

Visiting Artist Series presents

ETIENNE CHARLES (Trinidad)

Creole Soul



February 2, 2018 . 7 & 9PM
THE LOW ROOM
@ MilkBoy ArtHouse

ARTIST PARTNER PROGRAM

VAS
VISITING ARTIST SERIES

The Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center's
Visiting Artist Series presents

ETIENNE CHARLES

Creole Soul

Godwin Louis, *saxophone*

Alex Wintz, *guitar*

Jonathan Michel, *bass*

John Davis, *drums*

James Francies, *piano/keyboard*

Etienne Charles, *trumpet, percussion*

Program to be announced from the stage.

This performance will last approximately 1 hour 10 minutes.

“If Caribbean, West Indian or American creolization is a process by which a unique culture is crystallized through the assimilation of European, African, Asian and indigenous Caribbean influences over several hundred years, Etienne Charles is the quintessential Creole soul.”

—John Stevenson, liner notes of *Creole Soul*

CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT _____

Etienne jammed with several musicians in the UMD Jazz Studies department today, which was an amazing and informative experience for the students.

Born on the Island of Trinidad in 1983, **ETIENNE CHARLES** defies easy musical categorization. A recipient of a 2015 Guggenheim Fellowship and recent Chamber Music America Grant for New Works, Charles has been hailed by New York Times as "an auteur" and by Jazz Times as "A daring improviser who delivers with heart wrenching lyricism." According to Downbeat Magazine "Charles delivers his ebullient improvisations with the elegance of a world-class ballet dancer." Etienne has received critical acclaim for his exciting performances, thrilling compositions and knack for connecting with audiences worldwide. More recently, he received the distinct honor of being selected as a 2015 Guggenheim Fellow in the Creative Arts. In 2012 Etienne was written into the US Congressional Record for his musical contributions to Trinidad & Tobago and the World. In 2006 he won the National Trumpet Competition Jazz Division in Fairfax, VA.

Perhaps more than any other musician of his generation or Eastern Caribbean origin, Etienne brings a careful study of myriad rhythms from the French, Spanish, English and Dutch speaking Caribbean to his work. Crucially, as a soloist, he fully understands the New Orleans trumpet tradition (which is readily discernible in his trademark instrumental swagger) and what famed Crescent City Pianist, Jelly Roll Morton so succinctly captured in the now immortal phrase, 'The Spanish Tinge'.

His acclaimed recording, *Creole Soul* (Culture Shock Music 2013), features original compositions and arrangements of music by Bob Marley, Winsford Devine, Thelonious Monk and Bo Diddley. The album spent three consecutive weeks at #1 on the Jazz Week Chart as well as reaching #25 on the Billboard Jazz Charts. *Creole Soul* was named as the #3 Jazz Album of 2013 by Jazz Week. Previously he released *Kaiso* (2011), *Folklore* (2009) and *Culture Shock* (2006).

2015 saw the release of Etienne's album *Creole Christmas*, a cross-collaboration highlighting traditional Caribbean holiday folk music, featuring musicians from the United States, Venezuela Macedonia, and Trinidad & Tobago. Also that year, Etienne premiered a new work, "San Jose Suite" made possible with support from Chamber Music America's 2014 New Jazz Works grant funded through the generosity of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. Etienne released a recording of *San Jose Suite* in 2016.

Etienne Charles is a highly regarded educator and currently serves as Assistant Professor of Jazz Studies at Michigan State University. He holds a Master's degree from the Juilliard School and a Bachelor's degree from Florida State University.

Artists lead complicated lives. They collect material for new work, they often teach and engage with community groups and they are always developing their craft.

In **SIDE NOTES**, we are providing good reads and fun facts to give you a sense of who our visiting artists are and what makes them do what they do. Contributing writers include students, faculty, staff and alumni from the extended Clarice family.



ETIENNE CHARLES ON JAZZ EDUCATION

If you look throughout the history of this music, there's always been mentorship. You look at Louis Armstrong being mentored by Joe Oliver. You look at Dizzy Gillespie being mentored by Mario Bauza and then Dizzy in turn mentoring Miles [Davis], and so on. And that mentorship happened on the bandstand, but it was kind of like school.

Back then, that *was* the school. There was a master you wanted to learn from, and you'd go to their hotel after their gig and get a lesson. Or you'd be on a gig with them and they'd show you whatever they wanted to show you. And that still exists, and to me that's the strongest way to get to the music. **I've been lucky, I've had great mentors.** Some of them in school, some of them out of school. And the ones that were my mentors in school, there was a bandstand element

outside of school where they would teach me something they couldn't have taught me in school. So it was like a combination of street and school at the same time.

