THE UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS
Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music

presents

SOUND FUZION

Lawrence Edwards, Director
Jonathan Frazer, Director
Veda Polk, Performance Coordinator

Tuesday March 22, 2012  Harris Concert Hall  7:30 pm
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Freddy Dickerson, Jr. (Drums)
Freddy Dickerson is the drummer for SFZ. This is his second year in SFZ. He is a sophomore at the University of Memphis majoring in Earth Sciences in hopes of becoming a meteorologist. “I found my love for drums at church at the age of four.” Since then Freddy has had the privilege to play for the Downbeat Magazine Student Award winning Jazz Band of St. Benedict at Auburndale High School. He also play drums for the Pep Band here at U of M during basketball season. Freddy would like to thank my friends and family for all of their support.

Joseph Kelly (Keyboards)
Joseph Kelly has been playing piano for 5 years now. He is a Memphis native and a Freshman at the University of Memphis with a major in Music Business and Music Composition. He was featured with the Sound Fuzion rhythm section who backed Aaron Neville at the university’s centennial celebration. He eats, sleep, breathes, and showers Sound Fuzion. Once he graduates he plans to be a conductor, not unlike Dr. Edwards, and is thrilled to be working under him.

Alex Inman (Guitar)
Alex Inman, a junior at the University of Memphis, is a Memphis native with a gospel background. He started learning guitar at 13 and quickly started writing songs and performing them in church. He has developed a passion for music and a desire to write and perform. Outside of Sound Fuzion, Alex performs on his own as a singer/songwriter as well as a freelance musician for local artists. He hopes to be a traveling musician once he graduates and wants to travel the country performing.

Will Hanlon (Bass Guitar)
Will Hanlon has been playing bass guitar for ten years. He has played in several bands playing mainly funk rock and blues and won the “best bass player award” at international battle of the bands competition held at the New Daisy. He played bass in the concert and pep bands at Christian Brothers High School. Will is a senior hospitality major at U of M. He has opened up for national recording and touring acts in his former band Cornerstone.
LaNita Smith (Keyboards)
LaNita Smith, a native from Fayetteville, N.C., has been in Memphis since she was 12. She graduated from Overton High and was accepted into Berklee College of Music, then transferred to Memphis. She's a junior at the University of Memphis majoring in liberal arts with a concentration in Music and Non-profit. This is her first year in Sound Fuzion, but she has been playing piano/singing since the age of 4. She is a songwriter/producer/performer and has worked/played for people/groups such as Isaac Hayes, Sound Fuzion, Ernest Williamson, Ryan Williamson, Denise Williams, Aaron Neville, Chante, Kenny Latimore, and a host of others. She has written songs for STAX Academy, Keia Johnson, Artisan Studios, Folgers, and Coke. Her long-term goal is to be a songwriter/producer and maybe even take the center stage if blessed enough!

Nick Haring (Engineer)
Nicholas J. Haring is a junior Recording Technology major hailing from Arlington, Virginia. In addition to his duties in Sound Fuzion, he serves vigilantly as the president of the U of M chapter of the Audio Engineering Society (AES) and played snare drum in Mighty Sound of the South Drumline during his freshman and sophomore years. Nick’s hobbies include movies, magazines, and magnets.

Rashad English (Engineer)
Rashad English, 22, is a 6th year undergraduate Music Industry major from Memphis, TN. He has previously earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Clark Atlanta University, where he graduated summa cum laude in the Mass Media Arts field. He is honored to be a part of Sound Fuzion, and plans to make a significant contribution to the success of the ensemble.
Anna Melvin (Vocals)

Anna Melvin is a twenty-one year old Junior at the University of Memphis. This is Anna’s third year with Sound Fuzion, and she is honored to be performing with such a talented group of vocalists and musicians. She is passionate about singing and the direction it has taken her life. Even though she has always loved music, it wasn’t until she was singing at the Memphis Mid-South Fair several years ago that she discovered her love of performing. The last couple of years Anna has practiced her skills on any stage she could find. She has starred in several high school musicals, performed at rodeos, professional baseball games, the National Women’s Republican luncheon, and was honored to open for country music legend Earl Thomas Conley. Anna is currently the Arkansas state’s Colgate Country Showdown winner and will advance to the regionals this December. She is also beginning to write some of her own songs. Even though this is new territory for her, it is something she could easily learn to love.

Beth Harker (Vocals)

Beth Harker, a twenty-one year old Senior at the University. She has enjoyed her second year in Fuzion and looks forward to graduating from the University in May. She would like to thank her family and friends for their faith and support, and wish the rest of the group good luck! I love you guys!!

