

## **The Carn Davidson 9 (CD9)**

### *CD9 is...*

**Tara Davidson, woodwinds**

**Jason Logue, trumpet**

**Christian Overton, bass trombone**

**Kelly Jefferson, woodwinds**

**Kevin Turcotte, trumpet**

**Andrew Downing, bass**

**Shirantha Beddage, woodwinds**

**William Carn, trombone**

**Ernesto Cervini, drums**

**The Carn Davidson 9 (CD9)** was formed in 2010 as a collaborative project between JUNO Award-winning artists, trombonist William Carn and saxophonist Tara Davidson. CD9 is a 9-piece chord-less ensemble that utilizes its seven horns as melodic, harmonic, and rhythmic devices, anchored by bass and drums. This co-led ensemble is an opportunity for both artists to craft their compositions for this chamber jazz instrumentation.

The Carn Davidson 9's unique sound is made stronger by an all-star lineup of prominent Canadian artists who are all exceptional ensemble players as well as outstanding soloists. CD9 has produced three recordings. Their debut recording, "Nine", was released in 2012; "Murphy" was released in 2017; and "The History of Us" was released in 2021. "The History of Us" is comprised of two three-movement suites and is a meditation on the universal themes of family, migration, and loss. It received much critical acclaim, including a 4-Star review in DownBeat magazine. All three of CD9's recordings have garnered JUNO nominations for Jazz Album of the Year.

### **Co-Leaders CARN & DAVIDSON**

Trombonist **William Carn** has emerged as one of Canada's leading contemporary jazz composers and performers. As a bandleader, William has garnered four JUNO Award nominations for "Jazz Album of the Year", and he has been associated with approximately forty JUNO Award nominations for his work as a side musician. He has also been nominated for Trombonist of the Year at the National Jazz Awards from 2004 to 2008. He has performed and recorded with jazz artists including Rob McConnell, Randy Brecker, David Binney, Kenny Wheeler, Ingrid Jensen, Tim Hagans, Barry Harris, Carla Bley, Steve Swallow, Vince Mendoza, Don Braden, Mike Murley, and Hilario Duran, among many others. William also enjoys a diverse freelance career and has performed with musical theatre companies such as Mirvish Productions and the Stratford Festival. William is a RATH Trombone artist and is an instructor at the University of Toronto.

**Tara Davidson** is a twelve-time JUNO Award nominated alto and soprano saxophonist who has performed around the world at such prestigious venues as New York City's Carnegie Hall, the acclaimed North Sea Jazz Festival in the Netherlands, the International Jazz Festival in Lima, Peru, and The Kennedy Center, in Washington, D.C. As a bandleader, Davidson has produced seven recordings since 2004 and performed on more than forty recordings as a side person. Five of her recordings as a leader have been nominated by the JUNO Awards for "Album of the Year" in the jazz categories. She has been associated with seven additional JUNO nominations for her work as a side musician. Davidson holds a Bachelor of Music in Jazz Performance Degree from the University of Toronto (2002) and a Master of Arts Degree in Composition from York University (2021). Davidson is proud to be a Yamaha Canada Music (saxophone) and D'Addario Woodwinds (reeds) artist and is an active educator presently on faculty at the University of Toronto and York University (Toronto).

## CD9 Band Members

Multiple JUNO Award-winning saxophonist, composer and educator **Kelly Jefferson** has been a leading figure in the Canadian jazz community and beyond for over twenty-five years. He has performed with the National Arts Centre Orchestra, The Vanguard Jazz Orchestra, Montreal Symphony Orchestra, Maria Schneider, Christian McBride, Al Jarreau, Michel LeGrand, Nicholas Payton, Brian Blade, as well as Ray Brown, Sonny Fortune, Randy Brecker, Renee Rosnes, Johnny Mathis, and Dee Dee Bridgewater, among others. Kelly holds a Bachelor of Music degree from McGill University in Montreal and a Master's Degree from Manhattan School of Music in New York City. Kelly has performed extensively in Canada, the United States, Japan, Thailand, Europe, South Korea, and China, including a nine-month tour with legendary trumpeter Maynard Ferguson. Mr. Jefferson is currently a faculty member at both the University of Toronto and York University and has adjudicated at music festivals and has given numerous clinics and workshops throughout North America. An active freelance musician and guest artist, Kelly performs regularly with groups that include the Carn-Davidson 9, Emilie-Claire Barlow, and The Shuffle Demons.

Two-time JUNO-nominee **Shirantha Beddage** is a baritone saxophonist, composer and educator from Toronto, Canada. He has released three critically acclaimed albums as a leader, and his compositional skills have won him accolades at the Montreal Jazz Festival and placements in the Emmy-winning TV series "Fargo". Shirantha teaches in the Humber College Bachelor of Music program and adjudicates regularly at festivals across Canada. As an advocate for technology in music education, his innovative teaching methods have earned him national recognition as an Apple Distinguished Educator.

