



BLISS BAR

presents

SUNDAY AFTERNOON LIVE JAZZ & MORE

THE ART OF THE DUO AND TRIO

Featuring outstanding musicians

SUNDAYS, FEB. 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2012

4:30 to 7:30 pm • \$10 cover



Kenny is a jazz vocalist virtuoso with a range of more than four octaves. His playful, free approach to any tune is inspiring. His tone on ballads is liquid, his scat is rapid-fire, passionate, melodious & inventive. He played saxophone & sang gospel music while growing up in New Orleans, & is at home with the blues as he is in jazz. "Onstage, Kenny Washington is the Superman of the Bay Area jazz scene, a vocalist with an exuberantly supple tenor that glides effortlessly into the stratosphere."

www.kennywashingtonvocalist.com

Larry Vuckovich has performed with top musicians from various jazz influences: Dexter Gordon, Philly Joe Jones, Mel Torme, Don Byas, & Red Norvo to today's artists: Charlie Haden, Bobby Hutcherson, Bobby McFerrin, Tom Harrell, & Charles McPherson. He was house pianist for five years at the fabled Keystone Korner in San Francisco, from the late '70s to its closing in the early '80s. www.larryvuckovich.com



"Nat Johnson's rock solid dependability for his time control is applaudable & earns a recall of Leroy Vinnegar ingiving his walking lines an intrinsic melodic feel. Johnson is an astute choice for a sturdy swinging bass" *Dr. Herb Wong, jazz journalist/producer*

Kenny Washington, vocalist

Larry Vuckovich, piano

Nat Johnson, bass

Feb. 5



Sophisticated Ladies Feb. 19 • from France

The Sophisticated Ladies are inspired by the great composers of the early era of jazz. Some favorites are Billy Strayhorn, Van Heusen, Gershwin, & Jobim, & the result truly emanates from the heart. Having diverse backgrounds the Ladies enjoy mixing cultures & not only swing but also groove to a multitude of rhythms: Cha Cha, Tumbao, Samba & African rhythms.

In addition the Ladies all sing as well as play allowing for beautiful harmonizations. In the 1930's jazz was a popular music

appreciated by a wide audience. People came together to play, listen & dance. The Sophisticated Ladies Quartet celebrates this art form & plays the great compositions in a manner which can still be enjoyed by a wide audience. Like jazz, the Ladies are from diverse backgrounds & bring with them their rich cultural heritages. **Rachael Magidson** from the CA Bay Area, grew up singing Broadway shows at school & listening to old swing with her grandparents. She moved to Europe where she was introduced to many Senegalese musicians who introduced her to the basics of African percussion. **Valerie Chane-Tef** is from the island of La Réunion. She was surrounded by African music growing up, & has become a prominent pianist in France with her highly developed sense of rhythm. **Nolwenn Leizour** (upright bass) & **Emilie Calmé** (flute) are both from the South West of France. Musical education there is rigorous & creates both virtuosity & a highly developed sense of harmony. All the richness of jazz and its origins are found in the music of the quartet.



Elaine Lucia, vocals

Jonathan Alford, piano

Pierre Archain, bass

Feb. 12

Valentine Jazz

Elaine Lucia has been performing & recording professionally since the age of twelve & has produced three nationally released jazz CDs that have brought her five-star reviews & airplay on jazz stations across the country. A classically trained (Eastman School) vocalist & singer/songwriter, Elaine brings her crystal clear tones & musician's sensibility to a unique, engaging sound. She has garnered the respect of her musical peers for her sophisticated swing, eclectic song choices, & dynamic stage presence. Her energetic & engaging show has graced stages as diverse as world-renowned Yoshi's San Francisco to festivals, wineries, & intimate nightclubs. She continues to be a much sought-after singer for recording & voice-over projects. <http://elainelucia.com>



Dima, vocalist

Grant Levin, piano

Feb. 26

Singing from the heart with a voice & style reminiscent of the early 50's Dima takes you back to the days of Anita O'Day, Billie Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald and Sarah Vaughan. Influenced by the vocalists in that era, she's inspired to carry on the tradition of the singer as a storyteller. Known for her command of the lyric, beautiful soothing tone & carefully chosen repertoire, Dima sings her way



through the American songbook with selections from composers such as Harry Warren, Richard Rodgers & Johnny Mercer to name a few. Her most recent project has been in collaboration with Pianist **Grant Levin** exploring the conversation & art of the duo combining the more modern with the traditional. The Bliss Bar is a perfect setting for this intimate performance. <http://www.myspace.com/djazzvocals#ixzz12kvBXMpn>

Grant Levin is a dynamic & dedicated jazz pianist. No style of jazz left untouched, "the list" always a length in progress, & improvisation at its most vibrant, his style is well appreciated both by listener & musician alike.