

Comp
00186



GUEST ARTIST RECITAL

featuring

Otis Murphy, Alto Saxophone

Haruko Murphy, Piano

Monday, February 19, 2001
7:30 p.m.
Organ Recital Hall, Music Building

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
GREENSBORO

PROGRAM

Sonata for Alto Saxophone and Piano (1988) David Maslanka
(b. 1943)

Moderate

Slow

Very Fast

Balafon (1992-1994)
from *Neuf Etudes pour Saxophones*

Christian Lauba
(b. 1952)

Klonos (1993)

Piet Swerts
(b. 1960)

from *Fuzzy Bird Sonata* (1991)
Run, Bird
Fly, Bird

Takashi Yoshimatsu
(b. 1953)

Oblivion

Astor Piazzola
(1921-1992)
arr. Jean-Yves Fourmeau

BIOGRAPHIES

Otis Murphy teaches as Visiting Instructor in Saxophone at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. He is completing studies in the Doctor of Music degree program at Indiana University where he serves as an Associate Instructor of Saxophone. A recipient of the Fulbright grant, Otis spent the 1999-2000 academic year in Paris studying with the internationally acclaimed French saxophonist, Jean-Yves Fourmeau. At the completion of this year abroad, he received the final performance degree of the French music conservatory system, the Prix de Perfectionnement (by a unanimous decision of the jury), from the Conservatoire National Régional de Musique, Cergy-Pontoise. Murphy holds the Master of Music degree from Indiana University, graduating with the Performer's Certificate, the highest honor given to a performer at this institution; he was a pupil of Distinguished Professor Emeritus Eugene Rousseau. Before attending Indiana University, Otis studied with Professor Kenneth Fischer at the University of Georgia, graduating Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Music Education degree.

As a recitalist, Murphy has performed throughout the United States, in France, Switzerland, Germany, and Belgium. He was an invited soloist at the 12th World Saxophone Congress in Montreal, Quebec, and has performed and recorded concertos with several orchestras and bands throughout the world. Solo recital appearances include a performance in Paris at the Embassy of the United States, and solo recital performances in New York City's Merkin Concert Hall as a finalist in the prestigious Concert Artists Guild Competition. He has appeared as soloist and lecturer at numerous conferences of the North American Saxophone Alliance.

No stranger to competition success, Murphy won Second Prize in the 1998 Adolphe Sax International Saxophone Competition held in Dinant, Belgium. Critical reaction to his playing in the Adolphe Sax International Saxophone Competition (in *Vers L'Avenir*) emphasized "his musicality and charisma." According to a review, he "played his program with the calm assurance of those who know themselves to be the best. His command was of the utmost beauty."

Additional prizes that Murphy has won include Third Prize in the Jean-Marie Londeix International Saxophone Competition (1996), First Prize in the Heida Hermanns Young Artist Competition, Second Prize in the William Byrd Young Artist Competition, and Second Prize in the St. Louis Symphony Young Artist Competition. He was the winner of the 1998 Indiana University Woodwind Concerto Competition, being the first

saxophonist to win this annual competition in more than a decade. The resulting performance with the university's Philharmonic Orchestra brought these words of praise from the *Bloomington Herald-Times*: "Murphy drew not only sultry beauty from the instrument but showcase urgency. His playing was marked by clarity of enunciation and a clean precision of technique."

Murphy's debut compact disc recording, *Memories of Dinant*, has received critical acclaim. A recent review of this recording in *The Saxophone Journal* asserts that the "collaborative efforts of this dynamic duo (Otis Murphy and Haruko Murphy, piano) are extremely impressive at the least and at the best create real definition of the word awesome. The intuitiveness of their ensemble performance is a superlative hallmark to be sought by others for many years. "Just sit back and revel in the glorious music created by this spectacular duo." Otis Murphy is a Yamaha Performing Artist and Clinician, actively performing recitals and teaching saxophone masterclasses throughout the United States. He currently resides in Bloomington, Indiana with his wife, Haruko, and their newborn son, Kevin.

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The hall is equipped with a listening assistance system.
Patrons needing such assistance should please see
one of the ushers in the lobby.