Guest Artist Recital
2019–20 Season
163rd Concert
Saturday 16 November 2019
Dalton Center Recital Hall
8:00 p.m.

PETE McCANN QUARTET
Pete McCann, Guitar
Ben Kono, Saxophone
Matt Pavolka, Bass
Mark Ferber, Drums

Program will be announced from the stage.

An Eau Claire, Wisconsin native, jazz guitarist PETE McCANN has been an integral part of the New York City jazz scene for over 25 years. He has just released Pay For It On The Other Side, his sixth recording as a leader. A sought-after sideman from duos to big bands, with a unique and wide-ranging set of musical skills, McCann has played guitar on over 100 CDs. Pete has performed in every type of venue from jazz clubs to jazz festivals, schools to concert halls and even Carnegie Hall. He has traveled to 18 countries and has played in almost every state in the USA.

McCann has performed and/or recorded with Kenny Wheeler, Dave Liebman, Lee Konitz, Patti Austin, Brian Blade, Bobby Previte, Grace Kelly, the Mahavishnu Project and the Maria Schneider Orchestra. He currently works in groups lead by Melissa Stylianou, Jocelyn Medina, Joe Fiedler, Spin Cycle, Ben Kono, Dan Willis, Pete Mills, Chris Tarry, the Breithaupt Brothers and orchestras led by Migiwa Miyajima and Christopher Zuar. As a commercial recording artist, he has worked on projects for CNN, BBC, Sesame Street and IBM.

McCann received his Bachelor of Music degree from the University of North Texas and has taught at New York University, The New School, City College and the Maine Jazz Camp. He has written articles for Guitar Player and DownBeat magazines and was featured in the NYC Jazz Guitar Summit for the True Fire video series. Pete is endorsed by D’Addario and Planet Waves.
Since moving to New York City in 1999, woodwind performer and saxophonist **Ben Kono** has been attracting attention as a singular emerging voice in cutting-edge groups like Darcy James Argue’s Secret Society and the John Hollenbeck Large Ensemble. With the release of his debut recording CROSSING on Nineteen-Eight Records, he has come into his own light as a leader and composer of note.

While growing up in bucolic southern Vermont, a deep love of classical music was fostered by his parent’s strong advocacy of the arts and spurred on by a community rich in culture, live music, and arts awareness. While studying jazz at the Eastman School of Music and the University of North Texas, he met future musical pioneers John Hollenbeck, Henry Hey, and Rudresh Mahanthappa, and studied with jazz greats David Liebman, Jerry Bergonzi, Bill Dobbins, and Gary Cambell.

Following a five-year hitch with the U.S. Army’s elite touring group the Jazz Ambassadors, Kono’s broad musical training and experience naturally led him to the infinitely varied musical landscape of New York City. Equally skilled on oboe, English horn, flutes, clarinets, and saxophones, his wide range of skills and prowess as an improviser quickly garnered high demand as a sideman. He has performed and recorded with, among many others, Michael Brecker, David Liebman, Bob Berg, Kenny Wheeler, Toots Thielmans, Michel LeGrand, Tim Garland, Joe Locke, Andrew Rathbun, Manuel Valera, and David Taylor; with superstars Patti Austin, Deborah Gibson, Hugh Jackman and Liza Minelli; and is a member of the John Hollenbeck Large Ensemble, the Ed Palermo Big Band, Gotham Winds, the BMI Jazz Composers Orchestra, the New York Jazzharmonic, the Millennium Chamber Symphony, JC Sanford Orchestra, and the Jersey Boys Orchestra on Broadway. The eloquent sounds of his woodwinds have graced the stages of Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall, and he can often be heard tearing up a solo at elite jazz venues like the Blue Note, the Jazz Standard, Birdland, and Le Poisson Rouge.

For twenty years bassist/composer **Matt Pavolka** has been a vital force in the New York Jazz and Creative Music scenes. A partial list of musicians and bands that he has performed with includes Lee Konitz, Paul Motian, Guillermo Klein, Chris Cheek, Kevin Hayes, Ben Monder, House of Illusion, Josh Roseman’s Extended Constellations, Dave Binney, The Ryan Scott Orchestra, Magalie Souriou, Elysian Fields, Joe Beck, J. Geils, Tony Malaby, Bill McHenry, Matt Renzi, and Ohad Talmor’s Newsreel. He has toured extensively in the United States, Europe, and Japan and can be heard on many recordings, including releases from Magalie Souriou, Guillermo Klein, Marlon Browdon, Andre Fernandes, Nate Radley, Noah Preminger, and House of Illusion. He has released two albums as a leader, “Something People Can Use”, on Tone Of A Pitch Records and “The Horns Band” on the Fresh Sounds, New Talent label.

Pavolka grew up in Bloomington, Indiana. He began playing the trombone at an early age and studied with David Baker before heading to Boston to attend the Berklee College of Music on a full scholarship as a trombonist at age 18. He switched his major to bass in his first year there and was awarded an outstanding performance award on that instrument as well as the Charles Mingus Award for his work as a composer. He moved to New York in 1994. In addition to his work as a performing musician, composer, and bandleader, he is active as a music educator. He is also the musical director for the Redeye Grill in Manhattan’s live performance series.

**Mark Ferber** grew up in Moraga, CA, and began playing piano at the age of four, before moving on to drumming and percussion. He attended the University of California in Los Angeles, earning a B.A. in geography. Ferber has distinguished himself on both coasts and abroad in live performances and recordings.

In Los Angeles, a partial list of credits includes Anthony Wilson’s Organ Trio and Nonet, Billy Child’s Chamber Ensemble, Wadada Leo Smith, and Bob Sheppard. In New York he has worked with Lee Konitz, Don Byron, Fred Hersch, Norah Jones, Steve Swallow, Jack Wilkins, and his twin brother, Alan Ferber, among others. He is currently touring and recording with Ralph Alessi’s group, This Against That, and Jonathan Kreisberg’s Trio and Quintet.

In addition to being an active freelance drummer, Ferber teaches in the United States and Europe. He was a faculty member for the Tavira Jazz Workshop in Portugal, the Kansas University Jazz Workshop and the Maine Jazz Camp.

He currently serves as an adjunct teacher for the City College of New York and the School of Improvisational Music (SIM) in New York.