

## The Musicians

Pianist, bassist, composer, and educator **John Funkhouser** is a native of the Boston area. He has shared the stage with Joe Lovano, Steve Gadd, Charles Neville, Bobby Watson, Esperanza Spalding, Luciana Souza, Tierney Sutton, Geri Allen, Francisco Mela, Rudresh Mahanthappa, and Matt Savage, as well as many of New Mexico's most beloved musicians, including Glenn Kostur, Hillary Smith, Bobby Shew, Alex Murzyn, Tracey Whitney, John Trentacosta, and the Albuquerque Jazz Orchestra.

Funkhouser has played on over 80 CD and video recordings, including five CDs and two video projects as leader. He has performed at clubs and festivals all over the world, including the Blue Note, Birdland, and Dizzy's in New York City, the New Orleans Jazz Festival, the Kennedy Center, the Toulon Jazz Festival, and the Berklee Beantown Jazz Festival. He has toured extensively throughout the world and has appeared on ABC's "20/20," NBC's "Today Show," and National Public Radio. From 2001 to 2021 he taught piano, bass, ear training, and ensembles at Berklee College of Music in Boston. He currently resides in Albuquerque, where he keeps a busy schedule of performing and teaching.

Bassist, composer, and band leader **Greg Loughman** was born in Zanesville, Ohio and currently lives in Boston, where he earned a Master of Music degree from the Berklee Global Jazz Institute. He has performed and/or recorded with artists including Danilo Perez, Jerry Bergonzi, George Garzone, Hal Galper, Mark Murphy, and many others. Since 2014, he has toured extensively with "Hot-Club"-inspired jazz group the Rhythm Future Quartet and has made a name for himself in that genre.

In addition, Loughman leads his own trio with Ana Petrova and Tyson Jackson, co-leads the group Man On Land, and performs with many other ensembles. He is also an in-demand studio musician in the Boston area. He teaches at the Berklee College of Music and at his home studio. In the fall of 2020, he founded New England Jazz Connections, an organization that supports jazz musicians in staging concerts to raise funds for worthy causes.

**Mike Connors** has a storied career, performing not only on drums and percussion, but also on vibraphone. As a freelance musician, he is one of the most sought-after drummers in New England, playing in groups as varied as jazz, folk, rock, and world ensembles. He has toured internationally with the avant-pop group Combustible Edison, as well as Bryan Ferry, the Lilith Fair with Brenda Kahn, and many others. He has also played on national Broadway tours, including Bye Bye Birdie and Anything Goes, as well as for multiple television shows, and on soundtracks for the films Inspector Gadget, Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas, Gas Food Lodging, and Four Rooms.

Connors studied drumming at Berklee College of Music with jazz greats Joe Hunt and Alan Dawson. He is on the faculty of both Clark University and Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester, Massachusetts.

## Endowment Fund

For a complete list of our generous Donors and Contributors visit our website [PlacitasArts.org](http://PlacitasArts.org)

### How to Support PAS

- Sponsor a Concert
- Become a Donor
- Purchase Tickets
- Contribute to the Endowment Fund

## Call for Entries

Artists for 2024-2025 Season  
Go to [www.placitasarts.org](http://www.placitasarts.org)

## Our Next Concert

April 21, 2024

Judith Gordon  
*Piano Among Friends*

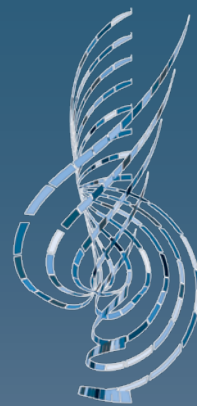
### Please Remember

We are guests of this church.

Its policy states that no refreshments are allowed in the sanctuary except for capped water bottles.

It is also customary for gentlemen to remove hats when entering the sanctuary.

Thank you for your understanding.



For tickets and other concert information, visit our website.

[PlacitasArts.org](http://PlacitasArts.org) ■ 505-867-8080

[facebook.com/placitasartists.series/](https://www.facebook.com/placitasartists.series/)



Placitas Artists Series projects are made possible in part by New Mexico Arts, a division of the Department of Cultural Affairs, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

# The Placitas Artists Series

Presents

## John Funkhouser's Boston Trio Reimagined Jazz Standards & Expansive Originals Sunday, March 17, 2024



John Funkhouser, Piano,  
Greg Loughman, Bass  
Mike Connors, Drums

Concert generously sponsored by  
Barb Reeback & Del Packwood

Joann Mackenzie, the Financial Maestro, and Scott Mackenzie

Jadvyga Biskis



# John Funkhouser's Boston Trio

John Funkhouser, Piano, Greg Loughman, Bass  
Mike Connors, Drums

The Placitas Artists Series is primarily known for presenting classical chamber music ensembles and solo performers, but the organization designates a yearly concert slot for something from a different genre: jazz, folk, or world music of one sort or another. Audiences may remember, from recent years, the Bert Dalton Trio, Beyond the Pale, Le Chat Lunatique, the Anderson Trio, and Sol y Canto, to name a few. Last year we presented jazz pianist Matt Savage, who filled out his trio with local drummer David Flores – and a local bassist named John Funkhouser.

