

GOVERNMENT & FOUNDATION SUPPORT

Ann & Gordon Getty Foundation

The Bernard Osher Foundation

City of San Francisco Grants for the Arts

Google for Non-profits

H. B. and Lucille Horn Foundation

IBM Matching Grants Program

The Macy's Foundation

William & Flora Hewlett Foundation



Old First Concerts

presents

Tod Dickow & Charged Particles

Tod Dickow, *saxophone*

Murray Low, *keyboards*

Aaron Germain, *acoustic & electric bass*

Jon Krosnick, *drums*

play the music of
Michael Brecker

sponsored in part by Jazz in the Neighborhood

Friday, July 9, 2021 at 8 PM

Old First Church

1751 Sacramento St. at Van Ness Ave.

San Francisco, CA 94109

(415) 474-1608 www.oldfirstconcerts.org

OLD FIRST CONCERTS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thomas Culp, *President*

Randal P. Wong, *Secretary*

Darren Presher, *Treasurer*

Christopher Burt

Walter Kennedy

Donna Kline

Barbara Marré

Bill Rudiak

Stephen Taber

Mike Tekulsky

Brett Waxdeck

Meina Xu

STAFF

Matthew Wolka, *Director*

Rick Bahto, *Program Associate*

Aimée Duddridge-Picard,

Administrative Assistant

Austin Adams, *House Manager*

Old First Concerts' piano is a New York Steinway D model, circa 1980, with Hamburg action. It was donated by The Stanley Ibler Fund, and is maintained by David Love Piano Service and Restoration.

ABOUT OLD FIRST CONCERTS

- Great venue for music with beautiful acoustics and amazing Steinway concert grand piano.
- Primarily local emerging and mid-career professional musicians presenting innovative programs.
- Every concert offers new insights and virtuosic performances.
- Complimentary refreshments served at intermission or after the concert.
- An independent 501(c)3 non-profit organization devoted to presenting music at affordable prices, especially for low-income seniors and students.
- Solo, chamber music, and world music concerts year-round since 1970.

DONATING TO OLD FIRST CONCERTS

Ticket sales provide about 38 percent of our operating revenue each year. In addition, we rely on support from private foundations and Grants for the Arts from the city of San Francisco. Our generous individual donors complete the picture. We invite you to join us in our mission to connect audiences and local musicians and build up the classical music and world music scene in San Francisco. Donations are tax-deductible and donating on our website is easy and secure: www.oldfirstconcerts.org/give/, or checks can be mailed to: Old First Concerts, 1751 Sacramento Street, San Francisco, CA 94109. Thank you!

COVID-19 RESPONSE: RETURNING TO THE MUSIC

Old First Concerts is committed to the health and safety of our audiences, performers and staff. We look forward to having audiences back in our space when it is safe to do so. In the meantime, we are happy to be able to continue presenting artists of the highest caliber to our audience in the Bay Area—and beyond—via livestreamed events. We are following city guidelines and safety protocols to help ensure the safest possible environment for our performers and staff.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Following us on **Facebook** is a great way to keep informed about the latest concert information. While you are there, don't forget to **share** events with your friends and hit the "Like" button liberally. [facebook.com/oldfirstconcerts/](https://www.facebook.com/oldfirstconcerts/)

You can also find us on **Instagram @oldfirstconcerts** with information about upcoming events plus photos and videos from our concerts.

OLD FIRST CONCERTS DONORS

Standing Ovation (\$250 - \$499)

Anonymous (2)
Jean Ahn
George Becker
Roland & Lois Feller
Jim Clavin
Edward & Patricia Hymson
Robert S. & Marilyn Koerper
Blumberg
Betty Meissner
Aaron & Eva Paul
Abby Rumsey
Pamela Sebastian
Elizabeth Varnhagen
Enthusiastic Applause
(\$100 - \$249)
B. Amaroso
Barbara Bagot-Lopez
Sarah Bailis
Kathy Barr
Christine Beckstrom
Miriam Blatt
Katherine & Michael
Boeninghausen – in honor
of Joyce Frankenburg
Barbara & Howard Bomze
Bill & Marilyn Campbell
Herrick Carver
Joseph Charpentier
Donald Cohon
Stanley Corfman
Homer Dalbey
Joanne DePhillips
Julia Erickson
Judith Ets-Hokin
David Featherstone
William Feister &
Judith Ross
Patricia Ferrari
Rachel Fisher
Thomas Flaherty
Doris Flamm
Thomas Foutch
Yuko Franklin
and Club Glee
RT Freebairn-Smith
Robert Friedman Presents