**Jason Logue** is a freelance trumpet player, composer, and arranger based in Toronto. He has performed with jazz greats Sam Rivers, Carla Bley, The Woody Herman Orchestra, Dave Brubeck, Phil Nimmons, Dave Grusin, Louis Belson, Steve Swallow, Kenny Wheeler, Dee Dee Bridgewater, Guido Basso, Jim McNeely, and Rob McConnell. He is best known for his Lead Trumpet work with David Clayton-Thomas, Emilie-Claire Barlow, the Carn Davidson 9, Laila Biali, Manteca, John Macleod, Kirk MacDonald, Manteca, Brian Barlow, N.O.J.O, Brian Dickinson, Mike Malone, and Darcy Hepner. Jason is also an active musician with Mirvish Productions in Toronto and the Shaw Festival in Niagara, ON.

Toronto based freelance trumpeter **Kevin Turcotte** has been performing around the world for more than 30 years. This Sudbury native has been asked to play on over 200 albums by artists like Rob McConnell and the Boss Brass, opera singer Measha Brueggergosman, singer-songwriter Bruce Cockburn, Sicilian guitarist Michael Occhipinti and jazz bassist Dave Young. He has played on soundtracks for the Canadian Screen Award winning film about Chet Baker called Born To Be Blue as well as the award-winning video game Cuphead. 30 recording projects have been JUNO Award nominated, 4 JUNO winners, one was nominated for a Grammy and Andrew Downing's band, the Great Uncles of the Revolution, won the Grand Prix du Jazz at the Montreal Jazz Festival. He was also 10-time winner of Trumpeter of the Year in Jazz Report Magazine. He has had the opportunity to tour around the globe from the southern tip of Chile, throughout Mexico, across the US and Canada to Europe, China, and Japan in groups led by Barry Elmes, Elizabeth Shepherd, David Braid, Dave Young, Dave McMurdo, Quinsin Nachoff and Justin Haynes. Kevin is busy composing and performing around Toronto and teaches in the music program at York University.

Originally from Sudbury Ontario, **Christian Overton** is now one of the most in demand trombonists and composers in Toronto. He has a degree from Humber College and a Master's Degree from the University of Toronto. He's played with a huge range of artists from jazz legends Danilo Perez and John Patitucci to Canadian legends Don Thompson and Guido Basso, to rock bands Sloan, and Glass Tiger to classical

masters Jens Lindemann and Alain Trudel to children's entertainer Fred Penner and in pit orchestras like the Musical Singin' In The Rain. Christian also has his own jazz quintet, leads The Composers Collective Big Band and is the founder of Clovertone Music, a publishing company dedicated to publishing Canadian composers works for the educational market. Christian was a finalist for the Ontario Arts Council Louis Applebaum composers award in 2019 and is a proud member of AFM local 149.

**Andrew Downing** is a Toronto based double bass player, composer and educator born in London, Ontario. He plays primarily in the creative jazz scene in Canada, but also performs classical chamber music, improvised music, folk and roots music, and world music. He practices the unusual craft of tuning his bass in fifths an octave lower than a cello. His teachers include Jack Winn, Dave Young, Don Thompson, Shauna Rolston, and Joel Quarrington. Apart from his busy career as a side musician with such groups as CD9, the Florian Hoefner Trio and the Lina Allemanno Four, Andrew's own group Otterville has been an ongoing concern since 2015, winning him a JUNO nomination for their first album as well as being on the 'Longer List' for the Polaris Music Prize. His former group, The Great Uncles of the Revolution, won him a JUNO award, a West Coast Music Award, and the Grand Prix de Jazz at the Montreal Jazz Festival. As a composer, Andrew has written pieces for The Iris Trio, Ensemble Made In Canada, Nordic Folk group Ensemble Polaris, banjo player Jayme Stone, The Vancouver Bach Choir, Ensemble Meduse, Toca Loca and The Prince George Symphony, and has written arrangements for Patricia O'Callaghan, The Gryphon Trio, John Southworth The Annex Quartet and The Art of Time Ensemble. Andrew currently teaches double bass, composition and improvisation at the University of Toronto and has taught at Wilfred Laurier University, the Banff Centre's Jazz Workshop, and the Creative Music Workshop in Halifax. He is also an artistic associate with Confluence Concerts in Toronto.

JUNO Award winner **Ernesto Cervini** is a sought-after drummer, composer and bandleader and an influential presence on Canada's modern jazz scene and beyond. He has documented his vision with the Ernesto Cervini Quartet (featuring Joel Frahm), the innovative sextet Turboprop, numerous co- led trio projects including MEM3, Myriad3 and TuneTown, and also the quartet Tetrahedron, featuring acclaimed guitarist Nir Felder, electric bassist Rich Brown and alto saxophonist Luis Deniz. Cervini's album **Abundance** won the 2020 JUNO Award for Jazz Album of the Year: Group. In addition to his performing career, he founded Orange Grove Publicity in 2014 and has quickly become one of the most sought-after jazz publicists in Canada. He is also co-founder of TPR Records. Cervini is on faculty at the University of Toronto.