

**CONCERT SERIES
2021-2022**



**Heather Thorn
xylophone**

**PEACE MEMORIAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

110 S. Fort Harrison Avenue ■ Clearwater, Florida 33756

Our Lord's Day – November 14, 2021
Three o'clock in the Afternoon

About the Artists

Jazz pianist, composer, arranger, writer and educator, **Per Danielsson** is a native of Stockholm, Sweden. Growing up with a jazz guitar-playing father, Per was exposed to the sounds of Oscar Peterson and Bill Evans at an early age. After formal piano studies in Sweden, which included lessons with Robert Malmberg and world-renowned jazz pianist Bengt Hallberg, his love of jazz brought him across the ocean to attend the internationally acclaimed North Texas State University. Per is an active performer, appearing often as a guest artist, soloist, clinician, and sideman. His career has included performances with many leading jazz artists and entertainers such as Louis Bellson, Clark Terry, Eric Alexander, Marvin Stamm, Dave Liebman, Bobby Shew, Maureen McGovern and Benny Golson, to mention a few. As the pianist for Chuck Owen's innovative and Grammy Nominated big band, The Jazz Surge, Per has performed and/or recorded with Slide Hampton, Gerald Wilson, Neena Freelon, Gordon Goodwin, Karrin Allyson, Bob Brookmeyer, Ingrid Jensen, Bob Mintzer, Randy Brecker and Danny Gottlieb. He has also performed with Swedish jazz legends Arne Domnerus, Jan Allan and Georg Reidel.

His most current compact disc release is his trio recording "Time Will Tell," featuring Richard Drexler and Marty Morell. He can be heard on Chuck Owen and the Jazz Surge's new Grammy nominated compact discs "A Comet's Tail: Performing the compositions of Michael Brecker," and "River Runs." Per is pianist and producer for "Dear Old Stockholm," and "Artwork", both Swedish-American collaborations featuring saxophonist Jack Wilkins and revered Swedish trumpeter Jan Allen. And as pianist in the UCF Jazz Professors, Per has performed on the top charting compact discs "The Jazz Professors Live," "Do That Again," and "En Plein Air".

Per completed his Master's degree in jazz studies, composition and arranging, studying with one of the finest jazz writer/arrangers of today, Chuck Owen at the University of South Florida in Tampa. He now holds the position of Associate Professor of Jazz Piano at the University of Central Florida in Orlando, Florida. Per also shares his knowledge in current publications by Mel Bay including, Essential Jazz Lines in the style of Bill Evans, Essential Jazz Lines in the style of Miles Davis. First Lesson – Piano, You can Teach Yourself Jazz Chords, Real Book DVD and others.

Per completed his Master's degree in jazz studies, composition and arranging, studying with one of the finest jazz writer/arrangers of today, Chuck Owen at the University of South Florida in Tampa. He now holds the position of Associate Professor of Jazz Piano at the University of Central Florida in Orlando, Florida. Per also shares his knowledge in current publications by Mel Bay including, Essential Jazz Lines in the style of Bill Evans, Essential Jazz Lines in the style of Miles Davis. First Lesson – Piano, You can Teach Yourself Jazz Chords, Real Book DVD and others.

In addition, Per is active in jazz education outreach. He has served on the Presidential advisory board of the Jazz Education Network and is currently an active board member of the American Jazz Pianist Competition. In 2016's competition, Per held the position of competition judge, along with Kenny Barron. Per is proud to be a Yamaha/Bösendorfer Artist.

David MacKenzie is originally from the Atlantic City area where he studied clarinet, flute, piano, and saxophone with such local luminaries as George Mesterhazy, Bob Martin and Dennis Sandole. After a tenure of lounge and show work he relocated to the Orlando area with his wife, Georgia, in 1989.

He has since played and arranged for such groups as Bill Allred's Classic Jazz Band, Michael Andrew, the Mickey Finn Show, the Orlando Jazz Orchestra, Jim Robert's Saxtet, Simply Streisand, Surface Tension, Vivacity and many funny hat bands at theme parks.

Eddie Metz grew up in Ann Arbor, Michigan and from the age of 3, was fascinated by the drums. His dad was a dixieland/swing pianist and insisted that Eddie take piano lessons at age 5. This gave Eddie a unique approach to the drums, from the melodic and musical side of things. People comment all the time about Eddie saying, “Yes, he has plenty of chops but when he solo's you can literally hear the melody.” In October 1982, while Eddie was in the prestigious Jazz Studies program at William Paterson College of NJ, he received a call from Count Basie himself to join his world famous big band, which he did for 6 months. Having gone back to school after the Basie job, Eddie graduated in 1984 and promptly moved to Central Florida to the huge theme park and convention work scene. He quickly became the drummer of choice for many in all kinds of different styles with influences from all genres of music all over the world and has been the drummer on over 100 recordings.