Jessica Griffin (Vocals)

Jessica Ray Griffin is a graduate of Lausanne Collegiate School. She is now a Senior at the University, majoring in Recording Technology. When she is not singing, she is grooving to Michael Jackson, poppin it to the Beatles, enjoying Chaka’s heart felt songs, admiring Rhianna’s style, dreaming about performing like Beyonce, being soulful like Earth Wind and Fire, lip-syncing to Whitney Houston, or getting superstitious with Stevie Wonder. Afterward, she takes it easy like Sunday Morning with the Commodores. Jessica claims to lead a simple life filled with song and dance. However, if one considers such things as her debut in Star Search, an event she won easily, simplicity might be the last word to describe her eventful life. This is her fourth year in Sound Fuzion, and she loves being part of a group that is so enthused about music.
Shiloh Guin (Vocals)
As a double major, Shiloh, found his creativity stifled by the constant rigmarole of mathematics and electric circuitry. Needing an outlet for his individuality, he searched for an opportunity to express himself. Sound Fuzion provided for this quite aptly. While this is Shiloh's first and last year, he is awestruck by the amazing opportunity. In his own words, "While I still have a good ways to go artistically, I'm proof that anyone who loves music can accomplish something noteworthy".

Landon Rodgers (Vocals)
A Criminology major with an uncanny ear for harmony, Landon, has undoubtedly forged his own path in the Sound Fuzion program. In addition to his studies and musical discipline, he also has contributed in several notable choirs, namely University Singers, Chamber Choir, and the Memphis Symphony Choir.

"When one decides to break the rules they should do such with grace and style; there is no other way to change the world." ENJOY THE SHOW!!!

Jordan Cook (Vocals)
Jordan Cook, a 20 year old first year member of Sound Fuzion, has studied voice since age 9 and has been singing, acting, and dancing on Memphis-area stages since he was 10. A University of Memphis sophomore Jazz Performance Major, Jordan sang at New York City's Apollo Theater in 2007, and his singing reached the top 35 acts on the TV show "America's Got Talent" the same year. Jordan hopes to have a career as a Christian recording artist.

Kevin Owen (Vocals)
Senior business major, Kevin Owen is a 4th year member of Sound Fuzion. Kevin has trained in voice and has been performing for 18 years. He has received numerous singing awards, including 1st Chair 2nd Tenor in All West Tennessee and All State High School Choirs, and was a multiple-time Mid-South Fair Youth Talent Contest Finalist. Kevin has also entertained at various events throughout the community. Among his most memorable performances were singing the National Anthem at the Fellowship of Christian Athletes Liberty Bowl Breakfast with the legendary coach, Genes Stallings as guest speaker and singing back up to the late "Old Man River," James Hyter, and artist Aaron Neville with Sound Fuzion. Kevin was a recording artist on the "Blues in Black and White" album with High Water Records. Last spring he toured Germany with the University Singers. Currently you might spot Kevin around town as a vocalist for the party/dance band, "Front and Beale." Kevin enjoys watching sports in his spare time, and especially loves watching the Tigers. He is a native Memphian and is very proud to be a student at the U of M! He would like to thank the U of M and Dr. Larry Edwards for giving him the opportunity to be a part of the Sound Fuzion program. Go Tigers!!
Dr. Lawrence Edwards (Director)

Dr. Edwards received his undergraduate degree in Music Education from Seattle Pacific University, where he directed the Seattle Pacific Singers. He holds both a Master of Science and a Doctorate of Education from the University of Illinois in Champaign. Prior to assuming his position at the University of Memphis, he was Director of Choral Activities at West Virginia University in Morgantown, WV.

At the present, Lawrence Edwards is the Director of Choral Activities for the University of Memphis Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music. In addition, he is also Artistic Director of the Memphis Symphony Chorus; Conductor of both the University Singers, a 65-voice concert choir at the University, and the University Chamber Choir; if that wasn’t enough, he is also a professor of undergraduate and graduate choral conducting.

“The greater danger for most of us lies not in setting our aim too high and falling short; but in setting our aim too low, and achieving our mark.”

Jonathan Frazer (Director)

Jonathan Frazer is the Assistant Professor of recording technology at the University of Memphis Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music. He is responsible for instruction in recording studio technology, music technology, advanced media production, and live sound reinforcement. He provides management and technical support for the studio facilities, music production services for the school, and technical guidance and support for Sound Fuzion. Mr. Frazer earned his undergraduate degree in Telecommunications from Michigan State University and pursued additional studies at the University of Surrey, Tonmeister program, Guildford, England. Mr. Frazer has over 15 years of experience in studio recording and live sound reinforcement. He has recorded projects for RCA, Atlantic, Columbia, Warner Bros., and Universal as well as independent labels; has toured nationally and internationally spanning 14 different countries, and has been awarded gold and platinum records for his work in those areas. He joined the faculty of the Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music in 2002.

Veda Polk (Performance Coordinator)

Veda is a Senior at the University of Memphis. She is a Choral Music Education major and has enjoyed her first year as performance coordinator Sound Fuzion. She hopes to teach once she graduates, and plans to earn a master’s degree in Special Education. Veda sings in the University Singers and Chamber choir under the direction of Lawrence Edwards, and has been singing under the instruction of Pam Gaston for the past 4 years.

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