Fritz Gearhart joined the University of Oregon string faculty in 1998, teaching violin and chamber music and performing regularly with the Oregon String Quartet. Representing the third generation of professional musicians in his family, Gearhart received his master’s degree and the prestigious Performer’s Certificate from the Eastman School of Music, where he studied with Donald Weilerstein. Earlier studies were at the Hartt School of Music, where Gearhart worked with Charles Treger and members of the Emerson Quartet. Gearhart has performed in major concert halls around the country, including Alice Tully Hall, Carnegie Recital Hall, and the 92nd Street Y, as well as the Terrace Theater at the Kennedy Center. He has eight compact disc releases to his credit, the most recent which was released in April 2002, featuring music of African-American composer William Grant Still. Gearhart has been heard frequently on live broadcast performances and nationally syndicated programs, including “Performance Today” on National Public Radio.

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OREGON JAZZ ENSEMBLE PERSONNEL

**Saxophone**
Hashem Assadullahi
Phil Howe
Chris Clark
Aaron Rohrbacher
Corey Lanini

**Trumpet**
Tim Leopold
Keemun Senff
Scott Ruby
Tim Clarke

**Trombone**
Derek Bondy
Mike Ragsdale
Brian Morgan
Marcus Oatman

**Rhythm Section**
Bill Marsh, guitar
Ben Darwish, piano
Josh Tower, bass
Nolan Stolz, drumset
Josh Hakanson, drumset

**JAZZ ARRANGERS CONCERT**

featuring the music of guest composer/arranger

**Chuck Owen**

and compositions/arrangements by **David Larsen, Nolan Stolz, & Matt Moresi**

performed by **Oregon Jazz Ensemble**
*Steve Owen, director*

with special guest artist **Fritz Gearhart, violin**

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106th Season, 11th program
**PROGRAM**

**Pentatonics**
David Larson
Tim Clarke, trumpet

**Two Stars, Bitonal**
Nolan Stolz
Tim Leopold, trumpet
Hashem Assadullahi, alto saxophone

**I Can’t Believe That**
Clarence Gaskill/Jimmy McHugh
**You’re In Love With Me**
arr. Matt Moresi
Tim Clarke, trumpet
Corey Lanini, baritone saxophone

**Surge**
Chuck Owen
Derek Bondy, trombone
Ben Darwish, piano
Josh Hakanson, drums

**I Don’t Hear Nothin’**
Chuck Owen
Tim Clarke, trumpet
Hashem Assadullahi, alto saxophone

**Duets**
Chuck Owen
Fritz Gearhart, violin
Bill Marsh, guitar
Hashem Assadullahi, alto saxophone

**E Ticket**
Chuck Owen
Fritz Gearhart, violin
Tim Leopold, trumpet
Chris Clark, tenor saxophone

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**ABOUT TONIGHT’S GUEST ARTIST**

Chuck Owen is distinguished professor of jazz studies and as director of the University of South Florida’s new Center for Jazz Composition, established and developed the Jazz Program at USF into one widely noted for its vigor, quality, and creativity. A noted composer, Owen serves as artistic director of Central Florida’s Jazz Masterworks Series and Conductor of the “Jazz Surge,” a collection of Florida’s finest jazz and freelance musicians. The Surge’s three CDs on Seabreeze Records have attracted the attention of musicians and critics worldwide, garnering glowing print reviews from the likes of Jazziz, Jazz Times, Jazz Educator’s Journal, and Cadence magazines. They have also received strong radio airplay throughout the U.S. as well as in Europe, Australia, Taiwan, and Japan. Owen has written for the Netherlands’ Metropole Orchestra, the Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Orchestra, the Tonight Show, the Cincinnati Symphony, the Army Jazz Ambassadors and many others. He is the recipient of the 2001 ASCAP/IAJE commission in honor of Louis Armstrong as well as 16 ASCAP composer awards, two Florida Individual Artist Fellowships, and grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Hillsborough County Arts Council, the USF Publications and Research Councils. His published compositions number more than 50 and are performed frequently throughout the country. He has been the featured guest artist at colleges and jazz festivals throughout the country.

As the director of the USF Jazz Ensemble I for more than 22 years, he oversaw the production of ten recordings, backed dozens of guest artists, and led the ensemble in hundreds of performances including prestigious jazz festivals, conferences, and a 1990 invitation to the International Society of Music Educators’ Conference in Helsinki, Finland. His devotion to teaching has been honored with a USF President’s Award for Faculty Excellence and an Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award. In 2004, he began work on establishing the first research center devoted to the study and promulgation of jazz composition. As director of the Center, he is spearheading the first International Jazz Composers Symposium in March of 2006.

Owen has been named President-Elect of the International Association for Jazz Education. Previously he served IAJE as National Composition Chairman and as President of the Florida State Unit. He also holds a position on the Florida Chapter Board of the Recording Academy. He has authored several articles and reviewed new music for the Jazz Educators Journal. He is a graduate of California State University Northridge and the University of North Texas.