2016–17 Season
25th Concert

Wednesday 21 September 2016
Dalton Center Recital Hall
7:30 p.m.
Pre-Concert talk with Dr. Robert White at 7 p.m.

JOHN HÉBERT, Bass

with the
WESTERN JAZZ QUARTET
Andrew Rathbun, Saxophone
Scott Cowan, Trumpet
Jeremy Siskind, Piano
Keith Hall, Drums

Program to be selected from the following:

John Hébert  Ciao Monkey
John Hébert  Guacamole
Andrew Rathbun  March
John Hébert  Leon
John Hébert  Meat Cleaver
John Hébert  New Belly
John Hébert  Odilie Falcon
John Hébert  Soho Mews
Andrew Rathbun  Speed Up
Andrew Rathbun  We Have Nothing But Tears
John Hébert  Whirlygig
Bassist JOHN HÉBERT was born in New Orleans where he attended Loyola University of New Orleans on a full scholarship. After two years of performing with many of New Orleans greatest musicians and performing at various clubs including the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival, he moved to the New York area in 1993 and has established himself as a highly sought-after bassist. He has worked alongside world famous artists such as Andrew Hill, Lee Konitz, Paul Bley, John Abercrombie, Kenny Wheeler, Paul Motian, Joe Maneri, Mary Halvorson, Tomasz Stanko, David Lieb-man, Uri Caine, Greg Osby, and many others.

In recent years, he has taken on the role of bandleader of various projects. His group Byzantine Monkey, released their first CD in June 2009 on the Firehouse 12 label. It was reviewed in DownBeat magazine and received four stars. “On his first album as a leader he dis-plays a sonic vision that’s all his own,” says Peter Margarosak. In 2010, the John Hébert Trio (with French pianist Benoît Delbecq and drummer Gerald Cleaver) released Spiritual Lover on the Clean Feed label to very positive reviews. According to Stuart Broomer, “it’s a trio of genuinely equal parts and plays music of great melodic strength.” Hébert won the 2011 DownBeat Critic’s poll as “Rising Star Acoustic Bassist” as well as being awarded the French American Jazz Exchange Grant from the French Cultural Institute and Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation for his work with Benoit Delbecq and Gerald Cleaver. The follow up to the trio’s first recording was released in January of 2014. The album titled Floodstage on Clean Feed records has gained much attention since its release.

2015 saw the latest release by Hébert on the Sunnyside record label titled Rambling Confessions. It features vocalist Jen Shyu, pianist Andy Milne and drummer Billy Drummond. The record has received much praise including 4.5 stars in DownBeat.

The WESTERN JAZZ QUARTET is a resident faculty ensemble in the School of Music at Western Michigan University. Formed in 1974, the quartet combines performing and teaching with uncommon success as they promote jazz music and jazz education through a very active schedule of tours, concerts and workshops. Activities range from performances for school children of all ages to concerts, tours and recordings with such artists as Art Farmer, Stefon Harris, Tim Hagans, Kenny Werner, Billy Hart, Mark Murphy, Randy Brecker, Dave Liebman, Janis Siegel, and Bobby McFerrin.

In 2012 after a shift in faculty, the new Western Jazz Quartet was born with Andrew Rathbun, Jeremy Siskind, Keith Hall, and veteran Tom Knific.

The Western Jazz Quartet has performed from Boston to Los Angeles, and tours regularly world wide. It has been featured at festivals in Canada, Europe and the United States, and at a week of performances at La Villa in Paris, France. The group was honored with sponsorship by the Arts America Program and often tours as artistic ambassadors for the U.S. Department of State including Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina, Poland, Italy, Croatia, and Slovenia. The quartet has also toured Europe four times with pianist Włodek Pawlik, drum legend Billy Hart, and jazz legend Randy Brecker.

The Western Jazz Quartet has released five CDs, and its newest project is FREEFALL, on Blu jazz Records receiving a 4.5 star review in DownBeat, and being hailed as an “absorbing musical adventure” – JazzTimes.

“…imaginative with brilliant flashes of impeccable technique, and a persistence of serious musical intensity.” – The Chronicle

This concert is a Bullock Performance Institute (BPI) presentation. BPI events are made possible through the cooperation and support of several community fine arts units: the Donald P. Bullock Music Performance Institute; WMUK National Public Radio; the Western Michigan University College of Fine Arts and School of Music; and WMU’s chapters of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia and Sigma Alpha Iota music fraternities.

Building emergencies will be indicated by flashing lights and spoken announcement within the seating area. If the notification is for fire, please exit the building immediately. The tornado safe area in Dalton Center is along the lockers in the brick hallway to your left as you exit to the lobby behind you. In any emergency, walk—do not run—to the nearest exit. Please turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during the performance. Because of legal issues, any video or audio recording of this performance is forbidden without prior consent from the School of Music. Thank you for your cooperation.