University of Guelph
College of Arts and School of Fine Art and Music Present

A Tribute to

KEN ALDCROFT

THURSDAY AT NOON

Free Concert Series
Thursday, November 3 • 12:00 pm
MacKinnon Room 107  (Goldschmidt Room)
KENNETH ALDCROFT: Composer, Performer, Improviser, Educator

The School of Fine Art & Music mourns the loss of one of its teachers: Ken Aldcroft, our Jazz Guitar Teacher, passed away Saturday morning (September 17th, 2016), after suffering a heart attack. Ken was a beloved teacher and a trusted colleague. Born in Vancouver and more recently based in Toronto, Ken was also very well-known to the Guelph community, where he taught weekly and performed regularly. He was a versatile soloist and led numerous ensembles, including The Convergence Ensemble, and Quartet & Trio +1; he was constantly developing innovative projects, such as collective improvisations and the jazz repertory project, Hat and Beard. He also partnered with fellow UG colleague, Joe Sorbara, to organize and produce a weekly series of creative music in Toronto, entitled Leftover Daylight Series.

Ken’s contributions to the University were numerous: in addition to preparing students for regular juries, solo recitals, and ensemble performances, Ken performed in our Faculty Showcase, and was always reaching out to his colleagues. His latest project at the University, just one month ago, was a 4-day symposium, complete with lectures, discussions, concerts, and the release of his brand-new CD: Ken Aldcroft & Mike Gennaro: Adidas and Shorts.

Ken Aldcroft was perhaps most admired for his collaborative spirit, his willingness to stretch creative boundaries, and his generous support of other musicians. In 2005, he became a founding Board member and the first President of the Association of Improvising Musicians Toronto. AIMToronto has helped to bolster the reputation of Toronto's creative music scene locally, nationally, and internationally. AIMToronto formed an orchestra in 2007 to perform the music of Anthony Braxton at the Guelph Jazz Festival’s main stage. That performance was recorded and broadcast by the CBC and has now been documented by Creative Orchestra Guelph (Spool Records). Cadence Magazine called Ken Aldcroft “one of this country’s most interesting electric guitarists”.

The administration, faculty, staff, and students of SOFAM join together in expressing our sympathies to Ken’s family: Ken was a proud husband and father. Notification of a memorial to Ken – through music, of course – will be forthcoming. His many friends and colleagues here at the University of Guelph will miss him intensely.

Program

_Gospel performed by the Ken Aldcroft Guitar Ensemble under the direction of Joe Sorbara_

_Threads IV_  
_Threads V_  
_Threads VI_  

_All composed by Ken Aldcroft_
The **THREADS (Quintet)**, initially inspired by Henry Threadgill’s Zooid performance at the 2011 Guelph Jazz Festival, is a modern jazz ensemble whose repertoire consists of original compositions that typically run 18-25 minutes. The “concept” behind these compositions is to create music that simultaneously merges improvisation with composition that embraces the rich history of the jazz tradition while moving it forward in some small way. This is accomplished by utilizing composed material as options for the quintet members to realize through group improvisation while still retaining space for the individual soloist to step out; and is bound together with pulse time in the drums. The THREADS (Quintet) has had two residencies at Somewhere There as well as performing in Toronto at the Tranzac Club, the Gerrard Art Space, the Emmet Ray, the Hart House Jazz at Oscar’s Series at Uof T, and at Silence in Guelph. They released their debut CD “10/09/11” in January 2015.

**Jonathan Adjemian** mainly plays things with keyboards: piano, organ, synthesizers, laptop. He is an active player of improvised, composed, and pop music. Ongoing collaborations include a duo with Amelia Ehrhardt (movement and sound) and PWM with Andy Yue (matching MS20 synths). He has recorded with, among others, Kyle Brenders, One Hundred Dollars and Jon-Rae and the River, and has toured Canada extensively with the last two. His solo work as Hoover Party covers the lounge music-noise music continuum. Jonathan also works for theatre (sound, lights, technical direction), working with Alex Wolfson, Ammo Factory, the Toronto Youth Theatre, and others.

Originally from Langley, BC, bassist, composer and beat maker **Josh Cole** is currently based out of Toronto. Josh graduated from the Jazz Program at Capilano College in 2006 where he founded the critically acclaimed October Trio with Dan Gaucher and Evan Arntzen. In the years following Josh lived in Vancouver where he participated in the jazz community by playing with Brad Turner, Ron Samworth, George Mcfetridge, Dylan van der Schyff, Skye Brooks, the “fabulous” Bruno Hubert and many others. He was also active in the pop/rock community working with producer Jon Anderson (aka Jon Inc.), and Zaac Pick. Since moving to Toronto Josh has worked with THOMAS, Ken Aldcroft and Hugh Marsh amongst others.

