

Peter Dominguez

Professor of Jazz Studies and Double Bass

Peter Dominguez is Professor of Jazz Studies and Double Bass at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music. He is also director of the Oberlin Jazz Septet, an ensemble that represents the most outstanding student performers, arrangers, and composers who have been handpicked by the Oberlin Conservatory of Music's legendary jazz faculty.

Growing up in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Dominguez began his double bass studies with noted band director Bernard Stepner and Clyde Russell; he also performed with the Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestras. At age 16, he joined the musicians' union and began performing with his father, pianist and vocalist Frank DeMiles. Dominguez earned his Bachelor of Arts and Master's degrees in double bass from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, studying with Roger Ruggeri and Richard Davis. In 1981, he was the first recipient of the Milton J. Hinton Scholarship award, established by the legendary bassist's family and given to jazz bass students to help pay for private teachers. Dominguez went on to complete his doctorate in musical arts at the University of Miami-Coral Gables with Dr. Lucas Drew. Dominguez continued his double bass studies with Robert Gladstone while teaching at Michigan State University from 1984 to 1996.

Dominguez has been a member of the International Society of Bassists (ISB) since 1974 and has served on its board of directors. He also has served on the boards of the Greater Lansing Symphony Orchestra, the Jazz Alliance of Michigan, and the American Sinfonietta. He is a member of the board of directors of the Richard Davis Foundation for Young Bassists and coordinates the foundation's annual conference in Madison, Wisconsin. From 1993 to 1997, Dominguez was a judge for the ISB's International Jazz Bass competitions and was featured in the 1997 International Portrait Calendar.

Principal bass with the American Sinfonietta since 1991, Dominguez has performed throughout the Americas and Europe with the Miami String Quartet, the Los Angeles Piano Quartet, the St. Petersburg Quartet, the Roycroft Chamber Players, and the Fontana Chamber Players. He has been principal bass with the Greater Lansing Symphony Orchestra, the Jackson Symphony, and the Kalamazoo Symphony, and has been a section bassist with the Miami Chamber Symphony, the Florida Philharmonic, and the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. Dominguez has also appeared in jazz performances with Benny Carter, Tommy Flanagan, Jon Hendricks, J.J. Johnson, John Lewis, Mark Murphy, Woody Shaw, and Ira Sullivan.

Dominguez can be heard on the ELF, Fossil, Mijawa, Natural Soundfields, Pug, Smitty Music, Summit, Wheatland, and Winterfare labels. In 2007, Dominguez collaborated with fellow jazz studies faculty members to produce *Beauty Surrounds Us*, a recording for the Conservatory's new music label, Oberlin Music.