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805.963.0761 or lobero.com

Backgrounder: Lobero Theatre Jazz
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JAZZ. At home at the Lobero for 62 years and counting...

The Lobero Theatre has been presenting the best in jazz since 1949, hosting such legends as **Dave Brubeck, Herbie Hancock, Wayne Shorter, Dave Holland, Ray Brown, Roy Haynes** and many others. **Jazz at the Lobero's 2011-2012 series** continues to blaze new trails and features the newest and most inventive artists around. Designed to inspire, innovate and improvise, this year's series will transport jazz fans around the world musically, without ever leaving the splendor of one of *DownBeat's* Great Jazz Venues. 2011-2012 season lineup features **The New Gary Burton Quartet, The Regina Carter Quintet**; an exciting collaboration with **Tierney Sutton**, *DownBeat* 2010 Flutist of the Year **Hubert Laws**, and **Larry Koonse**, and the world premiere of **Charles Lloyd and Maria Farantouri's** *Amarando* project. Read more at Lobero.com/Jazz.

"There's a welcome feeling I get when I walk into the Lobero. I know I'm among my kind of people: jazz loving, passionate, intelligent listeners. To play at the Lobero is like coming home."
– Dave Brubeck

"The Lobero Theatre is quite simply my favorite venue. Period. It's magical and warm and I look forward to the next time I get to enjoy it." – Tierney Sutton

History of Jazz at the Lobero

The Lobero Theatre is California's longest continuously-operating theatre, originally built in 1873. The Lobero Theatre has proudly served as Santa Barbara's home for live jazz since December 1949, when Nappy La Marre and the Dixie Land Bobcats made their way onstage for what was to become the first of many monumental jazz performances. In 2011 a new chapter opened for this old theatre, when *DownBeat Magazine* welcomed the Lobero to its Great Jazz Venues list, confirming its intimate and enduring qualities, and solidifying Santa Barbara's reputation as a premier cultural destination.

From then on, the Lobero has consistently presented jazz in a wide variety of formats. 1957 saw a boom in jazz with a calendar brimming with talent; vocalist Anita O'Day, saxophonist Bud Shank and the Pete Jolly Trio, and Grammy Award-winning vibraphonist Cal Tjader, who appeared twice. The following year, the Lobero hosted the West Coast Jazz Festival. Vocalists Sarah Vaughan and Carmen McRae sold out their respective shows in 1962, and then the Lobero jazz programs rested until their revival in the 1970's. These years saw Bobby Short ('72), McCoy Tyner ('77), Joe Pass ('77), Taj Mahal ('78, '79), Pat Metheny ('79, '80), Keith Jarrett ('80, '83), and Dexter Gordon and Etta James performing together in 1980. 1981 witnessed gypsy jazz violinist Stephane Grappelli, pianist Chick Corea, and renowned saxophonist Charles Lloyd in the first of many appearances on his home stage. 1985–1993 highlights include: Dizzy Gillespie ('89), the Preservation Hall Jazz Band ('87, '90 & '93), and return performances of Taj Mahal ('88 & '93).

The Lobero Theatre foundation created the **Jazz at the Lobero** series in 2000, concentrating on cultivating quality jazz programming, as well as inspiring and growing jazz audiences. Jazz at the Lobero has presented nearly seventy jazz concerts since its launch with an incredible inaugural season featuring Chick Corea, Wynton Marsalis, Wayne Shorter and Herbie Hancock. Many notable moments have taken place since then, but none like February 2011's "jazz guitar summit," as fretboard geniuses **Bill Frisell** and **John Scofield** took the stage together in a rare, surprise appearance to a sold-out house.

Committed to providing support both onstage and offstage, the Lobero Theatre Foundation awarded \$2000 in jazz scholarships in 2011. In addition, 47 students were able to enjoy the benefits of subsidized tickets. This upcoming season will feature an exciting new artist-in-residency program with Jazz at the Lobero vocalist Tierney Sutton who will volunteer her time with area students.

Jazz at the Lobero will continue inspiring, innovating and improvising with 2011-2012's series featuring new collaborations from jazz favorites. The Lobero is thrilled to present **The New Gary Burton Quartet**, the **Regina Carter Quintet**, **Charles Lloyd and Maria Farantouri's *Amarando***, and **Tierney Sutton with Hubert Laws and Larry Koonse**.

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Jazz at the Lobero individual tickets are available at Lobero.com, and at the **Lobero Theatre Box Office**, 805.963.0761. Prices vary, see website for details. All prices include facility fee. All patron tickets include priority seating, pre-performance private reception, recognition in the event program, and a tax-deductible gift to the Lobero Theatre.

Jazz at the Lobero is sponsored by the Santa Barbara County Arts Commission, the Santa Barbara Independent, KCSB 91.9 FM, Casa Magazine and the Lobero Theatre Endowment for American Roots Music.

Sources:

Reeves, Harold E. (1990). *The Lobero Theatre Chronicles 1924-1984*. Santa Barbara, CA: Bagaduce Press
UCSB Special Collections, *Lobero Theatre Records*. Retrieved online December 17-29, 2010. [UCSB special collections database](#)