John Funkhouser is back, this time in his role as pianist and band leader, bringing to Placitas the trio he led for 20 years before moving to Albuquerque in 2021. The three musicians in the trio –

Funkhouser on keys, Greg Loughman on bass, and Mike Connors on drums – comprise half of an east-coast sextet, the John Funkhouser Group, forward-thinking jazz musicians who “play with grace and sweetness” (Middletown Eye). They are known for music that is full of empathy, fire, groove, breathtaking technique, profound intimacy, joy, and playfulness.

Today the trio presents an afternoon of modern jazz, including reimagined standards and Funkhouser’s expansive original music. Their musical selections will be announced from the stage.

The John Funkhouser Trio has headlined the Jazz in June festival in Oklahoma City and played at major music festivals nationwide, including the Riverbend Festival in Chattanooga, the Mellon Jazz Festival in Pittsburgh, and, closer to home, Jazz in the Sangres in Westcliffe, Colorado. The band has played in New York at the Knitting Factory, Small’s, ShapeShifter, and Cornelia St. Café, and at many other venues throughout the northeastern U.S.

For a bit of insight into Funkhouser’s perspective on jazz and his fellow performers, we can refer to remarks he made about the John Funkhouser Group’s 2018 album Brothers, the title of which comes from his relationship with his band mates. “Improvised music has a curious and beautiful quality whereby you can get on stage with a musician you have never met before, play a set or two of music, and instantly develop a deep, lasting, and even intimate friendship,” Funkhouser says. He has played with these musicians for over 20 years and the musical friendship has grown exponentially with time. Brothers is the title “because that’s what we feel like at this point,” he says. “I’m grateful that the bond that has formed between us allows for spontaneity, spirit of exploration, and freedom to take musical chances and say something controversial or to reveal feelings and thoughts that would remain guarded in less familiar and sympathetic company.”

[These notes were compiled by Jay Rodman and Roger Blatz.]

# Community Outreach

PAS partners with the Placitas Community Library on educational outreach programs for children. During the 2023-24 season, PAS presented programs in music and art by the Young Voices of the Santa Fe Opera, Genevieve Leitner, Shelley Miller, and Karen Shatar. A good time was had by all!



Dancing with Shelley Miller accompanied by Genevieve Leitner



Making glass art with Karen Shatar

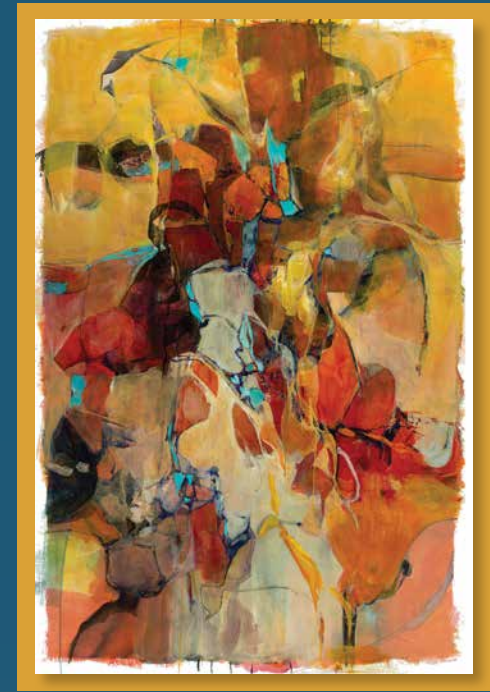


Young Voices of Santa Fe Opera



Coloring and multi-media with Genevieve Leitner & Shelley Miller

# Featured Artist of the Season



Good Vibes

Dianna Shomaker is a Placitas treasure, a past board member and president of the Placitas Artists Series, and, above all, a consummate artist with incredible talent. We are pleased that Dianna is our *Featured Artist* for the 37<sup>th</sup> season.

# Our February Visual Artists



Allen Bourne  
Photography



Lyndia Radice  
Digitally Crafted  
Photography



Roger Preston  
Photography

March Art on Exhibit 3/9/2024 to 4/13/2024