I went to school in Tallahassee, and **NOBODY** came through Tallahassee. You had to drive to Atlanta or Raleigh to be able to see anybody. I specifically remember driving 10 hours on Easter weekend to see Branford Marsalis and his band, to meet them and hang out with them, and the whole trumpet studio driving out to see Wynton [Marsalis] and taking a picture with him. I still have that picture! Then the next year, I met Wynton in New York and I pulled out the picture and made him sign it! To me, a very important part of the music is socializing and getting to meet and connect with these mentors on a human level, getting to hear them tell their stories.

I think it's very important that as many schools as possible remember that **the music is about the people, and the music is about freedom**. It's important to regulate that you've got to be able to play your instrument: play the chord changes, be able to swing and groove. You've got to be able to play the blues and play bebop. You've got to be able to play all of the dialects, the languages and sub-languages that have come about as a part of this creative music. People call it jazz, but it's really all of these dialects that grew out of the music.

I'm lucky to work with players and teachers that understand the concept of mentorship, because we all came up under mentors; I try to pass that on to our students because it's very important. I encourage them to start finding young students to mentor, whether they be underclassmen or high school students or even middle school students.

The institutionalization of the music is interesting, but the one thing that I do hope is that it doesn't take the music away from the people. Because **jazz is alive!** The studying is a part of it; you have to study it to be able to do it. But studying the music is not jazz. Playing the music is jazz. Playing it for people. That's when it happens. When you play it for people, that's when the music really has its effect, in my opinion."

Etienne Charles was interviewed by **Bobby Asher**
Senior Associate Director, Artist Partner Program

ABOUT THE ARTIST PARTNER PROGRAM

THE ARTIST PARTNER PROGRAM at The Clarice curates a multi-arts performance with regional, national and international artists and creative innovators program dedicated to creating performance and learning opportunities for students and our community through artist residencies workshops, master classes, K-12 student matinees and artistic exchange. We believe artists can be a catalyst for community change, leadership and empowerment.

As part of a major public research university, the Artist Partner Program is committed to the creation and investigation of new work and new ways of participating in the performing arts.

The Artist Partner Program has three primary missions:

To supplement and extend the academic learning and investigation of the classroom for UMD students;

To provide artistic and cultural opportunities as part of the UMD experience for students, faculty, staff, alumni and university friends;

To enhance and develop the artistic and cultural ecology of the community that surrounds and supports the university.

Visit theclarice.umd.edu/app for more info.

ARTIST PARTNER PROGRAM STAFF

MARTIN WOLLESEN

Executive Director, The Clarice

BOBBY ASHER

Senior Associate Director

RICHARD SCERBO

Director, National Orchestral Institute and Festival

MEGAN PAGADO WELLS

Associate Director

JANE HIRSHBERG

Assistant Director, Campus and Community Engagement

YARINA CONNERS

Artistic Administrator

ANDREW GIZA

Artist Services Coordinator

AMANDA STAUB

Graduate Assistant

For the 2017-2018 season, The Clarice is proud to present several artists whose beliefs in social justice and the power of the human spirit inform the art they make. These powerful voices will speak about their work through a series of public events in a variety of formats. Designed to complement UMD's Do Good campus initiative to create a hub of activity for philanthropy, nonprofit management, public policy, social change and leadership; these events will educate, inspire and reinforce the importance of taking action to make a positive change in our society and in the world.

**DO GOOD DIALOGUE
ARTMAKING AS AN ACTIONABLE TOOL**

TUE, FEB 13 . 7PM
RHIZOME DC

In this Do Good Dialogue, wild Up founder Chris Rountree and UMD faculty from the College of Arts and Humanities host a public conversation, examining how artists create change in society. Rountree writes, "what a set of gargantuan tasks lays out before us. Many of us feel like our work couldn't possibly be enough to do what it needs to do...but I'm eager to talk about how it can and what we can do to make that happen."

**DO GOOD DIALOGUE
TAKING ACTION:
UPSTANDING AND STANDING UP**

WED, APR 4 . 7PM
ART WORKS NOW

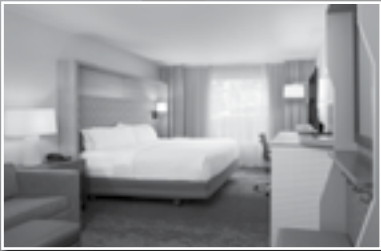
During this Do Good Dialogue, we discuss the 600 Highwaymen's unique way of making work, usually with a diverse body of performers, in what co-founder Abigail Browde describes as, "sculpting our animal instinct to look at each other."



