical director for the production of Toni Morrison's

Desdemona, which debuted at the Source Theater. She remains a musical educator to everyone of all walks of life.

Photos are courtesy of the artists.

About the Producers



Donna Limerick, an award-winning documentary producer for over 25 years produced news and entertainment programs for National Public Radio, WETA-FM, and others. She is President and Executive Producer of North Star Communications, a radio syndication company. She has partnered on projects with Ken Burns and Henry Louis Gates, Jr. Her television and radio production credits, include Quincy Jones, Nancy Wilson, Duke Ellington, Dizzy Gillespie, Wynton Marsalis, and other jazz masters.

Donna was the Concert Producer for “Evolution of the Blues,” written by vocalist Jon Hendricks. It debuted at the Monterey Jazz Festival in 1996 and moved on to a worldwide tour featuring Jon Hendricks, Joe Williams, Diane Reeves, Abbey Lincoln, Kevin Mahogany, and trumpeter Roy Hargrove.

She is currently a lecturer/consultant with the Smithsonian’s National Museum of African American History and Culture for a permanent exhibit about her mother Mae Reeves (1912-2016), a pioneer hat designer and entrepreneur. Her clients included Ella Fitzgerald, Lena Horne, and Marion Anderson. Donna Limerick has been the executive producer for Jazz in the Gardens at Hillwood since the series began in 2021.

Maureen Monteiro is the assistant producer for North Star Communications, Inc. This company syndicates radio programs to public radio stations nationwide, as well as produces concerts and lectures for the Mae Reeves Exhibit at the National Museum of African-American History and Culture.

Photos are courtesy of the producers.

