

Mike Holober Pianist Composer Arranger Conductor Educator

Mike Holober served as Artistic Director/Conductor of the Westchester Jazz Orchestra (WJO) from 2007-2013 and Associate Guest Conductor of the HR Big Band (Hessischer Rundfunk - Frankfurt, Germany) from 2011-2015. With WJO he has written and conducted for Joe Lovano, Kate McGarry, John Scofield, John Patitucci, Randy Brecker, and Paquito D'Rivera. Projects with the HR Big Band include writing and conducting for Kurt Rosenwinkel, Billy Cobham, Jane Monheit, Terje Rypdal, Dr. Lonnie Smith, Miguel Zenon, and a concert of the works of Frank Zappa for the 2015 Frankfurt Jazz festival. With the WDR Big Band (WestDeutsche Rundfunk - Cologne, Germany) he has written and conducted projects for Avishai Cohen/Eli Degibri and for legendary drummer Al Foster. He has also recently written a project for Eli Degibri with Jazz Orchestra and Strings that was produced at the National Opera House in Tel Aviv, works for Joshua Redman with the WDR Big Band, and a work a recent Stockholm Jazz Orchestra recording. Other major concert-length works include *In The Wind* commissioned for The Gotham Jazz Orchestra by The Philadelphia Museum of Art (funded by the Pew Foundation) and *Flow; In Celebration of the Hudson River* commissioned by WJO (funded by a NYSCA Individual Artist's Grant).

Mike is a 2017-18 recipient of a Chamber Music America New Jazz Works Grant for his octet *Balancing Act*, whose eponymous premiere recording was recently released on Palmetto Records to widespread critical acclaim. *Balancing Act* features Kate McGarry, Dick Oatts, Jason Rigby, Marvin Stamm, Mark Patterson, John Hebert, and Brian Blade. His 5th release as leader, Mike is also a sideman on over 70 recordings. Also recently completed is *In The Wind* for piano trio with 7 winds, guitar, harmonica, and voice, and a group of arrangements for pianist Fred Hersch.

Mike has performed with/had his works performed and recorded by The Vanguard Jazz Orchestra, The Scottish National Jazz Orchestra, Zagreb JazzOrkestar, The Gotham Wind Symphony (where he is Composer-In-Residence), UMO, RTV Big Band Slovenia, The Airmen of Note, The Army Blues, his own big band The Gotham Jazz Orchestra, The Tim Ries Rolling Stones Project, John Patitucci, Jason Rigby, Marvin Stamm, The Prism, American, and NY Saxophone Quartets, and many others. Mike is a Full Professor at The City College of NY where he has just been named the inaugural Stuart Z. Katz Professor of Humanities and the Arts. He is a five-time MacDowell Fellow, Ucross Foundation Fellow and Yaddo Guest. Additionally he currently teaches composing and arranging at The Manhattan School of Music. From 2007 - 2015 he served as Associate Director of the BMI Jazz Composer's Workshop, (founded by the legendary jazz composers Bob Brookmeyer and Manny Albam), where he taught with Musical Director Jim McNeely.

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