Shoko Furuya &
Christopher Kitting
Dr. & Mrs. E. C. Gaenslen
David Garlock
Rochelle Gatlin
William Grant
Elizabeth Greening
Helen & Michael Gross
David Hammer
Eleanor Hammer
Barbara Imbrie
Ron Jin & the
Jin-Allen Family
Sally Ketchum
Hee Shik Kim
Howard & Wendy Kleckner
Michael Korbholz
Laurence Kornfield
Marshall Krause
Pam Zipkin &
Robert Lampkin
Will Leben
Yunnie Lee
Mack & Meikui McCray
Henry Mahncke &
Kimberly Tanner
Robert Maldonado
Jordan Moncharmont
Milton Mosk
Karen Mottola
Barbara Mow
Randall Murley
Regina Myers
Hitomi Onizuka
Helen Pellegrin
Phil Rettger
Linda Reyder
James Robinson
Joan Rost
Art Rothstein
Sue Rupp
Bob & Terri Ryan
Donald Ryan
Jack Shoemaker
Leslie & Bob Stafford
Margaret Studier
Ted Teipel

Robert & Martha Warnock
George Wiepert
Jessica Bodo Wise
Danielle & Gary Wohl
Margaret Wrensch
Keith Yamamoto
Jie Yang
Norman Young
Friends of Old First Concerts
Anonymous
Susan Baker-Lehne
Ralph Beren
Edward Bergh
Barbara Bernhart
Sherman Chan
Hal Christiansen
Helen Cohen
Fred Cummins
John Diamante
Chauncy DiLaura
James Dooley
Janet Elliott
Karen Fox
Maggi Henderson
Alice Glasner
John Gosselin
Joan Intrator
John Kasper
Julie Kierstine
Bonnie Knight
Barbara Koenig
Allison Levy
Xiao Liu
Julia Dorsey Loomis
Hadley McCarroll
Sarah McCuskey
Alan & Hitomi Onizuka
Stephani Phipps
Charles Quesenberg
Becky A. Reed
Terry Rillera
Mary Russell
Ralph Samuel
Kathleen Smith
Katie Struble
Stephanie Winters

COMING UP AT OLD FIRST CONCERTS

Friday, July 16 at 8 pm

Sarah Cahill, *piano*

Rarely-heard works by Anna Bon, Leokadiya Kashperova, Frangiz Ali-Zadeh, Zenobia Powell Perry, Agi Jambor, Madeleine Dring, and Hannah Kendall.

Sunday, August 15 at 4 pm

Samantha Cho, *piano*

Mozart's *Rondo in A minor, Sonata in C major, K. 545* and *Sonata in B-flat major, K. 570* are paired with Sofia Gubaidulina's *Musical Toys* and *Invention*.

Sunday, August 22 at 4 pm

San Francisco International Piano Festival—Nicholas Phillips

A varied and compelling array of works by leading composers of our time, including a World Premiere by Quinn Mason and works by Sahba Aminikia, Reena Esmail, Chen Yi, Tania León, and more.

Friday, August 27 at 8 pm

Terrie Baune, *violin* & **John Chernoff**, *piano*

Grażyna Bacewicz's *Sonata No. 4* and Béla Bartók's *Sonata No. 1*

Sunday, August 29 at 4 pm

San Francisco International Piano Festival—Les Années Folles

featuring **Jory Vinikour & Philippe LeRoy**, *harpsichords* &

Gwendolyn Mok & Jeffrey LaDeur, *piano*

Works by Boulanger, Poulenc, Couperin, Tailleferre, & Ravel.

OLD FIRST CONCERTS DONORS

Bravissimo! (\$1000 and up)	Barbara Marré	Erika Bodo
Anonymous (3)	Darren & Cathy Presher	Linda Dembo
Doris Bebb	James Riggs	Patti Deuter in memory of
Christopher and Cindy Burt	William Rudiak	Joel Deuter
Claudine Cheng	James T. Smith	Jean Hohman
Thomas Culp &	John Stedman	Jeanne Kirkwood
Charles Wagner	Joanne Winetzki	Joan B. O'Connor
Philip & Elayne Dauber	Mike Tekulsky & Ron Wong	Lynne Ogata
Paul Duffey	Randal Wong &	Ann Stone
Daniel Joraanstad &	Jamila Champsi	Stephen & Sarah Taber
Bob Hermann Faith in the Future Fund	Encore Performance (\$500 - \$999)	Paul Upham
Walter Kennedy	Anonymous (2)	Brett Waxdeck
Donna Kline	Ruth & Frank Belvin	Susan Worts
		George & Priscilla Yu

PROGRAM

Tonight's program will be announced from the stage.