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UPCOMING VISITING ARTIST SERIES PERFORMANCES

WILD UP (USA)

FRI, FEB 16 . 8PM

MILKBOY ARTHOUSE

This modern music collective committed to creating visceral, thought-provoking happenings, believes that great ideas, empowered by art, are capable of affecting great social change.

KYLE ABRAHAM/ABRAHAM.IN.MOTION (USA) **DEAREST HOME**

FRI & SAT, FEB 23 & 24 . 8PM

An interactive theatre performance focused on loving, longing and loss. Experience the show in silence, or don headphones to layer on a rich soundscape.

ST. LAWRENCE STRING QUARTET (CANADA)

THU, MAR 1 . 8PM

This world-class chamber ensemble brings every piece of music to the audience in vivid color.

PRIVACY PROJECT (INTERNATIONAL)

FRI & SAT, MAR 2 & 3 . 8PM

MILKBOY ARTHOUSE

This groundbreaking theater project created by the Goethe-Institut Washington, features five-minute plays exploring the question, "What does privacy mean to you in the digital age?"

LINDA MAY HAN OH GRP (MALAYSIA/AUSTRALIA/USA)

THU, MAR 8 . 7PM & 9PM

MILKBOY ARTHOUSE

Though the bass rarely takes center stage, in this jazz performance, Linda Oh showcases the instrument's funky, soulful potential.

CYRO BAPTISTA &

BANQUET OF THE SPIRITS (BRAZIL)

FRI, MAR 16 . 8PM

MILKBOY ARTHOUSE

A wild, unstoppable world beat percussive band featuring international musicians and spontaneous dance breaks!

RENÉ MARIE (USA)

EXPERIMENT IN TRUTH

THU, MAR 29 . 7PM & 9PM

MILKBOY ARTHOUSE

This GRAMMY-nominated vocalist borrows various elements of folk, R&B and even classical and country to create a captivating style uniquely her own.

600 HIGHWAYMEN (USA)

THE FEVER

THU-SAT, APR 5-7 . 8PM

This theatrical piece, performed in collaboration with the audience, examines how we care for people in light of a continuing legacy of violence and cruelty.

SIRIUS QUARTET (USA)

THU, APR 19 . 8PM

MILKBOY ARTHOUSE

This inventive contemporary quartet's forward-thinking, multi-genre approach includes collaborations in post-rock, avant-jazz and electronic music.

AAKASH ODEDRA (UK/INDIA)

RISING

WED, MAY 9 . 8PM

Rooted in traditional Indian dance, Aakash Odedra's style is graceful, provocative and unflinching. Featuring solo pieces from the UK's most thrilling choreographers.

MILKBOY

ARTHOUSE

VENUE | ART | KITCHEN | BAR

A neighborhood gathering place for refined comfort food, craft beverages and eclectic performances. A partnership between The Clarice at UMD + MilkBoy of Philadelphia.

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

February 3
CHEVRE

with Old Eastern and 10/7 Portable

February 9
JOHN 5 (GUITARIST- ROB ZOMBIE)
AND THE CREATURES

with XK Scenario

February 11
AERIAL VIEW

with Good Looking Friends, Stay Inside,
Cosmic Halitosis

February 16
WILD UP (USA)

An LA-based experimental modern-classical
music collective

February 19
OROBORO

with Sungazing and Sweet Peach

March 2 & 3
PRIVACY PROJECT (PARTS 1&2)

Groundbreaking transatlantic theater project
focused on the value of privacy

Join Us!

Happy Hour
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Monday – Friday

\$2 off
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For more information, Contact Cecily Habimana at habimana@umd.edu or www.collegeparkpartnership.org/arhousedonation*



APP Visiting Artists Third Coast Percussion engage with K-12 students during a special matinee performance.



NURTURE THE FUTURE OF THE ARTS

We believe artists can be catalysts for community change, leadership and empowerment.

This season, our Visiting Artists will:

- CREATE opportunities for young audiences to experience live performances and creative conversations through the K-12 School Partner Program
- ENHANCE our understanding of the world through Do Good Dialogues, exploring social justice and the ways the human spirit informs art
- SUPPORT creation and development of new work by UMD students through master classes, coaching and performances of their work by visiting artists
- ENGAGE students through intimate, unplugged performances in residence halls throughout the year, creating connections through art, food, and shared experiences

Immerse yourself in a world of artistic discovery with our 2017-2018 visiting artists and strengthen the future of the arts by making your gift today.

To support the Visiting Artist Series visit theclarice.umd.edu/make-gift. Or call 301.405.4517.

THE CLARICE