

EMORY ANNUAL  
**JAZZ FESTIVAL**

EMERSON CONCERT HALL  
SCHWARTZ CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS



**SACHAL VASANDANI, vocalist**

with the

**GARY MOTLEY TRIO**

Gary Motley, piano  
Herman Burney, bass  
Terreon Gully, drums

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2012, 8:00 P.M.



**EMORY BIG BAND NIGHT**

Gary Motley, director

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2012, 8:00 P.M.

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## Program to be announced from the stage.



### Sachal Vasandani, vocalist

One of the most startling artistic revelations to emerge in the past year is vocalist-songwriter Sachal Vasandani, who made his Mack Avenue Records debut in 2007 with the exceptional CD, *Eyes Wide Open*. This collection of stirring originals and smart covers is an eye-opener to a fresh, young talent who displays a singular, deep-brewed voice and possesses an uncanny sensibility to straddle the fine line between jazz and pop.



In an era where young male singers believe that channelling Frank Sinatra is the road to success, Vasandani strikes a chord as an original who evokes integrity as a songwriter and song stylist. As a result, there's a rare depth of emotion to the lyrics in many of the songs. "With the tunes I wrote and the songs I cover, I wanted to share feelings of both hope and loss," says Vasandani, a semifinalist in the 2004 Thelonious Monk Institute Competition. "Songs often express sentiments in black and white; I wanted to get to a 'gray' area of mixed emotions. Overall, I believe the album has a positive outlook, but acknowledges the struggle you go through to stay positive. That's the binding glue."

On *Eyes Wide Open*, Vasandani is in the company of his established trio, comprised of pianist Jeb Patton, bassist David Wong, and drummer Quincy Davis. Guests include vibraphonist Stefon Harris, trumpeter Marcus Printup, and guitarist Doug Wamble. The album is produced by esteemed bassist and bandleader John Clayton and veteran producer Al Pryor, engineered by Joe Ferla, and mastered by Bob Ludwig.

Vasandani contributes three fine originals to *Eyes Wide Open*. His tune of sweet escapism, *Storybook Fiction* (for which Clayton "hammered out a bridge in the studio"), is, he says, "a song about a fictitious love that was born out of living in crowded New York. You can almost see into a neighboring apartment and the story begins there. It's a song that imagines and hopes for a perfect love." Originally conceived as a weighty ballad for the album, Vasandani reimagined it in an uplifting light. "I wanted to give it an additional positive energy."

Written with a driving rhythm and featuring a brilliant vibes solo by Harris, *Send 'Em Up to Heaven* was partially inspired by the events of

September 11. “It’s a song about struggling to forgive,” says Vasandani. “I thought Stefon’s voice on it would really solidify the vibe.”

*Please Mr. Ogilvy* is a straight-talking number about an artist’s desire to be supported, or as Vasandani sings, the need “just to be endorsed by you.” He explains: “It’s based on my realization that people with vision still need advocates to help them realize their goals. I’ve found that this song resonates with so many artists and people trying to do their own thing. We all need that advocacy, that endorsement.”

In addition to his own songs, Vasandani covers a range of songs, lending his own, unifying voice to the diverse selection. He interprets Sade (*It’s Only Love That Gets You Through*), Iron & Wine (*Naked As We Came*), blues great Percy Mayfield (*Strange Things Happening*), Brazil’s iconic Antonio Carlos Jobim (*I Was Just One More*), and Billy Strayhorn (*A Flower is a Lovesome Thing*). Vasandani also includes two standards that have been part of his repertoire since he was eighteen: *I Can’t Give You Anything But Love* and *September in the Rain*.

One of Vasandani’s major influences, Shirley Horn, figures prominently on two songs. The first, *I Could Have Told You*, is a song that Vasandani “really connected with the lyrics. It’s about the pride that follows heartbreak. Marcus expresses this so well through the trumpet.” The other is *You Won’t Forget Me* where Vasandani pays tribute to Horn. “I try to emulate the way Shirley sang it,” he says. “John, Stefon, and the band added some special touches, but the vibe is all Shirley: slow, haunting, and eerie with the pulse stripped down to the ride cymbal.”

Vasandani was born in Chicago and grew up in a household where all kinds of music were appreciated, from Western and Indian classical to the pop of the day including Michael Jackson and the Beatles. His parents also listened to jazz—from Ellington to Keith Jarrett—which piqued Vasandani’s curiosity about the music. He has degrees in jazz and classical music from the University of Michigan. He was named Collegiate Jazz Vocalist of the year by *DownBeat* in 1999, after which he moved to New York to pursue a career as a singer.

