

Sax of Film



What is SAX-O-PHILM?

For the last twenty years I have spent my professional career performing on Broadway, with prominent symphony orchestras such as the Philadelphia, Los Angeles and Metropolitan Opera Orchestras, and recording major motion pictures. In 2006, I created a fully scripted, multimedia, vaudeville concert featuring popular music of the 1920's, entitled SAX-O-PHILM: Sounds & Sights of the 20's.

This show features myself on saxophones along with harp, piano, female dancer/vocalist and the legendary Vince Giordano on banjo, vocals and bass. I have performed this specific concert in restored vaudeville theaters, concert series and universities from Bangkok to Connecticut. Along with world-class performers, the show features silent movies and interesting anecdotes of the period to round out this special event.

In 2019, I envisioned SAX-O-PHILM on a larger scale, with full symphony orchestra arrangements. These orchestral arrangements were premiered with the Broadway Chamber Players in June of 2019 to a sold out audience and was a huge success. I feel this is the starship of SAX-O-PHILM and is even more engaging. SAX-O-PHILM is meant for audiences of all ages, from 9 to 94!



"Vaudeville for a new generation."

- THE LEBANON DAILY NEWS, LEBANON, PA

Why SAX-O-PHILM?

Throughout the roaring 20's, Rudy Wiedoeft's virtuosic style created a saxophone craze that gripped the nation, and made the sax what is it today. His innovative blend of ragtime, waltzes and concert pieces made him an instant sensation. A household name during his own era, he is now all but forgotten. My passion is to reintroduce the music of this phenomenal artist to entertain and inspire the listeners of today. I created SAX-O-PHILM: Sounds and Sights of the 20's, to educate, enlighten and excite through Wiedoeft's glorious style.



Click here to watch the video

(Opens in a web browser, must have internet connection)



Booking

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Visit www.saxophilm.com for more
information.



Chad Smith

Saxophone & Woodwind Artist

Chad is sought after as a Broadway, recording artist, and concert performer from New York to Los Angeles. He has been a member of the Broadway orchestras of *Wicked*, *Legally Blonde*, *Follies*, *Christmas Story: The Musical*, and the *Radio City Christmas Spectacular*.

He has performed with many prestigious orchestras, including the Philadelphia Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, Mostly Mozart Festival, American Ballet Theatre, New York City Ballet, New York Pops, American Symphony, New Jersey Symphony, and the Albany Symphony.

Chad has shared the stage with Paquito D'Rivera, Vince Giordano, Tony Bennett, Johnny Mathis, Aretha Franklin, Ray Charles, John Pizzarelli, The Temptations, Arturo Sandoval, Lady Gaga, Bernadette Peters, and Audra McDonald.

His movie credits include *Star Wars: The Last Jedi*, *Secret Life Of Pets 2*, *Little*, *The Informant!*, *Ted 2*, *Extremely Close* and *Incredibly Loud*, *I Saw the Light*, and *Monsters University*. Mr. Smith has been featured on television in *Legally Blonde* on MTV, *The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade*, *Grease* on Fox, *The Wiz* and *Hairspray* on NBC, the *Tony Awards* on CBS, and the *Academy Awards* on ABC. You can also hear Chad on the TV shows *Family Guy*, *American Dad*, *Crazy Ex-Girlfriend*, *The Flash*, *Lucifer*, *Smash*, *The Simpsons*, and *Fosse/Verdon*.

Chad has created *Sax-O-Philm: Sounds and Sight's of the 20's*. *Sax-O-Philm* highlights the music of sax pioneer Rudy Wiedoeft accompanied by piano, harp and silent films, which he premiered at the 15th World Saxophone Congress in Bangkok. This past summer, *Sax-O-Philm* grew to a fully-orchestrated show premiered by Chad and the Broadway Chamber Players. To learn more about this exciting, entertaining and educational show, visit saxophilmm.com.

He travels frequently giving clinics, master classes, recitals and concerts, including being interviewed as part of the Montclair State Film Forum, premiering his own arrangements with the Eastman Saxophone Project, and lecturing at the World Saxophone Congress in Strasbourg.

Chad is an adjunct professor of saxophone at Montclair State University and founder/director of the Masters in Woodwind Specialization Program. He is a Selmer Artist and D'Addario Clinician, and proudly performs on his mentor's Al Gallodoro and Ted Hegvik's gold-plated saxophones.

“BRAVO! Terrific! You do a great job and set everything up with much charisma... I was not prepared for the spectacular eloquence you displayed. Really first class. All of the performers are wonderful and the technology is marvelous.”

- Ted Hegvik, Rudy Wiedoeft authority



Wendi Bergamini

Dance & Voice

Wendi Bergamini just completed the Broadway run of the hit revival of *Evita* starring Ricky Martin. She was also recently seen on Broadway in the revival of *Promises, Promises* directed & choreographed by the renowned Rob Ashford, and at Lincoln Center in the breathtaking revival of *South Pacific* under the direction of Bartlett Sher & Christopher Gattelli.