ABOUT THE MUSIC

This concert is a heartfelt tribute to iconic tenor saxophonist Michael Brecker, who passed away on January 13, 2007 after a prolonged illness. In tackling Brecker's imposing oeuvre, Charged Particles reveal the genius of his compositional prowess, a side of the multi-faceted Michael that was often overshadowed by his legendary chops. Fans, aficionados, and aspiring saxophonists all over the world still share YouTube clips of Michael Brecker going into "beast mode" — a rarefied zone where his sheer acceleration, incomparable speed and darting imagination on the instrument leave most other sax players well behind. Yet there is no attempt here to recreate Michael Brecker's awesome technique — no transcriptions of his heroic solos, no slavish adherence to every nuance of his classic recordings. But the Bay Area based Charged Particles does capture the essence of Michael's spirit in their faithful renditions of his tunes spanning three decades.

About Brecker's music, Tod Dickow says: "These tunes are not your typical standard forms and chord progressions. There'll be a complex melody, a kind of through-composed arrangement with a different set of chord changes for the solo sections, and just unusual kind of things all over the place. It's difficult, unusual music."

Jon Krosnick says: "Mike was a very thoughtful composer. One of the things he did was to write a piece that has a very predictable next place for the music to go. And then he very intentionally didn't go there. He went to a different place. That's what keeps listeners constantly engaged. At least it always keeps me engaged! I see that most powerfully in Mike's writing for *Pilgrimage*, where he intentionally tricks the listener over and over: setting up an expectation and then taking an unexpected twist."

Krosnick, like Dickow, had seen numerous Michael Brecker live performances over the years, whether it was with Steps Ahead, The Brecker Brothers, leading his own groups, and in other people's bands. Both had the occasion to chat with Michael after gigs, mostly at Yoshi's in the Bay Area. Both found him to be uncommonly approachable and engaging for a bona fide super star. "When he got sick, I wrote him a letter," Krosnick recalled, "telling him that his music has been the soundtrack of my life and how grateful I was to him. I feel like our new album is my way of saying thanks to him again, for so much happiness that his music has given to all of us over the years."

Krosnick added, "In just 57 years, to do what he did, to give so many gifts, was more than any human should ever be expected to give or could ever give in a lifetime. The number of recordings and the number of smiles and everything else...you can't say, 'Oh, if only he had lived longer, he could've done more.' If Mozart had lived longer, he would have done more, too. But Mozart gave plenty. And so did Michael Brecker."

(notes adapted from Bill Milkowski's liner notes for Charged Particles' forthcoming recording Live at the Baked Potato!)

ABOUT THE MUSICIANS

Based in the San Francisco Bay Area and soon celebrating their 30th anniversary, **Charged Particles** crosses stylistic boundaries and blends multiple traditions to create multifaceted jazz. Of the band, reviewers have said: "An electrifying, push-the-limits performance style... A tight and enormously talented trio" (*Jazz Times Magazine*), "Charged Particles is definitely dazzling" (*Jazz and Blues Report*), "Fresh, energized contemporary jazz that showcases the trio's individual technical mastery as well as a cooperative, refined approach to the art form" (*Jazz News Magazine*), and "Tight interplay was the watchword as the threesome took difficult fusion themes and applied its own twists with spark and personal flair" (*Los Angeles Times*).

bands for musical theater performances. He was awarded the NMC Jazz Scholarship, won the High School Division's Concerto Competition, and won the Philadelphia Orchestra's Concerto Competition and performed as a soloist with the orchestra. While in college, Jon performed with the Harvard Orchestra and the Bach Society Orchestra and as the principal percussionist with the M.I.T. Symphony Orchestra. He traveled with the Harvard Orchestra to Germany to play in the Herbert von Karajan Orchestra Competition and toured and recorded with the M.I.T. Symphony.

As a jazz drummer, Jon has performed with Chick Corea, John Patitucci, Bill O'Connell, Lincoln Goines, Bob Hope, Doc Severinsen, Bradley Sowash (appearing on his CD *Out West*), and in a series of small groups, including the New Jazz Sextet, Silver Sax, the Ferric Fang Quartet, Brasswind, State of Mind, and Pangea. Most notable is his membership in the Lunar Octet, an award-winning Latin/jazz ensemble that has appeared on TV and radio broadcasts, released five recordings, and reunited in 2014 for a 30th anniversary concert for a sold-out house. In 2021, the band has released its newest CD, *Convergence*, on Summit Records to critical acclaim.

