



Alto Saxophonist Richie Cole Pays Tribute to a Lifelong Hero on *Cannonball*, Set for Oct. 26 Release

“I didn’t try to play like Cannonball, I focused on how he tells a story. You have to tell stories if you’re going to connect with an audience and there was no one better at that than him.”

The alto madness of [Richie Cole](#) celebrates one of its chief inspirations with the October 26 release of *Cannonball* (Richie Cole Presents). An inveterate bebop stalwart, Cole leads the Pittsburgh Alto Madness Orchestra and several special guests in paying tribute to his hero, the legendary alto saxophonist Julian “Cannonball” Adderley. The album comprises a dozen tunes closely associated with Adderley (including his own “Sack o’ Woe”), as well as a brand-new Cole original (“Bell of the Ball”).

While Cole often uses ideas from Adderley’s arrangements to formulate his own, no one could mistake either of the altoists for the other—nor would the stubbornly individual Cole want them to. “I didn’t try to play like Cannonball, I focused on how he tells a story,” says Cole. “You have to tell stories if you’re going to connect with an audience and there was no one better at that than him.”

The eight-piece ensemble, too, drawn from Cole’s home base of Pittsburgh, is very different from Adderley’s famous quintets. Cole’s frontline partner on *Cannonball* is trombonist Reggie Watkins—a surrogate for cornetist Nat Adderley, his brother’s longtime brass foil. Two more horns, tenor saxophonist Rick Matt and trumpeter J.D. Chaisson, join in for four of the album’s 13 tracks. Guitarist Eric Susoeff, keyboardist Kevin Moore, bassist/producer Mark Perna, and drummer Vince Taglieri fill out the rhythm section.

In taking on Adderley’s repertoire, Cole finds ways to evoke his hero, though often with a twist. Where Nancy Wilson traditionally joined Adderley on “Save Your Love for Me,” Cole brings in the vocalist Kenia, who sings his bossa nova arrangement in Portuguese. The altoist recreates Adderley’s 1961 solo on “Toy,” but not before letting Watkins have his uproarious way with the song. Meanwhile, a rendition of “Dat Dere” closely resembling the version on Adderley’s 1960 album *Them Dirty Blues* is subverted with a newly devised arrangement for all four horns. “It’s like, where did this big band come from?” Cole says with a laugh.

Cole keeps it tight on *Cannonball*; most of the tunes stay close to the five-minute mark. “I could stretch out and play my ass off,” Cole says. “But then you lose the thread of the story, and the audience. . . . I want to play melodies that regular people, working people, can enjoy.”

<https://news.allaboutjazz.com/alto-saxophonist-richie-cole-pays-tribute-to-a-lifelong-hero-on-cannonball-set-for-oct-26-release.php?width=1024>

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BLUE NOTES

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President's Improv

By Carla Page-Hays



Since our last Blue Notes, we've presented two wonderful and very different concerts. In September we had the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra under the direction of Terry Myers. A fabulous BIG band made up of the best professional musicians anywhere! Our October concert was a group of our past scholarship winners, most of whom are still in college. These young musicians performed beautifully and made our guests, most of whom are CFJS members, aware of the type of talent we are able to support through our scholarships. Both concerts were great fun! And I'd like to take a moment to apologize to those patrons who were not able to attend the Tommy Dorsey concert because we were sold out. This was a double-edge sword. While having a sold out concert is a wonderful thing, we were extremely disappointed to turn some of you away at the door.

The Blue Bamboo Center for the Arts has a limited seating capacity and the Winter Park Fire Department very strictly enforces the seating capacity of the venue. We don't always sell out but, to be safe and ensure admittance, it's a good idea to call Melody at 407-636-9951 at the Blue Bamboo and make a reservation or go to our website, <http://www.centralfloridajazzsociety.com>, and purchase your tickets in advance.

I goofed! I didn't proofread our concert cards as well as I should have before having them printed. There are two mistakes:

- The Scott Silbert concert on November 11th is not 5 trombones, but rather a small group playing Count Basie.
- The April 14th concert is the Phoenix Jazz Orchestra, BIG Band, not the jazz greats of tomorrow.

Hope this clears up any confusion. We're having the cards reprinted and the correct cards will be available at the November concert with Scott Silbert.

As always, we welcome your comments and suggestions. As well as giving scholarships, our purpose is to keep jazz alive and thriving and to present to you the best possible talent and the types of concerts that you love.

I look forward to seeing you all on November 11th at 3:00 at the Blue Bamboo Center for the Arts! Until then, take care, stay well, and enjoy your jazz!

Cheers, Carla





Andrew Kennedy, Saxophonist



Greg Zabel, Bassist



CFJS Past Scholarship Winners

ALL-STAR GROUP

October 14, 2018



Simon Klochko, Guitarist

“The concert today was really great! All were professional and musical! And had great stage presence!”

- Mary Uithoven, CFJS Membership/Correspondence Secretary



Christian Herrera, Trombonist



Carlos Rodriguez, Drummer



Christopher McDole, Vocalist



(RICHIE COLE from pg. 1)

Richie Cole was born in 1948 in Trenton, New Jersey. His father, a big band enthusiast, ran a local jazz joint called the Harlem Club. Young Richie met any number of great jazz performers there, including Dizzy Gillespie, Art Blakey, and Freddie Hubbard, and at 10 took up alto saxophone on a horn someone had left at the club.

He played in various school bands and, at 16, attended a music camp directed by alto legend Phil Woods (with whom he would record the 1980 fan favorite, *Side by Side*). He went on to study at Boston’s Berklee School of Music, then continued his jazz education in the big bands of Buddy Rich, Lionel Hampton, and Doc Severinsen before forming his own bebop quintet.