Her national tours include *The Light in the Piazza* (Franca, 1st National), *Guys & Dolls*, *Evita* (25th Anniversary tour, directed by Hal Prince), and *Cats* (Jellylorum) and regional credits include *Finian's Rainbow* (Westport Country Playhouse), *The Baker's Wife* (Goodspeed Opera House, dir. Gordon Greenberg), *Titanic* (CLO South Bay Cities, dir. Michael Michetti), & *The Grapes of Wrath* (The Western Stage). She has performed worldwide aboard the famous QE2.

Wendi actively participates with new composers, and loves working on new material, readings, and workshops in NY's unique artistic community.

“SAX-O-FUN”, talents like Wiedoeft's have a way of re-emerging, like a dormant musical gene. And that gene was passed to a young musician from Palmyra [PA] almost 50 years later after the virtuoso Wiedoeft's death in 1940.”

- LEBANON DAILY NEWS, LEBANON, PA



Dalton Ridenhour

Piano

Dalton Ridenhour, a native of St. James, Missouri, began musical training at the age of eight. He quickly developed an interest in Ragtime and was soon a regular featured performer at The Scott Joplin Ragtime Festival, The West Coast Ragtime Festival and various other ragtime festivals and events in the US and Canada. In addition to festival performances during his formative years, Dalton was a member of of the 2000 Grammy All-American High School Jazz Ensemble, Betty Carter's Jazz Ahead and The Interlochen Arts Camp.

Dalton furthered his education at the Berklee College of Music and The Eastman School of Music where he studied with many jazz greats including Harold Danko, Joanne Brackeen, Danilo Perez, Joe Lovano and Hal Crook. He received an Eastman graduate assistantship award that gave him the opportunity to teach undergraduate courses at the Eastman School and the University of Rochester. Dalton has also received a Downbeat Student Music Award for Outstanding Soloist in the college division and Eastman's Shirmer Prize award for jazz performance.

Currently, Dalton resides in New York City where he performs with various groups including The Bria Skonberg Quintet, Svetlana and The Delancey Five, Dan Levinson's Roof Garden Jazz Band, Mona's Hot Four and Goodbye Picasso. He continues as a featured performer at ragtime and early jazz festivals, and recently released his first solo album, "Eccentricity," on the Rivermont Records label.

“Rachmaninoff paid tribute to the America musical scene with the inclusion of alto saxophone, richly played by Chad Smith.”

- PRINCETON WEEKLY



Lynette Wardle

Harp

An orchestra harpist, chamber musician, recording artist, and soloist, Lynette Wardle enjoys a varied and rewarding performance career. She has been recognized for her “refined tone production and spot-on rhythmic sense.” In addition to being the principal harpist of both the Richmond Symphony and the Albany Symphony, she performs regularly with the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra and the New York City Chamber Orchestra.

Lynette can be heard on Grammy Award-winning Albany Symphony recordings, and Original Cast Albums for *Amélie*, the Musical, *Renascence*, *The Beast in the Jungle*, and *The Mad Ones*. For the holiday seasons, she has been in the orchestra for *A Christmas Story*, the Musical, and the Radio City Christmas Spectacular. This fall, she is in the orchestra for the new musical *Flying Over Sunset* at Lincoln Center Theatre. Lynette is an integral part of *Sax-O-Philm*, *Sounds and Sights of the 20's*, a multi-media concert production created by virtuoso saxophone player, Chad Smith.

She has shared the stage and studio with Megan Hilty, David Burnham, Lin-Manuel Miranda, Johnny Mathis, Marvin Hamlisch, Edgar Meyer, Yo-Yo Ma, Gil Shaham, Joshua Bell, Deborah Voigt, and Pavarotti. Ms. Wardle holds a Masters in Orchestral Performance from Manhattan School of Music. With Sarah Bullen, now the principal harpist of the Chicago Symphony.

“Come for the sax, experience vaudeville.”

- HARRISBURG PATRIOT NEWS, HARRISBURG, PA

Press

“Smith’s duplication of Gallodoro’s playing is next to perfect.”

- DAILY STAR, ONEONTA, NY

“Sax-O-Trix was a joyful romp made all the more enchanting by the genuine joy Mr. Smith seemed to get out of performing the piece.”

- FEAST OF MUSIC, NYC

“I’m a big fan!”

- PAQUITO D’RIVERA

“You are by far the best saxophonist I have ever given lessons. You are a PRO!!!”

- AL GALLODORO, SEPTEMBER 19, 2005

[I was] "...amazed at your virtuosity, not to mention your obvious "joie de saxophone“

- MARGARET BANKS, NATIONAL MUSIC MUSEUM CURATOR

“Smith's musicianship was clearly worthy the praise, as he displayed complete facility with both instruments [saxophone and clarinet], whether playing in the high or low register. The audience, who filled the seats of the Balcony Ballroom, was enthralled from start to finish.”

- DAILY STAR, ONEONTA, NY



“Sax-O-Philm captures the true essence of the 1920’s as presented by a talented and energetic group of performers. This informative and often humorous program, both on-screen and live, is one of a kind.

- SKIP HICKS, ALLEN THEATRE





