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The Mana Quartet

Mana Quartet

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The Mana Quartet

**Michael Hernandez - soprano saxophone
Michael Mortarotti - alto saxophone
Diane Hunger - tenor saxophone
Thomas Giles - baritone saxophone**

**Setnor Auditorium
April 20, 2018
8:00 pm**

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Please be sure to turn off all electronic devices, and please refrain from making extraneous noise, talking, taking flash photographs, or moving about the auditorium during the performance. It is important for performers and audience members to have the best possible concert-going experience in Setnor Auditorium. Thank you.

SU:VPA
SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF VISUAL + PERFORMING ARTS

The Mana Quartet

Called a 'groundbreaking ensemble' by the Los Angeles Chronicle, the Mana Quartet has repeatedly won high praise from today's leading composers, noted as an ensemble that is 'vigorous and accomplished...deserving every success' and 'beautifully balanced...a new bright light in the world of chamber music' by Pulitzer Prize winners Charles Wuorinen and Ellen Taaffe Zwilich. Championed as 'Saxophone Ambassadors' by Chamber Music Magazine, Mana embodies its namesake as a pervasive *force*, advocating for the saxophone in classical music.

Since its inception in 2007, the ensemble has premiered dozens of dedicated twenty-first century works and widely performed underrepresented masterpieces of the twentieth century. Using vintage instruments built to the specifications of the saxophone's inventor, Adolphe Sax, Mana's impassioned performances offer a vivid reimagining of the saxophone's nineteenth-century heritage – a refined aesthetic characterized by intrinsic warmth, dynamic range of character, and absolute versatility.

In 2009, the group became the first saxophone quartet to receive the coveted Grand Prize of the Coleman International Chamber Competition, garnering national attention and activity on the national chamber music circuit. The group has held appointments as Chamber Ensemble in Residence at the National Music Festival, Bravo! Vail Valley Music Festival, the Hot Springs Music Festival, Music in the Mountains, and the Taneycomo Festival Orchestra.

Season highlights include numerous featured broadcasts on NPR's Performance Today and live concerts at Bartholomeus Gasthuis (Netherlands), Cité de la Musique (France), Hanns Eisler Hochschule für Musik Berlin (Germany), International SaxFest of Szczecin (Poland), SpectrumNYC (NY), Ethos New Music Festival (NY), SoundWired Chicago (IL), University of Miami's Frost School of Music (FL), FeNAM/Festival of New American Music (CA), Jacksonville Friday Musicale (FL), Goldenberg Cultural Series (NY), Trinity Chamber Concerts of Berkley (CA), El Dorado Chamber Concerts (CA), Community Concerts at Second Baltimore (MD), etc.

The Mana Quartet is a D'Addario Performing Ensemble and performs exclusively on Reserve Classic Reeds.

Portrait of My Dead Brother (2014) *

Kevin Villalta
(b. 1989)

kafka (2016) *

David Sanford
(b. 1963)

Roads to Ixtlan (1992-3)

- I. Lento e rubato
- II. Moderato
- III. Allegro

Per Nørgård
(b. 1932)

short intermission

I want to Unfold (2016) *

Jay Derderian
(b. 1986)

Saxophone Quartet (1995)

- I. ♩ = 116
- II. ♩ = 144
- III. ♩ = 104
- IV. ♩ = 144

Philip Glass
(b. 1937)

*dedicated to The Mana Quartet