Unswayed by jazz-rock trends, Cole in the early '70s began a long association with the great vocalist Eddie Jefferson, with whom he worked until the vocalese innovator’s 1979 death, recording among others the popular album *Alto Madness*. Cole thrived on '80s encounters with Sonny Stitt and Art Pepper and spread his alto madness with pianist Bobby Enriquez and saxophonist Boots Randolph. He turned out a flurry of albums through the '90s with his seven-man Alto Madness Orchestra.

For years, Cole lived the life of a wanderer. Following a romantic breakup, he was talked into moving to Pittsburgh by his daughter Annie. “She had to drag me there kicking and screaming,” he says. But as his song “I Have a Home in Pittsburgh” tells you, things have worked out well for him in the Iron City.



Midge Bowman

Where Are They Now?

Brannen Pfister, sax, who won scholarships in 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014, was an assistant teacher at Disneyland Resort's All-American College Band and played Alto Sax 1 with that band. He studied at North Florida where he was a teacher's assistant and worked in the Student Union. He studies at FSU and presented his master's solo recital in 2017 where he played jazz sax. Brannen resides in Tallahassee.



Brannen Pfister leading the Disneyland AACB

Ben Britton won a scholarship in 2007 playing the sax. In that year he was selected to participate in the Betty Carter Jazz Ahead residency at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. He performed on Tito Puente's *Masterworks Live!!!* which was nominated for a Grammy in 2011. In 2012, Britton participated in two national saxophone competitions placing as a finalist in the Detroit Jazz Festival National Saxophone Competition and winning the First Annual Charlie Parker Cutting Contest hosted by NPR's 12th Street Jump.

Ben enrolled in North Texas for a short time and left to go on a Mormon Mission in Brazil. When he returned, he resumed studies at Eastman. Following graduation he earned a Master's at Manhattan School of Music in NYC. While in NY, he and his brother John collaborated and produced the album *Uncertain Living* which they promoted on a tour of the United States.

Ben moved to Philadelphia where he formed his group Unconventional Riot, and pursued his career as a music educator. He held adjunct teaching positions at various colleges including the University of Pennsylvania

and Ursinus College He and his brother developed a curriculum for learning to improvise over odd time signatures, and he self-published his first book in 2012 entitled *A Complete Approach to Sound for the Modern Saxophone*.



Presently Ben lives in Spencerport, New York with his wife and seven children, and is pursuing a DMA in Jazz Studies at Eastman School of Music.

Matthew Porcelain, winning in 2007, 2008 and 2009 on the sax, was a student at the University of Miami where he was selected by Downbeat Magazine for the Student Music Award. His sax playing was compared to Cannonball Adderley's articulation and Charlie Parker's phrasing.



Joe Young, winner on trumpet in 2010, and bassist Greg Zabel, winner in 2012, 2013 and 2014, both toured with the Glenn Miller Orchestra and have returned to Orlando where you can hear them at many different venues. They played with the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra at the CFJS September concert, and they are enjoying the scene. Saul Dautch, all reeds 2015 and 2017 winner, toured with the Glenn Miller Orchestra this past summer and now is enrolled at Rutgers University. "He did a good job," said Greg Parnell. What wonderful experiences this orchestra gives young musicians!



Joe Young



Greg Zabel



Saul Dautch

Our scholarship winners do get around in the jazz world. Please keep supporting the young musicians who are "Keeping Jazz Music Alive!"



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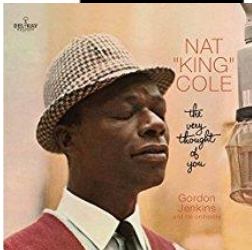
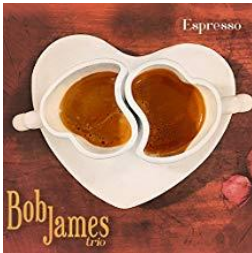
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OCTOBER	14	CFJS PAST SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS All-Star Group
NOVEMBER	11	SCOTT SILBERT Five Trombones and Rhythm Section
DECEMBER	2	BIRTH OF THE COOL Featuring Trumpeter Matt Mill
JANUARY	13	PHILIPPE LEMM TRIO From New York City
FEBRUARY	10	PETER AND WILL ANDERSON QUINTET Twins from New York City
MARCH	10	MICHAEL KRAMER FUNDRAISER CONCERT A special gift to our scholarship fund
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SCOTT SILBERT

... a multiple woodwind player, nine years at WDW in Orlando, **baritone sax** with the Navy Band Commodores from 1991-2017. In addition, he has performed with/ composed for the National Symphony Orchestra, the Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Orchestra, Natalie Cole, Stanley Turrentine, Rosemary Clooney, Bob Hope, Red Skelton, Quincy Jones, Andy Williams, Terry Gibbs, Scott Hamilton, Rich Little, the Spinners, the Temptations, the Four Tops, The Les Brown Orchestra, The Tommy Dorsey Orchestra, Michael Feinstein, Christine Ebersole, and many others.

Charlie Bertini - trumpet
 Corey Paul - trombone
 Bob Thornton - piano
 Greg Zabel - bass
 Greg Parnell - drums

BIRTH OF THE COOL



Matt Mill – trumpet

Jeremy Fratti - alto sax
 Chad Gridley - bari sax
 Juan Berrios - French Horn
 Corey Paul - trombone
 Josh Parsons - Tuba
 Bob Thornton - piano
 Ben Kramer - bass
 Greg Parnell - drums