

ELI DEGIBRI

College of Charleston Cistern Yard

May 26 at 9:00pm

SPONSORED BY WELLS FARGO

Eli Degibri, *saxophone*
with
Aaron Goldberg, *piano*
Reuben Rogers, *double bass*
Gregory Hutchinson, *drums*



ELI DEGIBRI was born and raised in Israel and began playing mandolin at age seven in an after-school music program at the Jaffa Conservatory of Music. After attending a jazz concert, he became enamored with the saxophone and switched his studies to that instrument. At 16, Degibri had already worked professionally with some of the major names in the Israeli music scene, establishing himself as one of the country's leading musicians. By the age of 16 in 1994, he was selected to receive a full scholarship to attend the Berklee College of Music's Summer Performance Program. In 1997, at age 18, he received a full scholarship to attend the Berklee College of Music and relocated to the United States. After a year at Berklee, he was one of only six musicians from around the world to be selected to attend the prestigious Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz Performance program, where he studied and performed with jazz legends Ron Carter, Benny Golson, Jimmy Heath, and Clark Terry.

After graduating with honors from the Monk Institute in 1999, Degibri joined the Herbie Hancock Sextet and toured the world, playing music from the album *Gershwin's World*. Relocating to New York in 2002, he formed his first quintet featuring Kurt Rosenwinkel, Aaron Goldberg, Ben Street, and Jeff Ballard and performed regularly in New York's best jazz clubs.

In 2003, Degibri released his critically acclaimed debut CD, *In The Beginning*. Four recordings have followed: *Emotionally Available* (2006), *One Little Song* (2006), *Live at Louis 649* (2008), and *Israeli Song* (2010). Among his many awards is the 2006 Israeli Prime Minister Award for Jazz Composition. He has also been chosen as one of the first artists of the Israel Cultural Excellence Foundation, serving as a cultural ambassador worldwide. He has recently been appointed co-artistic director of the Red Sea Jazz Festival, and in 2012 Degibri was invited to be a part of UNESCO's first International Jazz Day at the UN General Assembly in New York alongside many of the finest jazz musicians in the world.

This performance is made possible in part through funds from the Spoleto Festival USA Endowment, generously supported by BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina. Piano generously provided by Steinway & Sons.

ALESSANDRO PENEZZI & ALEXANDRE RIBEIRO

Simons Center Recital Hall at College of Charleston

June 6 and 8 at 5:00pm and 7:00pm; June 7 at 7:30pm

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Alessandro Penezzi, *guitar*
Alexandre Ribeiro, *clarinet*



ALESSANDRO PENEZZI was born in Piracicaba in the state of São Paulo, Brazil, and began studying guitar at age seven. A composer, arranger, and multi-instrumentalist, he plays the 7-string guitar, tenor guitar, ukulele, mandolin and flute. He received his bachelor's degree in popular music at Unicamp in 2005. He has been part of several important Brazilian instrumental groups including: the ensemble of flutist Carlos Poyares; Trio Quintessência; Grupo Choro Rasgado; Projeto Violões do Brasil; a duo with Laércio de Freitas; a trio with Yamandú Costa and Rogério Caetano; a trio with Sizão Machado and Alex Buck; and a duo with Alexandre Ribeiro. For his technique, virtuosity, and compositions, which have been recorded by artists such as Yamandú Costa, Beth Carvalho, and Danilo Brito, critics and musicians consider Penezzi one of the most impressive guitarists today.

ALEXANDRE RIBEIRO was born in São Simão in the state of São Paulo, Brazil, and began his musical studies with clarinetist Krista Helfenberguer Munhoz, first clarinetist of Ribeirão Preto Symphony Orchestra. At age 18, he began study at the Universidade Estadual Paulista (UNESP), earning a bachelor's degree in clarinet performance under the guidance of Sergio Burgani and Luis Afonso Montanha. As a guest musician, he participated in concerts with Orquestra Sinfônica Ribeirão Preto in the Festival de Inverno de Campos Jordão and the Festival de musica Colonial de Juiz de Fora. As an instrumentalist of Brazilian popular music, he has appeared alongside such musicians as guitarist Guinga in the project "Conexão Latina," with Antônio Nóbrega in the show titled "Antônio Nóbrega convida Jovem invites Young Talentos," Carlos Malta, Osvaldinho do Acordeon, Laércio de Freitas, and Luizinho sete cordas. In 2008, he received the award for best instrumentalist at the Festival Instrumental de Guarulhos.

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