Larry Blumenfeld
Cultural journalist and jazz critic (Brooklyn, NY)

Jazz in Troubled Times:
The Relevance and Resonance of a Culture

Monday, March 25
Welcome Reception
4:30 - 6 p.m., Goldstein Alumni & Faculty Center
Join us in celebrating Blumenfeld's arrival (ASL provided at this social event).

Tuesday, March 26
Chicago Fire: The Men and Women of the A.A.C.M. and Their Enduring Power
5-6:30 p.m., Peter Graham Scholarly Commons, 114 Bird Library
A meeting at a musician's home on Chicago's South Side more than 50 years ago sparked an engine of creative inspiration and practical outreach that has since touched nearly all corners of modern music -- the Association for the Advancement of Creative Musicians (AACM). It is hard to imagine the aesthetic and function of today's jazz absent that influence. (CART provided)

Wednesday, March 27
Workshop: Writing About Improvisation
9:30-11:30 a.m., 304 Tolley Humanities Building
What do improvisers do? How does improvisation function? This workshop -- open to interested writers of all kinds -- seeks a deepened understanding of improvisational languages across all disciplines, and examines tensions between form and improvisation. Space is limited. Please RSVP by March 8 to eigrde@syr.edu and include any accommodation requests.

Friday, March 29
La Conexión Cubana (The Cuban Connection)
6:30-8:30 p.m., La Casita Cultural Center, 109 Otisco Street
Yosvany Terry (Harvard University)
Beyond misguided notions of “Latin Jazz” lie key cross-cultural connections that bind Afro-Cuban traditions with jazz in the United States, including shared histories, parallel developments, contrasting social structures and embattled politics. Saxophonist and checkere master Yosvany Terry will discuss these bonds with Blumenfeld, and then demonstrate them through a quartet performance. (ASL provided)

Find more information about each event - and our many generous co-sponsors -- online at http://humcenter.syr.edu.
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Monday, April 1
Armstrong in Prison: The Fight for New Orleans Jazz Culture Since the Flood
5:30 - 7:30 p.m., Joyce Hergenhan Auditorium, Newhouse 3
Drawing on immersive research as a Katrina Media Fellow for the Open Society Institute, Blumenfeld explains how jazz culture served as an essential infrastructure for recovery in the face of resistance. (CART provided)

Tuesday, April 2
How Does Jazz Survive (and Thrive)?
6:30-8 p.m., Lender Auditorium, 007 Whitman School of Management
Larry Luttinger (Central New York Jazz Arts Foundation)
Jazz finds itself in a challenged space within today’s popular culture with the club circuit fading and the music business in disrepair. “The Larrys” consider what makes for a sustainable jazz scene locally and nationally in a dialogue co-presented by the Setnor School of Music Soyars Leadership Lecture Series. (CART provided)

Wednesday, April 3
The Answer Is Culture: A Roundtable Discussion About Arts, Activism and Cultural Policy
2-4 p.m., Peter Graham Scholarly Commons, 114 Bird Library
Kal Alston (SU Cultural Foundations of Education)
James Gordon Williams (SU African American Studies)
Roger Hallas (SU English, SU Human Rights Film Festival)
How does culture intersect with social justice? How do arts fuel activism, and vice versa? This roundtable discussion considers relevant legacies, current policies and possible strategies. (CART provided)

Thursday, April 4
She Played It Like That: Jazz Listening Party with Belfer Archives
12:30-2 p.m., Peter Graham Scholarly Commons, 114 Bird Library
Linda May Han Oh (Perth, Australia)
Hear and discuss the influence of female composers, arrangers, and performers in jazz recordings curated with assistance from the Belfer Archives. Send any accessibility requests to humcenter@syr.edu by March 27.

Friday, April 5
'Gangsterism' on Campus: A Conversation about Jazz, Race and Creative Intent
5:30-7:30 p.m., Hendricks Chapel
Jason Moran (Pianist, Visual Artist)
Renowned artist and musician Moran joins Blumenfeld for conversation and performance inspired by the works of painter, Jean-Michel Basquiat, and jazz pianist-composer, Thelonious Monk. (CART provided)

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Larry Blumenfeld’s visit is hosted by Eric Grode, Director of the Goldring Arts Journalism Program and Assistant Professor in the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications