

Coastal Symphony of Georgia 2020-21 Concert Series

Michelle Merrill, Music Director

Variations on a Season

Sunday, November 15, 2020

3:00 p.m.

Mary Ross Waterfront Park - Brunswick

Jazz from the American Songbook

The Jordan Gilman Quartet

Born in New Orleans, parented by the common bonds of African-Americans and European-Americans, and embraced during the Jazz Age of the 1920s, jazz has become America's music. The genre has expanded over a period of 100 years, encompassing a wide range of music from rag time to rock-infused fusion. It is characterized by swing, blue notes, complex chords, call and response vocals, and improvisation. Influential music critic Robert Christgau sees "the essence and promise of jazz" as "inventing meaning while letting loose."

Four extremely talented jazz musicians will "let loose" for this afternoon's performance.

Jordan Gilman is a multi-instrumentalist who plays all the saxophones and is an exceptional doubler on flute, clarinet and bassoon. He has played with the Jacksonville Symphony, The Coastal Symphony of Georgia, and the Savannah Philharmonic along with numerous Big Bands.

Pianist **Aaron Lehrian** is well-versed in both the classical and jazz repertoires, and has experience composing and arranging in both idioms. He performs with the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra and The Coastal Symphony of Georgia. Aaron is currently a jazz performance major at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville where he enjoys working on creative projects that combine eclectic influences.

Luis Ocasio is drummer and percussionist for the quartet. He plays with several jazz groups as well as playing for musicals. Luis also enjoys performing funk and rhythm and blues, and plays with different groups as a Latin Percussionist. He has recently opened his own website in which he offers online drum lessons called Inspired Drumming. Luis lives in Miami where he is in a Masters Degree program at the University of Miami.

Jose Villalpando is a recent graduate of the University of North Florida and has become a prominent bassist in the North East Florida region, playing for live concerts, lessons, and studio sessions. He plays electric and upright bass and has begun traveling both nationally and internationally as a musician. Jose's versatility and musicianship has gained him notice by two-time Grammy-award winner Ulysses Owens Jr, and The Fabulous Equinox Orchestra.