As a trio, Rossano, Nicki and Eddie have played together since 2008 when they appeared together at the Arbors Jazz Party in Clearwater, FL. Mat Domber, founder of Arbors Records, after hearing their set, asked them to record as a trio. Since then, they have recorded three more trio c.d's for Arbors and have appeared around world at jazz festivals, concerts and clubs, carrying on the tradition of piano based trio jazz. You will be amazed at their individual and collective technique and imaginative improvisation, playing songs with familiar melodies, ear catching harmony, ultra sensitive dynamics and entertaining showmanship.

Heather Thorn is a xylophonist in Orlando, FL where she performs with her band Vivacity and as a freelance percussionist and actress. She holds a degree in Music Performance with a minor in Theatre from Ithaca College where she was a proud member of Gordon Stout's marimba band for two years. In 2019, she was featured with Vivacity as the headline act for the I Love Jazz International Jazz Festival in Brazil. Heather has been featured as a guest artist with Michael Andrew and Swingerhead, Carol Stein, the John Depaola quartet and as an opening act for the Glenn Miller Orchestra. As band leader of Vivacity, she frequently performs for swing dances and at renowned Central Florida venues including Timucua Arts White House and the Blue Bamboo Center for the Arts; in 2018 she gave a concert at the New Orleans Jazz Museum. Heather wrote and performs her musical stage show Nostalgia Radio Hour- featuring an original script with classic tunes from the 1920's- 1950's, and characters inspired from the Golden Age of Radio. She also leads a jazz quartet at the Sea World Christmas Celebration and subs with the Walt Disney World Orchestra. Heather has performed for the Suncoast Jazz Festival and New Smyrna Beach Jazz Festival as well as several arts festivals and community events all over Central Florida. She regularly features jazz luminaries such as Adrian Cunningham, Ed Metz, and Charlie Bertini as guests with the band.

Heather has a passionate interest in the history of xylophone and is working with Bill Cahn on a project to digitize and preserve nearly 1500 recordings of xylophone and percussion music from 1898-1929. She has attended the Leigh Howard Stevens Marimba Seminar and was on faculty for the Bob Becker Ragtime Institute in 2014. Her teachers have included Gordon Stout and Bob Becker. Heather proudly endorses Malletech Instruments.

Greg Zabel has been involved with music since he was about eight years old, beginning with piano. Playing the trumpet and guitar in various ensembles throughout school, he landed on the upright bass in the tenth grade. Greg studied bass under Richard Drexler (jazz) and Michael Hill (classical) at the University of Central Florida and was the bassist for the Flying Horse Big Band and the Jazz Workshop led by Jeff Rupert. In addition, he has performed with the UCF Wind Ensemble, Symphony Orchestra, and Concert Band. After graduating UCF, Greg spent twenty-one months touring the U.S., Canada, and Japan as the bassist for the Glenn Miller Orchestra. Comfortable on both upright and electric basses, Greg has played gigs with the likes of Marty Morell, Michael Andrew, and Davis Gaines. He can be seen performing at Orlando venues such as Blue Bamboo Center for the Arts and the Timucua Arts White House.

Please join us for an upcoming holiday concert:



Qol Quartet
Sunday, December 12–3 p.m.
*Back by popular demand,
the Qol Quartet celebrates
the Christmas Season with
holiday favorites,
works from Handel's Messiah,
and carols for the audience!*



Important Notice for Attendees

COVID-19 has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization and is known to be extremely contagious. The virus is believed to spread from person-to-person contact and/or by contact with contaminated surfaces or objects, and/or through the air. People can be infected and show no symptoms and therefore spread the disease. Although it will endeavor to apply all reasonable health protocols, the Peace Memorial Concert Series cannot guarantee you will not become exposed to or contract COVID-19 while attending one of our performances. Therefore, if you choose to attend our performance, you acknowledge and accept the risk that you may be exposing yourself to and/or increasing your risk of contracting COVID-19, and you release and waive any claim and any right to bring suit against the Peace Memorial Presbyterian Church of Clearwater in Florida and its trustees, agents, employees, or other representatives for any harm, injury or damage arising therefrom.

In keeping with our mission to present live artists to our community, the Peace Memorial Presbyterian Church joins other arts organizations in the Tampa Bay area and the United States in efforts to reduce the spread of the highly transmissible COVID-19 Delta variant.

Peace Memorial Concerts recognizes the safety of our patrons, musicians, staff, and volunteers. Therefore, anyone attending our concerts will be required to show proof of full COVID-19 immunization (at least 14 days since the final dose) or a COVID-19 PCR negative test result within 72-hours prior, or a negative COVID-19 antigen test result within 6-hours prior. Furthermore, all patrons regardless of immunization status must wear a mask over their nose and mouth at all times.

For help in navigating these new procedures, telephone Timothy Belk, Director of Music Ministries and Organist at 800 | 479-8846.