Jon also led the Jon Krosnick Quintet, which featured Ron Brooks (who played bass with Bob James), Bill Lucas (now in the trumpet section of the Detroit Symphony), Larry Fuller (pianist with Ray Brown, Jeff Hamilton, John Pizzarelli, and many others), Ned Mann (former bassist with Michel Camilo, Tania Maria, and many others), and David Mann (who has performed with Tower of Power, James Taylor, and Paul Simon).

Recently, Jon has served as artistic advisor to the Portola Vineyards Summer Jazz Concert Series, the Domenico Winery Winter Jazz Concert Series called Jazz Uncorked, and the Connect the Dots Conference at Stanford University, as well as Provinance Vineyards. He also envisioned and created the annual 7 Mile House Jazz Festival.

(which features flutist Nestor Torres and Paul McCandless playing oboe and soprano saxophone).

About Aaron's playing and recordings, reviewers have said: "impressive chops" (*Bassplayer Magazine*), "his showmanship on electric bass often steals the show" (*Bassplayer Magazine*), "a fixture in the San Francisco Bay Area scene" (*Something Else*), "a beautifully balanced recording" (*All About Jazz*), "perfect sonic color" (*Bassplayer Magazine*), and "one of the Bay Area's most in demand bassists" (*Bass Musician*).

Spending 20 years as a busy "hired gun" bass player, Aaron has traveled the world and learned from the masters. Growing up in Massachusetts, he cut his teeth playing upright and electric bass in bands playing styles ranging from jazz to blues, funk, reggae, Senegalese mbalax, and more while traveling all around the northeast. Since moving to the Bay Area in 2000, his calendar has always been full, and he's expanded his repertoire to include salsa and Afro-Cuban music, Brazilian forro music, Caribbean steel pan music, Indian kathak dance, calypso, and dense odd-meter jazz.

Aaron has performed with such artists as Yusef Lateef, Stanley Jordon, Andy Narell, Michael Wolff, Tommy Igoe, Bonnie Raitt, Francisco Aquabella, Nguyen Le, Paul McCandless, Scott Hamilton, Tommy Igoe, Alex de Grassi, John Handy, Melba Moore, Mary Wilson, Paula West, Jason Samuel Smith, Tom Coster, Gary Meek, Gene Jackson, Kendra Shank, Gary Versace, John Stowell, Jacqui Naylor, Barry Finnerty, Calvin Keyes, Jeff Massanari, Michael Zilber, Dwight Trible, Eddie Marshal, Art Khu, Dave Ellis, Babatunde Lea, Gordon Stone, Kenny Washington, Josh Jones, Akira Tana, Jamie Davis, and Royal Hartigan.

Jon Krosnick's formal musical training was at the famed National Music Camp in Interlochen, Michigan, where he studied classical percussion and jazz drumming and performed with orchestras, concert bands, percussion ensembles, jazz bands, and back-up

The band has appeared in such prestigious jazz clubs as Yoshi's, in New York at Birdland, the Falcon, and Jazz Forum Arts, Blues Alley (Washington, DC), the Dakota Jazz Club (Minneapolis), the Deer Head Inn (Pennsylvania), Nighttown (Cleveland), Motion Blue (Jakarta, Indonesia), Jazz Centrum (Surabaya, Indonesia), Yardbird Suite (Edmonton, Canada), in the UK at Spin Jazz (Oxford), Birmingham Jazz Club (Birmingham) Parrjazz (Liverpool), Band on the Wall (Manchester), Jazz Hastings (Hastings), Chorus (Lausanne, Switzerland), Jazz Club Ferrara (Ferrara, Italy), and many more.

They have headlined the Rochester International Jazz Festival, the Stanford Jazz Festival, the San Luis Obispo Jazz Festival, the Eureka Springs Jazz Festival (Arkansas), Jazz at Pierson Park (New York), the Erie Blues and Jazz Festival (Pennsylvania), the Portola Vineyards Summer Jazz Concert Series, Jazz at the Lake (Lake George, NY), the Jazz Gunung Bromo Festival (Indonesia), the Ambleside Days Jazz Festival (United Kingdom), and the St. Ives Jazz Festival (United Kingdom).

Their theater appearances include the Musical Instrument Museum (Phoenix), the Chelmsford Center for the Arts (Massachusetts), the Northern Arts and Cultural Centre (Yellowknife, Canada), Franzk (Reutlingen, Germany), and the Soper Reese Theater (California), and the Cloverdale Performing Arts Center (Cloverdale, California)

Recent collaborations of the band have been with jazz superstar Paul McCandless (paulmccandless.com) playing his original music across the U.S. and internationally, and renowned guitarist Nguyen Le on the stage of Yoshi's in San Francisco.