As for his home base in New York, Vasandani says it’s the perfect place for him. “I’m connected to and inspired by the jazz scene; there’s also so much other exciting music and art here. There are so many fantastic elements of New York that I want to put through my own filter.”

For more information, please contact Diana Nazareth at DL Media  
416.815.8883 • [dlmedia.canada@sympatico.ca](mailto:dlmedia.canada@sympatico.ca)

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## Gary Motley, piano

Gary Motley has been recognized with awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Soapstone Center for the Arts, the Great American Jazz Piano Competition, and the American Composers Forum. He has also been featured in *Downbeat Magazine* and on *Piano Jazz* with Marian McPartland (NPR). His recording credits range from his premier CD *Peaceful Moments* (1994) to his latest recording, *Renaissance: A Tribute to Oscar Peterson*, released in February 2009.

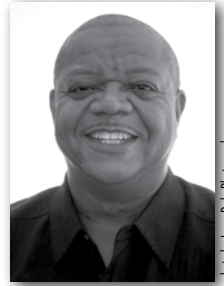


photo by Leon Tobe Photography

Motley began studying the piano as a young child and was later exposed to jazz as a teenager. Soon thereafter he decided to make music his life's endeavor. During his career, Motley has established a professional association with many of today's leaders in jazz, working with artists ranging from Dave Brubeck to Clarke Terry.

In 2000, Motley served as pianist and conductor for the Alliance Theater's production of *Blues in the Night* and collaborated with actress Debbie Allen and director Kenny Leon for the theater's premiere of *Soul Possessed*. He can also be heard on the Debbie Allen/Phylicia Rashad production of *The Old Settler* on PBS. Motley has recorded music with Whoopi Goldberg for the Broadway production of *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom* and collaborated with director Kenny Leon, providing music for the 2004 Broadway production of *A Raisin in the Sun*.

Notable performances include the premiere of Motley's first orchestral work titled *The Artist and the Visionary*, duo performances with pianists Dave Brubeck and Kenny Baron, concerts with Jon Faddis, Eddie Daniels, and Benny Golson. Motley's recordings include *Compassion* (2001), *The Gary Motley Trio featuring Veronica Tate* (2001), *Keypers* (2004), *Everything I Love* (2005), and *Renaissance* (2009). He is the recipient of *Creative Loafing* magazine's critics choice award for Best Jazz Artist and was selected by the American Composers Forum to serve as an artist in residence resulting in his second composition for string orchestra and jazz trio titled *The Resolution of a Dream*. Motley's composition, *Highland Summit: A Suite for String Quartet and Jazz Quartet* was premiered at the Highlands Chamber Music Festival with the Vega String Quartet in 2006. Motley also performed his composition *Suite Odyssey* with the Vega String Quartet at Carnegie Hall in 2007.

Motley is director of jazz studies at Emory University. He holds memberships with the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, the American Federation of Musicians, and the National Association for Music Education.

## Herman Burney, bass

Herman Burney, “has the complete package . . . he is extremely talented, he possesses a reverence for the music, technical ability, and (to top it off) he is a genuinely fine person. The world needs his music and I am happy to count him among my friends,” writes John Clayton.



Born in Washington, D.C., Burney was raised in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. He grew up in church listening to Mahalia Jackson, Aretha Franklin, and James Cleveland; during these years, he played clarinet, drums, and tuba. “Music has always been an integral part of my life. Both my parents sing in their church choir, and my father sings bass in an all-male a capella group.” Burney’s next influences were soul, R & B, and hard-core funk; he played the electric bass during that time. “As a teenager, my friends and I started our own bands; we played in the garage, basement, or any place we could. I even snuck out at night to hear groups like Ramsey Lewis, Cameo, Parliament/Funkadelic, the Brother’s Johnson, and Graham Central Station.”

Burney was initiated into jazz by Bill Bright in Winston-Salem, whose musical legacy lives through the many people he helped during his life. “Bill Bright personally took me under his wing, made me practice, allowed me (with my incredibly sad bass playing) to join the Bill Bright Quintet, gave me my first gigs on acoustic bass, taught me about chord changes, and loaned me Charles Mingus and Thelonius Monk albums to check out so we could play it together!! Make no mistake . . . Bill Bright single-handedly started me on my jazz journey . . . I’m still figuring out what he showed me!”

