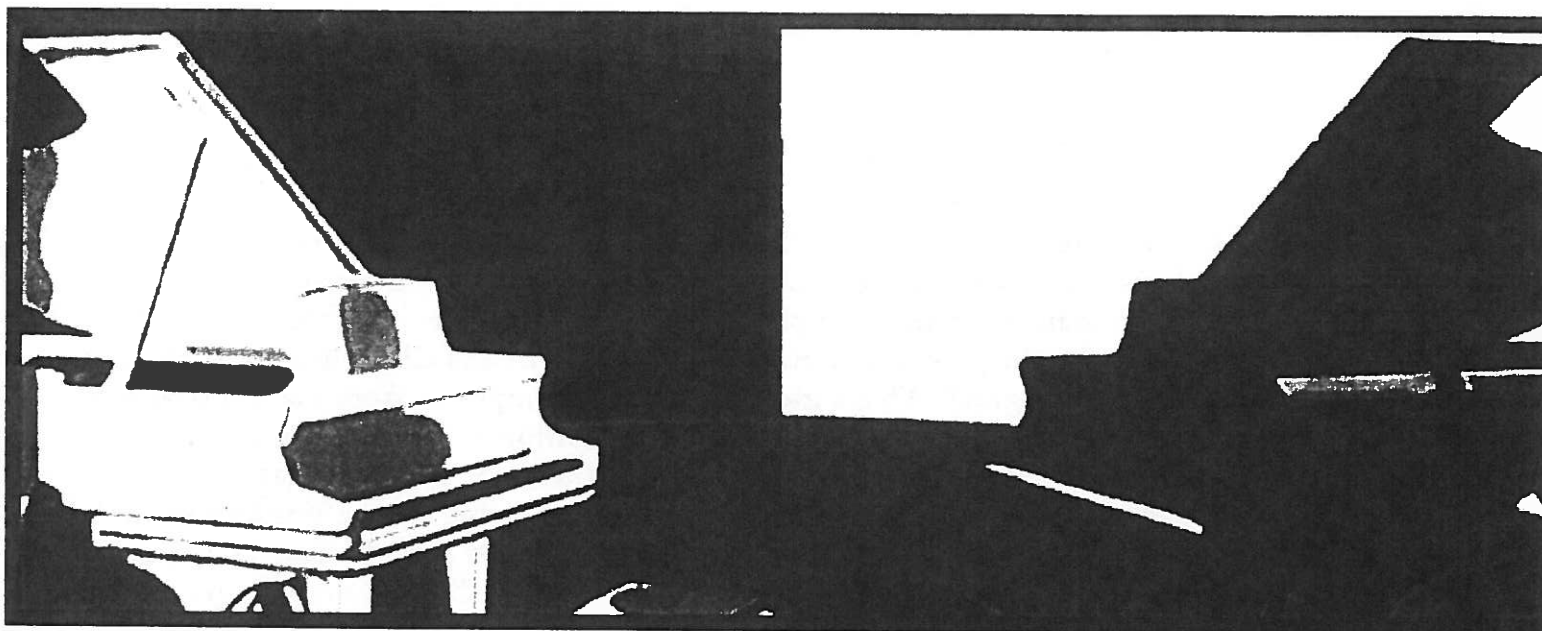

THE GRETCHEN IBEN SERIES

The 2017 – 2018 SEASON



**Derel
Monteith**

**John
Campbell**

with
**Jason Brannon, Andy Crawford, Larry Harms,
and David Hoffman**

Westminster Presbyterian Church

**1420 West Moss Avenue
Peoria 61606**

www.westminsterpeoria.org

THE GRETCHEN IBEN SERIES

at

Westminster Church of Peoria

10 September 2017

four o'clock in the afternoon

Two Piano Jazz!