**Germaine Liu** is a Toronto-based percussionist, performer/composer and creative improviser. As a percussionist, Liu has been privileged to work with many wonderful musicians, dancers and artists such as Anne Bourne, Matt Brubeck, Allison Cameron, Thomas Charmetant, Malcolm Goldstein, Peggy Lee, Urs Leimgruber, John Oswald, Nicole Rampersaud, Gino Robair, Danielle Palardy Roger, Evan Parker, Nick Storring, Scott Thomson and many others. She has participated in the 416 Festival, Guelph Jazz Festival, Nuit Blanche, Ottawa Chamber Festival, Sound Travels Festival, Suoni per il popolo, Supermusique, Toronto Jazz Festival, X-Avant festival, soundaXis festival, NAISA’s Sound Bash, Tone Deaf Festival, Music (in) Galleries, NUMUS, and AIMToronto’s Leftover Daylight and Interface Series. She performs regularly in a number of Toronto-based ensembles, including the c_rL, AIMToronto Orchestra, Rob’s Collision and Octopus. Liu studied percussion with Jesse Stewart during her undergraduate degree at the University of Guelph and composition with David Mott at York University in Toronto.

Alto saxophonist **Karen Ng** received her education from Humber College’s renowned jazz program and earned her Bachelors of Fine Arts in Music at York University. She has had the great opportunity of studying with the country’s top saxophonists including Pat LaBarbara, Alex Dean, Kirk McDonald, Mike Murley and Kelly Jefferson. Noted for her involvement with Toronto based bands Do Make Say Think, Broken Social Scene, Woodshed Orchestra and Contemporary Jazz Juno award winning group the Happiness Project, she has had the pleasure of touring Europe, Asia and North America. Canadian festival appearances include Hillside, Ottawa Folk Festival, Guelph Jazz, Halifax Jazz, Sappy Fest and TD Toronto Jazz.

www.uoguelph.ca/sofam/events
THURSDAY AT NOON

Concert Series

♫♫ “Celebrating over 49 Years of Music Making” ♫♫

Fall Semester 2016

Concerts start at 12:00 p.m. Thursdays in MacKinnon Room 107 (Goldschmidt Room)
Admission FREE – donations gratefully appreciated. Everyone Welcome!

September 15 ...... **David Virelles.** A piano recital with Cuban, NY based pianist and composer David Virelles, featuring material from his collection of compositions Èfé (Danzas Cubanas). Presented in partnership with the Guelph Jazz Festival.

September 22 ...... **Dévah Quartet.** Ever wonder how a band develops its sound? Join a time-lapse concert of Dévah Quartet as they take the audience through their 7 year development from being a classical quartet to the electric prog-rock quartet they currently are.

September 29 ...... **Heidi Wall, piano, and Miriam Stewart-Kroeker, cello.** This young, Canadian duo present an exciting and varied program for cello and piano featuring works by Debussy and Beethoven. *Musique de la France and du Quebec CANCELLED.***

October 6 .......... **Johannes Linstead ~ Guitar of Fire!** Enjoy an exciting afternoon of passionate Spanish guitars and fiery fretwork with Canada’s “Guitarist of the Year” and JUNO nominee Johannes Linstead with special guest Geoff Hlibka.

October 13 .......... **NO CONCERT week of Thanksgiving and Fall Study Break Day**

October 20 .......... **Awea Duo.** Praised for their soulful rendering and extraordinary sensitivity, Awea Duo has performed across the US and internationally. Their exciting program for flute and saxophone duo includes works, transcriptions, and premiere of a new work by Canadian composer, Emilie LeBel.

October 27 .......... **The Phoenix Jazz Group** in concert performing original acoustic mainstream jazz in a contemporary vein, acknowledging the great traditions in jazz that have gone before it.

November 3.......... **A Tribute to Ken Aldcroft with Threads (Quintet).** Performing music that simultaneously merges improvisation with composition while embracing the rich history of the jazz tradition and, in some small way, moving it forward. All compositions are by Ken Aldcroft.

November 10....... **Robert Gruca – Guitar Works Through the Ages.** This concert will touch on major guitar works dating back to the Renaissance and include selections of Baroque and Modern Classical Guitar repertoire.

November 17....... **Michael Lewin.** Grammy-winning American virtuoso pianist plays music ranging from classics by Beethoven and Chopin to colourful Latin American works by Villa-Lobos and Ginastera.

November 24....... **Student Soloists Day,** featuring the talented Applied Music students from SOFAM.

For more information on the fall 2016 series, contact Vicki Isotamm (visotamm@uoguelph.ca) 519 824-4120 ext.52991

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