In 1987, after a chance meeting with George Duvivier, Burney finally settled on his beloved double bass. “Until then, I had never heard music, especially on a double bass, that required so much honesty. George showed me that there is no room for pretense in American Classical music (commonly called “jazz”); if you don’t give yourself completely, your music will show it and your audience will know it.”

Burney has traveled the world to establish an impressive list of performance credentials as bassist with Nnenna Freelon, Marcus Roberts, Freddy Cole, Wynton Marsalis, Sonny Fortune, Harry Pickens, Eric Alexander, Wycliffe Gordon, Rene Marie, Monty Alexander, Etta Jones, Red Holloway, Natalie Cole, Eric Reed, and many others.

Burney has played jazz venues including the Blue Note, the Village Vanguard, Yoshi’s, Sweet Basil, Iridium, Smoke, the Jazz Bakery,

Vartan's Jazz, the Kennedy Center, Alice Tully Hall, and countless others. He has toured South America, Australia, Europe, Canada, and the Far East. Some festivals include the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival, the Cherry Hill Jazz Festival, Detroit Jazz Festival, the JVC Festival, and the Clearwater Jazz Holiday Festival where Burney's image was featured on both the 2001 festival poster and T-shirt.

Burney performs regularly with his own group, which ranges from duo to quartet; the group's composition varies but regularly features artists such as Vince Evans, Kevin Bales, Eric Kennedy, Steve Williams, Quentin Baxter, Gary Thomas, Lenny Foy, Terrell Stafford, Reginald Cyntje, Ronald Westray, Wycliffe Gordon, Melva Houston, and Rene Marie.

When asked to describe Burney, bassist and educator Rufus Reid says he is "one of the finest bassists on the music scene today."

## Terreon "Tank" Gully, drums

Composer, arranger, producer, and musician extraordinaire, Terreon Gully is one of the most influential artists of his time. Gully's artistic uniqueness lies in his creativity, versatility, and authenticity. A versatile musician, he has mastered a variety of musical genres. By approaching each genre in its authentic context and incorporating various styles in an ingenious manner, Gully has created his own innovative and distinctive sound.

Gully performs, tours, and records extensively. Currently he is a member of and touring with the Dianne Reeves band and Stefon Harris and Blackout. Gully also performs in a variety of genres and musical settings, working with the best. From jazz legends and modern masters to the hottest hip-hop icons, Gully has collaborated with many artists including the Christian McBride Band, Kurt Elling, David Sanborn, Nicholas Payton, Joe Locke, Geoffrey Keezer, Kenny Barron, the Benny Green Trio, Queen Latifa, Yerba Buena, Charlie Hunter, Abbey Lincoln, Marc Cary, Russell Gunn, Lizz Wright, Jacky Terrasson, Eldar, Meshell Ndegeocello, Lauryn Hill, and Common, among others. In addition to live performances, Gully is known for his exceptional work in the studio, recording for albums, films, and commercials.

Gully is originally from East St. Louis, Illinois. He developed his talent for more than ten years in New York City and currently lives in Atlanta. A young, talented, and dedicated artist with a reputable character, Gully is the epitome of professionalism and musicianship.



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2012, 8:00 P.M.

Tonight's program may include selections from the following set list.  
There will be an intermission announced from the stage.

**Emory Big Band**

*Scrapple from the Apple*

*Charlie Parker  
arr. David Bandman*

*This I Dig of You*

*Hank Mobley  
arr. Mike Tomaro*

*Jordu*

*Duke Jordan  
arr. Mark Taylor*

*Work in Progress*

*Gordon Goodwin*

*Frequent Flyer*

*Rich Woolworth*

*Dat Dere*

*Bobby Timmons  
arr. Erik Morales*

**Emory Faculty Ensemble**

Selections to be announced from the stage.

