

# CCM

GUEST ARTIST SERIES  
PRESENTS

## THE PALMETTO SAXOPHONE QUARTET

Clifford Leaman, soprano saxophone

Sheldon Johnson, alto saxophone

Andrew J. Allen, tenor saxophone

Matthew Castner, baritone saxophone



**Wednesday, October 19, 2022**  
**Robert J. Werner Recital Hall**  
**7:30 pm**

# PROGRAM

Michelangelo '70 (1987)

Astor Piazzolla  
(1921-1992)  
arr. Chapa

Kriya (2021)

Om Srivastava  
(b. 1988)

Quatuor (1956)

Pierre-Max Dubois  
(1930-1995)

- I. Overture*
- II. Doloroso*
- III. Spirituoso*
- IV. Andante; Allegro*

Back Burner (1988)

Frank Ticheli  
(b. 1958)

Variations Saxophoniques (1939)

Fernande Decruck  
(1896-1954)

- I. Andante espressivo*
- II. Stesso tempo, molto espressivo e sostenuto*
- III. Allegretto scherzando*
- IV. Come prima (con flessibilita, senza rigore)*
- V. Allegro moderato energico*
- VI. Allegro ma non troppo*
- VII. Lento espressivo (molto cantando)*
- VIII. Tempo flessibile e vivo di filotesa*
- IX. Agitato e tumultuoso*
- X. Moderato e senza rigore, molto espressivo*
- XI. Moderato senza Pentezza, molto flessibile e senza rigore*
- XII. Fugue-Allegro moderato con ritmo*

## Biographies

**The Palmetto Saxophone Quartet** is a dynamic ensemble dedicated to exploring new repertoire and delivering unique and profound performances of classic and forgotten scores. As teaching-artists, they are also passionate about nurturing the next generation of saxophonists and chamber musicians through clinics and masterclasses. Formed in the summer of 2019, the ensemble consists of American saxophone virtuoso Clifford Leaman (the University of South Carolina, the Rosewind Duo), and former students who are now formidable and world-renowned artists in their own right: Andrew J. Allen (Georgia College, Rogue Two), Sheldon Johnson (Radford University), and Matthew Castner (USC Aiken). They are proud artist-endorsers of Key Leaves products.

Associate Dean, Director of Graduate Studies, and Professor of Saxophone at the University of South Carolina, **Clifford Leaman** is in great demand as a soloist and clinician and has performed and taught throughout the United States, Canada, Italy, Spain, France, Slovenia, Croatia, Sweden, Australia, Thailand, Taiwan, and China. He has recorded four compact discs with piano, and two discs with percussionist Scott Herring as the RoseWind Duo. In addition to his work with piano and marimba, Leaman has performed as a concerto soloist with numerous Wind Ensembles and Orchestras and has recorded concerti by Brant, Bassett, and Dahl. He has given masterclasses at the North American Saxophone Alliance Biennial Conference, the International Navy Band Symposium the World Saxophone Congress, and the Asian Saxophone Congress in addition to major schools of music and conservatories across the globe. Dr. Leaman is the soprano saxophone chair in the Palmetto Saxophone quartet and performs in a variety of chamber ensembles. An avid supporter of contemporary music, Leaman has commissioned and given the world premiere performances of over 35 works, including concerti by William Bolcom, Leslie Bassett, Frank Ticheli, Stacy Garrop, and Michael Colgrass. Leaman is an artist-clinician for D'Addario, Key Leaves and the Conn-Selmer Company, Inc. and performs exclusively on Selmer saxophones and D'Addario Reserve reeds.

As an active soloist, **Dr. Sheldon Johnson** has presented performances at the North American Saxophone Alliance's Biennial Conference, the College Music Society's Regional Conference, as soloist with the Bowling Green State University Philharmonia, the Roanoke Youth Symphony Orchestra, and in many other public recitals and concerts. As a chamber musician, Dr. Johnson is currently the alto chair in the Palmetto Saxophone Quartet and has performed as part of the St. Olavfestdagene in Trondheim, Norway, the United States Navy Band's International Saxophone Symposium, the Treetops Chamber Music Society's concert series, the University of South Carolina's Southern Exposure concert series, and as part of a film project with artist Matthew Barney. Dr. Johnson teaches saxophone at Radford University. He holds a BM from Northwestern University, an MM from Bowling Green State University, and a DMA from the University of South Carolina. His teachers include David Jacobsen, Frederick L. Hemke, John Sampen, and Clifford Leaman. He is a Conn-Selmer and Key Leaves endorsing artist. Visit [sheldonjohnson.com](http://sheldonjohnson.com) for more info.

## Biographies (continued)

**Andrew J. Allen** is “a master of all sizes of saxophone.” (The Instrumentalist, April 2018) In response to his New York solo debut, the Examiner opined that he had “performed brilliantly,” and the Wichita Falls Times-Record News has praised the “savory warmth” of his tone, while The Saxophonist has lauded his “virtuosic saxophone performance,” and The Saxophone Symposium has cited his “complete control of the instrument.” In demand as a soloist and chamber musician, Allen has performed throughout the United States, Canada, Great Britain, France, and Croatia. As a concerto soloist, he has appeared with the Wichita Falls Symphony Orchestra, the Oklahoma State University Chamber Orchestra, the University of Arkansas Wind Symphony, and the Midwestern State University Wind Ensemble and Percussion Ensemble. More than two dozen works have been dedicated to him from such composers as François Rossé, Robert Lemay, Fang Man, Jesse Jones, Greg Simon, and Jay Batzner. His recordings include Step Inside: New American Music for Saxophone and Percussion (recorded with percussionist Gordon Hicken) and The Avenging Spirit (as soprano saxophonist of the SAGA Quartet), both on the Equilibrium label. He is also a featured soloist on Spring Shadows: Electronic Solo Works by Anne Neikirk on Ravello Records. Allen serves as assistant professor of saxophone and coordinator of woodwinds, brass, & percussion Georgia College.

Saxophonist **Dr. Matthew Castner** enjoys a varied career as a performer and educator based in Charlotte, North Carolina. He currently serves as an Instructor of Jazz Studies at the University of South Carolina Aiken where he directs the Jazz Ensemble, Central Savannah River Area New Horizons Band, and teaches Saxophone and Music History. Previous faculty appointments include Winthrop University, South Carolina State University, and the University of South Carolina. Recent performance highlights include a trip to Moscow, Russia to perform James Whitbourn’s Son of God Mass with the Ex Oriente Lux Chamber Choir, a collaborative performance with inmates at the Lee Correctional Institute and a saxophone quartet tour of Helsinki, Finland. He is also a regular performer at North American Saxophone Alliance conferences, as well as the International Saxophone Symposium. As a chamber musician, Matthew is a founding member of the Horn/Saxophone duo PIVOT and holds the baritone chair of the Palmetto Saxophone Quartet. Dr. Castner holds graduate degrees from the University of South Carolina (DMA) and Stephen F. Austin State University (MM). He earned dual undergraduate degrees in Aerospace Engineering and Music at Case Western Reserve University, utilizing the joint program with the Cleveland Institute of Music. His primary instructors include Dr. Clifford Leaman, Dr. Nathan Nabb, Greg Banaszak and Jeremy Williamson.