



The Lynn University Conservatory of Music attracts some of the world's most talented young musicians. Here, these student-artists, who hail from more than a dozen countries, pursue their degrees in instrumental performance, preparing to join the world's leading symphony orchestras and most prestigious graduate music programs.

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An Overview of Jazz in South Africa

By

Professor Mike Rossi

*Wednesday, January 31, 2007 at 3:00 p.m.
Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall
Lynn University, Boca Raton*

Lecture/Performance topics includes

- *Common Musical Forms Found in South African Jazz*
- *Key Exponents of African Jazz*
- *Performance Practices Associated with Music of Sub-Saharan Africa*
- *Factors Influencing the Development of South African Jazz*



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Michael J. Rossi

Woodwind specialist Professor Michael J. Rossi is the first Professor in Jazz at the University of Cape Town, South African College of Music. From August 1999 - June 2000 he served as acting Director of the Centre for Jazz and Popular Music at the University of Natal, Durban (UND) in South Africa as a Senior Fulbright Scholar in Jazz.



Rossi regularly performs at jazz festivals and conducts workshops and master-classes in South Africa, Europe and the United States. His diverse recording credits include *Hello From Down Here; the Mike Rossi & Micu Narunsky Duo* (MRS Jazz 1207), *Two in One – Mike Rossi/Ulrich Suesse* (MRUS), with *Darius Brubeck: Before It's Too Late* (Sheer Sound), *Space and Consequence* with Virtual Jazz Reality, *Glimpses of Music in Africa*, *One For David* with Chamber Jazz, *Beauty and the Blues*, *The Best of '97: The Standard Bank Jazz Festival, Grahamstown, South Africa*, *After Dark* and *Everything Happens To Me* with the Boston Big Band, and *Events Dancing: Recent Compositions by Robert Cogan and Pozzi Escot*. The cd of original jazz compositions, *Beauty and the Blues (MMC2045J)*, features jazz greats Rufus Reid, Tom McKinley and Billy Hart.

Rossi has also performed and recorded as a soloist with the **Czech Radio Symphony Orchestra** in Europe and the US. *MMC New Century Volume XII (MMC2072)* and *Music of David Post & Peter Farmer (MMC 2125)* feature Rossi with the CRSO as soloist, conducted by **Vladimir Valek**.

Rossi is the first recipient of the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Jazz Studies from the prestigious New England Conservatory of Music in Boston and also holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Music Education from Florida Atlantic University. Some of his performing and recording credits include appearances with Dave Liebman, Clark Terry, Joe Williams, Tony Bennett, Lou Rawls, Rob McConnell, Bill Prince, George Russell, Micu Narunsky, Bill Watrous, Aretha Franklin, Rosemary Clooney, Ulrich Suesse, Jurgen Brauning, The Boston Big Band, The Artie Shaw Orchestra, The African Jazz Pioneers, Darius Brubeck, Alec Dankworth, Jack van Poll, Hein van de Gyn, Winston Mankunku, Barney Rachabane, Johnny Fourie and Carlo Mombelli.

Rossi has contributed numerous articles to the **Jazz Education Journal**, **Saxophone Journal**, **The South African Music Teacher**, and authored "**Contrast and Continuity in Jazz Improvisation: a Diatonic and Multi-Colored Approach**", an Advance Music publication. Advance Music has also published selected arrangements of Rossi's original compositions. He also serves as Secretary of SAJE, the South African Chapter of the **International Association for Jazz Education (IAJE)**.

Mike Rossi is a **Rampone & Cazzani** Saxophone Artist; makers of Hand Made Italian Saxophones.