



## CONVERSATIONS IN THE ARTS

### JAZZ

*Jazz artists continuing to talk about their art form*

January 13, 2022, 7:00 – 8:30pm

Presented LIVE

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### PANELISTS



#### JULIE LYON

Julie Lyon grew up with many and varied musical influences. She studied piano and voice from age 15 through college, earning a bachelor's degree in vocal performance. Classically trained and reared on pop, rock and blues, the draw of the vocal jazz greats, Sarah Vaughan, Nat King Cole, and Ella Fitzgerald, opening the door to a world in which Ms. Lyon is now at the top of her game. Once settled in the New York metropolitan area, Ms. Lyon and her drummer/husband/partner Tom Cabrera assembled a quintet of remarkable musicians for their work with Unseen Rain Records.

Ms. Lyon's composing, arranging, improvising and lyric writing emerge from her seemingly disparate influences. Her Unseen Rain Records releases include: *Julie*, *Moonflower*, and *Whisper of Dreams*. On Woodshedd Records she and husband Tom Cabrera released *Poemas del Hogar*, compositions based on the poetry of the late Juan Cabrera, Tom's grandfather.

Julie also volunteers for Westbury Arts where she serves as President of the Board of Directors.



#### TOM MANUEL

Jazz historian, music educator and cornet player Dr. Thomas Manuel holds the endowed Artist in Residence chair within the Jazz department at Stony Brook University. He serves as a trustee to the Frank Melville Memorial Foundation, is a member of the Huntington Arts Council Decentralization Advisory Committee, and founder and President of The Jazz Loft in Stony Brook, N.Y.

Manuel has been cited for his accomplishments by The New York Times, Newsday, Downbeat, Jazz Inside, and Jazz Ed Magazines and has been involved with global educational outreach to Cuba, Liberia, and Haiti. Manuel dedicates his professional efforts to the preservation of Long Island's jazz history and has received honors for his dedication to the American born art form of Jazz including: Stony Brook Universities 40 Under 40 Award, several Suffolk County Proclamations, the East End Arts & Humanities Council 2020 Music Masters residency, the 2019 Applied Improvisation Network International Conference presenter, and the 2016 Person of the Year in Brookhaven.



## JACK DESALVO

Jack DeSalvo is a guitarist, composer, multi-instrumentalist, performed on more than 60 albums as leader and sideman and has produced almost 100 recordings for Unseen Rain Records. Hailed in THE WIRE magazine as "masterful", has played and recorded with numerous jazz greats and performed at major European festivals including a sojourn with Ronald Shannon Jackson resulting in the record Red Warrior.

"When you listen to Jack DeSalvo, it's immediately apparent that he has an enormous musical vocabulary. Renaissance classical, garage rock, straight ahead jazz, downtown skronk and traditional mandolin melodies are all part of his musical DNA. But when you hear DeSalvo improvise on classical guitar, you're hearing music of that precise moment. He has many influences (and there are as many poets, philosophers and thinkers as there are musicians)..." – Mitch Goldman, WKCR



## NAPOLEON REVELS-BEY

Napoleon Revels-Bey, founder of Arts-In-Education Programs, "Al Andalusia to Dizzy" Revels-Bey Music, and a non-for-profit arts agency Nassau Performing Arts, Inc. The John and Alice Coltrane Foundation, LI Arts alliance board member. Dedicated to performances/residencies, education, in the tri-state. Private/group instruction, percussion, piano, electronic and computer music. Jazz/music historian, and an authorized dealer for music and computer hardware, software and supplies.

He was the recipient of the 2017 Creative Individual grants. The projects aim was to build arts and literacy in the community. He had local vendors setup around the Show mobile Painters, writers, crafts, food vendors. Government and local officials were welcomed at the festival, in addition to honoring local civic persons that have helped to contribute to the quality of life in the community. There was a series of concerts at Uniondale HS Jazz Knights, Choir, Community folk dance, The Friends of the Coltrane Home, and "Al-Andalusia to Dizzy" Ensemble.

## MODERATOR



## DAN BILAWSKI

Dan Bilawsky has been on the music faculty of the Harborfields Central School District since 2000. He has conducted numerous All-County festivals and honored as a 2006 New York Lottery/WLNY-TV 55 "Educator of the Week," a two-time recipient of HACEF Awards recognizing his contributions to the Harborfields community, and the 2019 New York representative in School Band and Orchestra Magazine's "50 Directors Who Make A Difference". Beyond the realm of music education, he is known internationally for his contributions in the area of jazz journalism. A prolific writer, he's penned more than 1700 works about jazz over the past 15 years, contributing to a wide variety of publications including All About Jazz, Jazz Improv/Jazz Inside, JAZZed, JazzTimes, The New York City Jazz Record and Tidal Music. Mr. Bilawsky is an active member of SCMEA, on the Executive Board as a Co-Coordinator for Day of Jazz, All-County Jazz, NYSCAME, NYSSMA, JJA, JEN, and other professional organizations. As a percussionist, he maintains an active performance and teaching schedule on LI.

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