The Studio Jazz Ensemble (Paul Harshman, director) performs big band arrangements and repertory selections. The Modern Band (Cuong Vu, director) performs innovative arrangements of jazz standards, selections from the outer limits of the genre, and new original compositions.

MODERN BAND

CUONG VU, ADVISOR

Tangents.......................................................... Alexander Chadsey
Flat Four .......................................................... Tony Lefaive
Koi Pond.......................................................... Ronan Delisle
Inner Convulsions ........................................ Ronan Delisle
Dream Logic ................................................ Elias Hampton

Ronan Delisle, guitar; Elias Hampton, guitar; Alexander Chadsey, piano; Tony Lefaive, bass; Wyatt Gardner, drums

STUDIO JAZZ ENSEMBLE

PAUL HARSHMAN, DIRECTOR

Kissing Bug...............................Bill Holman
A Foggy Day.................................George Gershwin/arr. Peter Herbolzheimer
The Peacocks...............................Jimmy Rowles/arr. Bill Holman
Lullabye of the Leaves..........................Petkere and Young/arr. Francy Boland
Paranoid Android............................Radiohead/arr. Ken Schaphorst
Atchafalaya...............................Michael League/arr. Brian Lawrence
Saxophones
Luciano de le Inglesia-alto; Ryan Featherman-alto; Martin Nguyen-tenor; Johnathan Leon Guerrero-tenor; Kyle Bainbridge-baritone

Trombones
Laney Pham; Simon Shimmel; Sean Dickson; Nick Ruof

Trumpets
Collin Burns; Lucas Beidler; Joseph Mertens; Alex Morris

Rhythm
Nebee Yohannes-piano; Nick Nerguizian-bass; Zechariah Latimer-Drums; Ronan Delisle-guitar

DIRECTOR BIOS

CUONG VU

Cuong Vu is widely recognized by jazz critics as a leader of a generation of innovative musicians. A truly unique musical voice, Cuong has lent his trumpet playing to a wide range of artists such as Pat Metheny, Laurie Anderson, and David Bowie.

As a youngsters, Cuong's intense dedication and love for music led him to a full scholarship at the New England Conservatory of Music where he received his Bachelor of Music in Jazz studies with a distinction in performance. Transitioning from his studies in Boston, he moved to New York in 1994 and began his career actively leading various groups while touring extensively throughout the world. As a leader, Cuong has released eight recordings, each making critics' lists of the 10 best recordings of their respective years and has received rave reviews from notable publications such as the New York Times, The New Yorker, Harper's, the Guardian, BBC Music Magazine, JazzTimes and Downbeat. Each record displays how he has carved out a distinctive sonic territory as a trumpet player, blurring all stylistic borders while developing his own compositional aesthetic and sound world.

Awards and honors that Cuong has garnered include grants from the Royalty Research Foundation, the Donald E. Petersen Professorship, ArtistTrust, 4Culture, CityArts and the Colbert Award for Excellence. Cuong is currently associate professor and chair of Jazz Studies at the University of Washington and was awarded the University of Washington's prestigious Distinguished Teacher Award in his third year on faculty. In 2002 and 2006, Cuong was a recipient of the Grammy for Best Contemporary Jazz Album as a member of the Pat Metheny Group. He's been recognized as one of the top 50 Jazz Artists in an article called “The New Masters” from the British magazine, “Classic CD” and in 2006 was named the Best International Jazz Artist by the Italian Jazz Critics’ Society. Amazon listed Vu's “Come Play With Me” on their “The 100 Greatest Jazz Albums of All Time.”

PAUL HARSHMAN

Paul Harshman is an Artist in Residence at the University of Washington where he serves as the Director of the Studio Jazz Ensemble. He is also the Band Director at Hamilton International Middle School in Seattle as well as the leader of the pH Factor Big Band.

As Director of Bands at Kentridge HS in the 1990's, Shorewood HS from 2000-2009, Lakeside School from 2008-2015 and Shoreline Community College from 2010-2015, his bands consistently received superior ratings at festivals and contests throughout the West. His jazz ensembles were considered among the finest
in the nation, winning many of the most prestigious jazz festivals in the country including the Berklee College (Boston) Jazz Festival, the University of North Texas Jazz Festival, the Reno Jazz Festival, the Fullerton Jazz Festival, the Lionel Hampton/ University of Idaho Jazz Festival and the Mt. Hood Jazz Festival. His groups have qualified for the Essentially Ellington Festival in New York City five times and in 2005 and 2008 received the Honorable Mention Award at that festival.

In 2009 the Shorewood Jazz Band won their division at the Reno Jazz Festival for the fourth consecutive year and also won a Downbeat Magazine Award for High School Jazz Band Performance. His ensembles have performed through invitation at the Mid-West Band and Orchestra Clinic in Chicago, the Montreux Jazz Festival in Switzerland, the North Sea Jazz Festival in The Hague, Netherlands, the 2001 MENC National Conference in Washington D.C. and the 2007 International Association of Jazz Educators Conference in New York. They have also performed with artists such as Maynard Ferguson, Phil Woods, Steve Houghton, George Cables, Allen Vizzutti, Marvin Stamm, Arturo O’Farrill and the University of North Texas One O’clock Jazz Lab Band.

Paul received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Central Washington University and his Master of Music Degree from Northwestern University. While at CWU, Paul was an All-American in Track and Field and still holds the school records for both the 10,000 and 3,000-meter runs.

FRED RADKE

Fred Radke joins the School of Music faculty in Fall 2011 as a part-time lecturer in the Jazz Studies program. A well-known big-band conductor and authority on big-band history, Radke directs the University of Washington's big band, the UW Studio Jazz Ensemble.

A professional musician since the age of fifteen, Radke has toured extensively around the world as leader and member of the Harry James Orchestra. He has also performed as lead trumpeter with many other well-known ensembles and performers, including the Glenn Miller Orchestra, the Dick Jergens Orchestra, the Modernaires, Johnny Ray, Ella Fitzgerald, Mel Torme and numerous others.

In addition to his professional career as a trumpeter, conductor, recording artist, compose/arranger, and producer, Radke is a musical clinician and educator who most recently has served as the resident instructor of Jazz Studies at North Seattle Community College.

People Involved: Cuong Vu, Paul Harshman, Alexander Chadsey
Event Type: Performances, Student Activities and Performances
Related Areas of Study: Instrumental Performance, Jazz and Improvised Music, Keyboard, Percussion
Strings, Woodwinds and Brass
Related Ensembles: Studio Jazz Ensemble: Big Band, Studio Jazz Ensemble: Modern Band

The University of Washington acknowledges the Coast Salish peoples of this land, the land which touches the shared waters of all tribes and bands within the Suquamish, Tulalip and Muckleshoot nations.

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