Be it classical or jazz, there is little music that is more exciting than two pianos ... playing together! The intrinsic qualities of the piano which allow it to be a melody, harmony and percussion instrument make it an amazing piece of musical invention. Double the keys from 88 to 176, and you get twice the potential ... twice the harmony ... and all the interplay between the parts you could ever imagine! What a glorious sound. Composers from Bach and Mozart to Rachmaninoff and Stravinsky have explored this combination on the classical side ... and a goodly number of jazz musicians have done the same for their art. So here today, we present two of the best jazz pianists this area has ever produced exploring all the possibilities this medium offers. As if that's not enough ... we've invited four other superb musicians to come along for the ride ... trumpet, reeds, bass and drums all represented. Hold on for a great time!

Since this is a jazz concert, we are not going to present the 'usual' program with pieces outlined by their title and composer. The artists themselves will introduce the music. Here in this leaflet, we are going to let you know a bit about each of these great musicians, their life and their musical histories. All of those happenings in six distinguished musical careers eventually brought them to Westminster Church on this fall Sunday afternoon ... and we are grateful the stars lined up ... and that God was gracious in allowing this to happen today!

The Artists

JOHN CAMPBELL was born in Bloomington, Illinois. He studied piano privately as a youth, then attended University High School (Normal, Class of '73) and briefly studied at Illinois State University where he was known nearly as well for his vibes work as for his piano playing. Then he moved to Chicago in the mid-1970s, and on to New York in the 1980s. Campbell has worked with numerous jazz artists, including Terry Gibbs and Buddy DeFranco, Stan Getz, Eddie Harris, James Moody, Charles McPherson, Clark Terry, and in the late 1980s was pianist for Mel Tormé.

Campbell has recorded a solo album, *Live at Maybeck Recital Hall, Vol. 29* (Concord Jazz, 1993) and has recorded with various trios, such as *After Hours* (Contemporary, 1988) with bassist Todd Coolman and drummer Gerry Gibbs, and *Workin' Out* (Criss Cross Jazz, 2001) with bassist Jay Anderson and drummer Billy Drummond. Campbell spent many years working in the Los Angeles area. He recently returned home to Bloomington, and it is Central Illinois' great pleasure to have him back home!

DEREL MONTEITH is an active jazz pianist, composer and bandleader currently based here in Central Illinois. After focusing on classical piano during his childhood in North Carolina, Derel developed an affinity for improvised music, first for electric jazz-rock fusion and then for acoustic, straight-ahead jazz. He chose to pursue that interest in the prestigious jazz program at the University of Miami, where he expanded his musical interests into jazz composition. Over the 25 years since he graduated from UM, Derel has performed with many jazz luminaries and led multiple ensembles focusing on his original compositions. Among others, he has performed with Nnenna Freelon, Vanessa Rubin, Frank Foster, and the Artie Shaw Orchestra, and has studied with the Grammy-winning composer Maria Schneider as well as Ron Miller, Vince Maggio and Jim McNeely. Since Derel moved to Central Illinois in 2007, he has performed with nationally known jazz artists based in the area such as Chip McNeill, David Hoffman and Glenn Wilson. In 2015 he formed the Derel Monteith Trio, which has since become a regional favorite through regular performances in music rooms such as Jazz UpFront and Rhythm Kitchen and at concerts in venues such as Knox College, CEFCU Center Stage, and Broadway Lounge. Derel, both on his own and through his trio, has honed a modern, high-energy and melodic style that makes him a highly creative and engaging artist. It is great to have Derel here with us today to combine his talents with those of John Campbell.

assisting artists ...

DAVID HOFFMAN, a distinguished trumpeter, pianist, composer and conductor presents his own unique and imaginative music. He has recorded several CD's under his own name, which are available from CDbaby, Amazon, iTunes and other online services.

For 13 years David traveled the world performing as part of the Ray Charles Orchestra. He is currently a founding member of the Tribute to Ray Charles Orchestra, which comprises former members of Ray's touring band, and recently performed with Maceo Parker at the Hollywood Bowl and Monterey Jazz Festival.

He advocates strongly for the arts and music being essential in the educational system, and for the civil rights of all individuals. As an activist David served as President of Local 26 of the American Federation of Musicians from 2005-2016. He currently serves on the Executive Board of Local 301, AFM and the Board of Directors for the Peoria Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union.