# **Emory Big Band**

## **Saxophone**

Jeff Docherty  
Adam Harris  
Patrick Curtain  
Matt Brown  
Glen Silverman

## **Trumpet**

Mary Dixon  
Scott Berger  
Kevin See  
Cameron Edwards

## **Guitar**

Logan Miller

## **Trombone**

Will Partin  
Sam Taveras  
Kathryn Breazeale

## **Piano**

Michael Clanahan

## **Bass**

Charles Greenwald

## **Drums**

David Fink

## **Percussion**

Max Ebb

## **Emory Jazz Studies Program**

### **Dwight Andrews, associate professor, music theory, African American music**

**D**wight Andrews, composer, musician, educator, and minister, joined the Emory College faculty in 1987. A native of Detroit, Andrews is an associate professor of music theory and African American music and senior minister of First Congregational United Church of Christ in Atlanta. With bachelor's and master's degrees in music from the University of Michigan, he continued his studies at Yale University, receiving a master of divinity degree and a PhD in music theory. Andrews's honors include a 2005 Lexus Leader of the Arts Award, a Pew Trust/TCG Artist Residency Fellowship, a Mellon Fellowship, Emory University's Distinguished Teacher Award, and the Yale Tercentenary Medal from the Yale Club of Georgia. Andrews was the artistic director of the National Black Arts Festival (1996–1998) and, in 1997, was named the first Quincy Jones Visiting Professor of African American Music at Harvard University. Andrews was a guest visiting professor of composition at the Yale School of Music in 2003 and gave the 2004 Alain Locke Lectures at Harvard.

### **Randy Hunter, saxophone**

**R**andy Hunter is a professional saxophonist, educational author, and private music instructor from the Atlanta area. Hunter studied music education with an emphasis in jazz pedagogy at Valdosta State College. With a focus on generating educational jazz material, Hunter's endeavors are best represented by his series of etude, duet, and combo method books under the title, *Complete Jazz Styles*. Books from this series have received endorsements from a number of well-known jazz artists including Joe Lovano, Jerry Bergonzi, Randy Brecker, Bobby Shew, and John Fedchock. Hunter performs regularly in the Atlanta area and also has an extensive performance, recording, and arranging history, including work with Duffy Jackson, Chubby Jackson, Cab Calloway, the Glenn Miller Band, and others. Hunter is an Emory artist affiliate.

## **Dan Baraszu, guitar**

**D**etroit born guitarist-composer Dan Baraszu started playing guitar at age nine. Early in his career, he explored many different styles of music. However, when he first heard the genius of jazz guitarist Wes Montgomery, Baraszu devoted himself to becoming a die-hard jazz artist. His major influences include guitarists Joe Pass, Pat Martino, Pat Metheny, and John Scofield as well as other instrumentalists such as Bill Evans, Horace Silver, John Coltrane, Sonny Rollins, and Charlie Parker.

In addition to studying the works of the “masters of the jazz idiom,” Baraszu also has a formal education in music. He received a bachelor’s degree from the renowned Berklee College of Music, where he majored in jazz composition and arranging. In addition, Baraszu received a master’s degree from the University of Miami with a major in jazz pedagogy.

Baraszu resides in the Atlanta area where he leads his own groups and works as a freelance guitarist. Baraszu is an Emory artist affiliate.

## **Chris Riegenbach, double bass and electric bass**

**C**originally from the Atlanta area, bassist Chris Riegenbach has been a professional musician for more than fifteen years. Riegenbach received a bachelor’s degree in jazz studies from Georgia State University in 1997. For ten years, he played in show bands and jazz trios for Carnival Cruise Lines on various ships. Later, Riegenbach moved to Poland with his wife. In 2010, Riegenbach toured internationally with the Josh Lawrence Jazz 3 featuring trumpeter Josh Lawrence and drummer Mike DeCastro. The group performed at the Sopot Molo Jazz Festival, Piwnica pod Baranami in Krakow, and several other jazz festivals in Poland. Riegenbach has also performed with the Gavin Ahearn Trio, the Larry Camp Quartet, the Jazz Legacy Big Band, the Gold Sparkle Band, Kenny Drew Jr., Matt Bokulic, Bill Van Dyke, Gwen Hughes, and Wild Rice. Riegenbach is an Emory artist affiliate.

## **Justin Chesarek, drums**

Justin Chesarek of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, has been actively involved in studying and performing music from a young age. While earning a bachelor of music education degree at Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania, Chesarek traveled abroad and performed at the Montreux and North Sea jazz festivals in Europe. A recent graduate of Georgia State University with a master of music degree, Chesarek teaches as an artist affiliate of jazz studies at Emory. He has had the opportunity to perform with Wynton Marsalis, Christian McBride, John Faddis, Dave Samuels, Gary Smulyan, Michael Mossman, and Jerry Bergonzi. Chesarek performs regularly throughout the Atlanta area, and you can hear him weekly at Atlanta's premiere jazz club, Churchill Grounds.