While studying music at the College of San Mateo in the late 70's and with Don Haas and Gus Gustovson, tenor saxophonist **Tod Dickow** began playing gigs in the Bay Area with small groups and big bands, and he is a powerful voice on the Bay Area scene today. His playing has been recognized by outstanding soloist awards at Jazz Festivals (Pacific Coast) and was awarded the Outstanding Soloist award by *Down Beat Magazine*. He has appeared with

numerous celebrated artists in many genres of music, including Ella Fitzgerald, Nancy Wilson, Joe Henderson, Bobby Hutcherson, Jackie & Roy, Harry Connick Jr, Steve Allen, Terry Gibbs, Frank Sinatra Jr., Dave Brubeck, and many more.

He appears regularly with the Al Molina Sextet, Walley Schnalle's Bang, John Worley's Miles of Blue (a "Kind of Blue" tribute band), and the Latin Jazz group Aryto, as well as an array of Bay Area big bands: the Full Faith & Credit Big Band, the Brilliant Corners Tentet, the Full Spectrum Big Band, the James Leary Big Band, and the Bay Area Jazz Composers Orchestra In addition to leading his own small groups, he has led the Contemporary Jazz Orchestra, a 16-piece big band, featuring top players from around the Bay Area.

As is true for so many other jazz tenor players, Tod's playing and composing are powerfully influenced by Michael Brecker. But Tod is unique in having captured the essence of Michael's spirit on the instrument, making Tod the perfect artist to perform Michael's compositions with Charged Particles to honor the late-great superstar of the genre.

Murray Low is a veteran pianist of the Bay Area jazz scene and has been playing, composing, arranging, recording and teaching professionally for over thirty years. His fluency in all forms of jazz and its blending with other idioms has led to a multi-faceted career spanning a wide variety of musical contexts. Murray is best known for his contributions to Latin Jazz, Salsa and Afro-Cuban musical landscape. In his twenty-two years of involvement, he has established himself as one of the premier pianists in that genre, being nominated as 2008 Pianist of the Year by the Latin Jazz Corner and for a Grammy in 2004 as part of Machete Ensemble.

He is or has been the regular pianist/collaborator with several top Bay Area ensembles, including Wayne Wallace's Quintet, John Calloway's Diaspora, Jesus Diaz y su QBA, Pete Escovedo Orchestra, and John Santos' Machete Ensemble. He has also

collaborated with Latin Jazz giants Ray Vega, Tito Puente, Poncho Sanchez, Nestor Torres, and Andrea Brachfeld. In 2008, he performed with famous Cuban flautist Orlando Valle at the Monterey Jazz Festival as part of a specially commissioned project including Jon Benitez, David Sanchez, Horacio "El Negro" Hernandez, and Giovanni Hildalgo.

Murray is involved in many first-call Bay Area projects in other jazz idioms, including "straight ahead", fusion, and free-form styles. He has performed with Bob Mintzer, Clark Terry, Benny Golson, John Patitucci, George Duke, Bob Sheppard, and John Handy. He has appeared at jazz festivals around the world, including the Playboy, Monterey, Russian River, San Jose, San Francisco, Mt. Hood, Juan Les Pins and Vienne Jazz festivals, and has appeared on the Vibe and Magic Hour late-night TV shows as well.

Murray is actively sought out as an accompanist for vocalists and is the musical director for world jazz vocalists Kat Parra and Alexa Weber Morales. He has collaborated with noted singer Kitty Margolis, Judy Wexler, Ellen Robinson, Jamie Davis, Lichi Fuentes, and Anna Estrada. Murray has received accolades and awards throughout his career, including First Place in the Combo Division at the U.C. Berkeley Jazz Festival, a Grammy nomination for Best Latin Jazz Album, and a Piano Player of the Year nomination from Latin Jazz Corner website. Murray teaches jazz piano and ensemble performance at Stanford University and taught jazz theory and improvisation at U.C. Santa Cruz from 2007–2009.

In 2021, **Aaron Germain** was recognized twice in the 42nd Annual Jazz Station Awards for his acoustic bass playing and his electric bass playing, along with other winners Ron Carter, Christian McBride, Dave Holland, John Patitucci, and Steve Swallow. Aaron has released three CDs as a leader: *Before You Go*, *Chance* (which features world-renowned guitarist Nguyen Le and award-winning Dan T'runng player Van-Anh Vo), and most recently, *Bell Projections*