David currently teaches Jazz Music courses at Bradley University, provides jazz trumpet and piano lessons and conducts jazz ensembles for Knox College and is the music director and resident composer for the Heartland Jazz Orchestra. David leads a weekly Jazz Vespers service here at Westminster Church, Peoria, in which he coordinates local musicians within the program, composes original music for each service and translates known hymns into Jazz. He is one of the shining lights of the Central Illinois jazz scene, and brings much joy through music wherever he goes!

LARRY HARMS has long been a standard fixture in the Jazz scene in Central Illinois. He plays gigs regularly across the area in his own trio and with other groups. He influences many, many young people with his long time teaching relationship with Illinois Central College where his students inevitably give him a rave review for bringing them into the jazz community. Larry leads the House Band of the Central Illinois Jazz Society and keeps things swinging through that involvement. He often sits in with the combo playing Jazz Vespers here at Westminster Church, giving the group some extra kick with his great playing of the clarinet and sax as well as the piano!

ANDY CRAWFORD is adjunct Instructor of Music at Knox College where he directs jazz combos, runs the jazz bass and guitar studios and is the managing director of the Knox Jazz Year. Andy is a first call double bassist and guitarist in Central Illinois and Eastern Iowa, playing with many groups in a variety of styles. Crawford was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Guatemala from 2004-2006, and also is one of the organizers of San Pancho Music Festival, in San Francisco, Nayarit, Mexico from 2003 to the present. He is seen here at Westminster almost every Sunday afternoon during Jazz Vespers season as the house bassist.

JASON BRANNON played both guitar and piano as a child until one day he was inspired to try his hand at drums. He found his niche! Such greats as John Coltrane, Philly Joe Jones, Art Blakey, Miles Davis and Ahmad Jamal had a huge impact on his passion for Jazz. Jason plays with sundry local bands, including David Hoffman, The Derel Monteith Trio and Nathan Taylor and the Wreckers. When not practicing or playing a gig, you might find Jason actively involved in motivating students at Knox College as he instructs them in drums. Jason is a huge Cubs fan and really enjoys sitting back and watching a good game.

WE WELCOME everyone to this afternoon's performance by these six jazz greats who all share our home in Central Illinois. This concert is the kickoff for the regular Sunday Jazz Vespers Services here at Westminster, which begins next Sunday at this same hour. The service, if you've not attended in the past two years, is built around great jazz as worship music. There are also some prayers, silence, scripture and a brief homily around a central theme for the day. Those who have attended have been moved and blessed ... so come, join us. This can be your spiritual home in our great jazz tradition.

AN OFFERING PLATE will be available at the doors as you leave. If you would like to help fund our ongoing arts series, feel free to make a contribution. All contributions \$25 and over will be noted in all programs of this season. Just put your donation in an envelope found in the pews and mark it for "The Gretchen Iben Series". We thank you for your generosity.

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE CONCERT ... there will be hors d'oeuvres, coffee, tea and wine in the Parlor, down the stairs to your left as you exit the sanctuary. If it's a nice day it will spill out into our beautiful garden as well ... so join us and have your first course of Sunday dinner with us!

SUPPORTERS OF THE SERIES FOR 2017 -2018

Ray Ellington

Ilga Williams

Dick Marsho

John and Bonnie Jackson

Linda McDaniel

N. Lee and Edna Nugent

Peggy Carter

Denise and Thomas Clark-Jones

OUR NEXT CONCERT is on Friday evening, October 27 at seven-thirty in the evening when our former Soprano Soloist, Ashlie Schlatweiler will return to Peoria to sing a varied program from art songs to opera and into some contemporary theater works. Ashlie is a graduate of Bradley University and currently living and working as a musician in New Orleans, Louisiana. She will be accompanied by Kinza Hagerup from Boomington. Ashlie is a magnificent soprano, and it's well worth your evening to attend this fine program.

IF YOU ENJOY OUR MUSIC here at Westminster and would like to enjoy it weekly ... we invite you to join us for services at both ten in the morning and four in the afternoon. If you are looking for a church home in Greater Peoria ... we invite you to make this church yours!

Westminster Church of Peoria + 1420 Moss Avenue + Peoria 61606