



2020-2021  
Season

Performance Hall



UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS

*presents*



# The Queen's Cartoonists

**thecabin.net**  
Log Cabin Democrat

**MONDAY**  
**APRIL 19, 2021**  
**7:30 P.M.**

For the benefit of all patrons, no photography  
or recording devices of any kind are allowed in the theater.

Please turn off all pagers, cell phones, watch alarms  
& other electronic devices that make noise.



# The Queen's Cartoonists

*"Performing Music  
from Classic Cartoons"*

The Queen's Cartoonists play music from classic cartoons and contemporary animation. The performances are synchronized to video projections of the original films, and the band leads the audience through a world of virtuosic musicianship, multi-instrumental mayhem, and comedy.

Behind the project is a single question: is it possible to create jazz and classical music in the 21st century that appeals to everyone? Even people who normally wouldn't go to concerts? The Queen's Cartoonists present a concert for everybody - regardless of age, gender, or familiarity with the concert hall.

Tying this diverse concert together are comedic anecdotes involving the cartoons and their composers. The band is on a musical mission of equal parts performance, preservation, and education. Expect the unexpected from repertoire that includes the Golden Age of animation, cult cartoon classics, modern animation, and elements of a musical circus!

Since their inception in 2015, The Queen's Cartoonists have brought their unique sound to performing arts centers in over 20 states and have opened for the New York Philharmonic. The 6 members, all currently living in Queens, New York, are world-class professional musicians. The band has been featured in numerous major publications, including The Wall Street Journal, The Chicago Tribune, Mashable, and on NPR.

Dr. Joel Pierson has made a career out of music and mockery, or perhaps a mockery of his career in music. He has worked with artists of great repute (the New York Philharmonic, the Kronos Quartet), and artists of even greater ill-repute (Linkin Park, Ke\$ha). Wayne Newton told Joel he loved him, and Paul McCartney gave him a shoulder massage. He has performed on all seven continents (yes, even Antarctica), and as a songwriter was signed to Warner Brothers Records. His music has been performed by major symphony orchestras including Atlanta, Houston, Toronto, Cleveland, & The Philly Pops. Joel wrote additional music for the 2013 film *The Internship*, and is the author of the books *You Suck at Piano* & *20 Piano Pieces for People with Emotional Problems*. See and hear more on his website [www.therealjoelpierson.com](http://www.therealjoelpierson.com)



## MEET THE PERFORMERS WITH QUEEN'S CARTOONISTS!

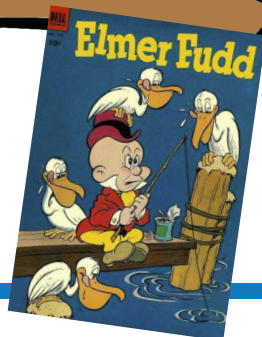
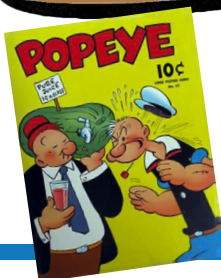
New York City based multi-multi-multi-instrumentalist Drew Pitcher was raised close to Michilimackinac, Michigan, which, by complete coincidence, is also his DJ name. After pounding the pavement with dope beats building his street cred, Drew dropped his true musical skill: being a world-class player of the tenor sax, alto sax, clarinet, bass clarinet, flute, and harmonica. Drew attended the University of North Texas where he performed and recorded with the Grammy nominated One O'Clock Lab Band. Dark economic times followed. Drew made ends meet by recording smooth jazz Christmas albums under the moniker "Montgomery Bruce", traveling the world seeking gigs, and performing with artists such as The Coasters, The Drifters, The Platters, and sadly, Wayne Newton. Having survived these travels, Drew now resides in New York, where he ferments malted barley and hops in his apartment.



Greg Hammontree has been tinkering with music his entire life, sometimes at places like Radio City Music Ball, Symphonic Space, The Jazz Standards, Studio 55, Flushing Town Mall, The Bowery Bathroom, The Louis Armstrong Mouse Museum, and in Chinatown. No wait, I meant actual China. It's real, people - Greg has been there and lived to tell the tale. Greg has a surprising number of dedicated fans in Italy, even though his Italian is "no es bueno." He has a reputation of being a fearless cartoon trumpet master, meaning he will take on any challenge, no matter how fast, ridiculous, or potentially dangerous. Greg received his Master's in Jazz Performance from CUNY, Queens College and is now a professional freelance trumpet player in New York City, #unemployed #happyhour #blessed #hashtag.



The descendent of a sheep-thief and a woman who baked her enemies into pies, Mark Phillips is the luckiest jazz immigrant in history. Upon deciding to move Up Over (what Australians call the US) to pursue great music and fewer deadlier creatures, Mark was told that in fact he was already a US citizen. The hard part being magically taken care of, Mark landed in Queens in 2011. His wacky musical journey started by studying classical saxophone, but has since morphed into being the best damn cartoon clarinetist on multiple continents. His instrumental accomplishments have not gone un-noticed, as he is now a Selmer Artist, ranking him among the best woodwind players in New York City. His bartending skills, while occasionally useful, have proven to be less distinguished, as Australians have a natural tendency to over-pour and under-care about their patrons.



Rossen Nedelchev hails from Sofia, Bulgaria, and is a jack-of-all-trades musician, playing drums and engineering/producing recordings for people in a multitude of styles. He runs a jazz outreach program for stressed-out New York City children called The Jazz Playground, and performs in electronic/pop band The Qualia as well as his own band, Alter View. Rossen dabbles in photography, long-distance running, and child-raising (ok that last one is more than a dabble).



Bassist Christopher Johnson started his musical journey in Boston Massachusetts with Project S.T.E.P. (string training educational program) at the age of 7. He completed his Bachelors Degree in Bass Performance at New England Conservatory and received his Masters in orchestral performance at Manhattan School of Music. Christopher currently lives and freelances in New York City where he explores a wide range of different genres of music and several musical groups such as Sphinx Virtuosi, Rootstock Republic, JP Jofre Quintet, NYC Ballet, Hans Zimmer's 2019 LION KING, John Legend, Carlos Santana, Patti LeBelle, and Judas and the Black Messiah.



# *Introducing*



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