## **Music at Emory**

The Department of Music at Emory University provides an exciting and innovative environment for developing knowledge and skills as a performer, composer, and scholar. Led by a faculty of more than sixty nationally and internationally recognized artists and researchers, our undergraduate and graduate students experience a rich diversity of performance and academic opportunities. Undergraduate students in our department earn a BA in music with a specialization in performance, composition, or research, many of whom simultaneously earn a second degree in another department. True to the spirit of Emory, a liberal arts college in the heart of a research university, our faculty and ensembles also welcome the participation of non-major students from across the Emory campus.

**Become a part of Music at Emory** by giving to the Friends of Music. Your gift provides crucial support to all of our activities. To learn more, visit our website at [music.emory.edu](http://music.emory.edu) or call 404.727.6280.

## Upcoming Jazz Events at Emory

Tuesday, April 3, 8 p.m., Emory Jazz Combos, Gary Motley, director, Schwartz Center, free

Thursday, April 5, 6 p.m., *Jazz on the Green*, Patterson Green, free

## Upcoming Music Events at Emory

Go to [music.emory.edu](http://music.emory.edu) to view the complete list of spring music events. For more information contact the Arts at Emory Box Office at 404.727.5050, or visit [arts.emory.edu](http://arts.emory.edu).

Events listed below are presented in **Emerson Concert Hall, Schwartz Center, 1700 N. Decatur Rd., Emory University**, unless otherwise noted. Ticket prices are listed in the following order: Full price/Discount category member price/Emory student price (unless otherwise noted as the price for all students). Visit [arts.emory.edu](http://arts.emory.edu) to see if you qualify for a discount.

Wednesday, Friday 15, 8 p.m., Emory Youth Symphony Orchestra, Richard Prior, conductor, Schwartz Center, free

Thursday, February 16, 7 p.m., *Asian Music Festival*, Tong Soon Lee, conductor, Performing Arts Studio, free

Friday, February 17, 8 p.m., Kronos Quartet and Alim Qasimov Ensemble, Candler Concert Series, Schwartz Center, \$38/\$30/\$10

Saturday, February 18, 7 p.m., *Asian Music Festival*, Tong Soon Lee, conductor, Performing Arts Studio, free

Sunday, February 19, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m., *Asian Music Festival*, Tong Soon Lee, conductor, Performing Arts Studio, free

Friday, February 24, noon, *Side by Side*, ECMSA Noontime Series, Carlos Museum, free

Friday, February 24, 8 p.m., Emory Wind Ensemble, W. David Richardson, guest conductor, Schwartz Center, free

Sunday, February 26, 4 p.m., Jonathan Biggers, organ, University Organist Recital Series, Schwartz Center, free

Friday, March 2, 8 p.m., Christopher O’Riley, piano,  
Candler Concert Series, Schwartz Center, \$46/\$36/\$10

Sunday, March 4, 7 p.m., *First Life* by Steve Everett, Vega String  
Quartet, Schwartz Center, \$20/\$15/free for faculty, staff, students,  
and FOM

Thursday, March 8, 8 p.m., Emory University Symphony Orchestra,  
Richard Prior, conductor, Schwartz Center, free

Monday, March 19, 8 p.m., Atlanta Youth Wind Symphony,  
David T. Kehler, guest conductor, Schwartz Center, free

Wednesday, March 21, 7:30 p.m., *Well-Tempered Clavier II, Bach*  
*Birthday Recital*, Timothy Albrecht, organ, Glenn Auditorium, free

Friday, March 23, 8 p.m., *Barenaked Voices: Ninth Annual Emory*  
*Student A Cappella Celebration*, Schwartz Center, free, donations  
accepted at the door

Sunday, March 25, 4 p.m., *Atlanta’s Young Artists*, ECMSA Family  
Series, Carlos Museum, \$4, Museum members family level and above,  
free (limit four)



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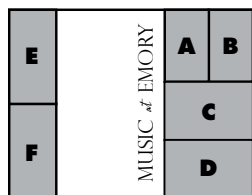
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IN CONSIDERATION FOR OTHER members of the audience, please turn off all pagers and phones. Photographs and recordings may not be made during a performance without advance permission.

USHERS ARE MEMBERS OF Music at Emory Volunteers; Alpha Phi Omega, a national service and social fraternity; and Tri-M Music Honor Society at Lakeside High School. Call 404.727.6640 for information about ushering.



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FREQUENTLY UPDATED EVENT AND program information available online at [arts.emory.edu](http://arts.emory.edu).



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