



NEW JERSEY

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150 West State Street, Trenton NJ 08608

Phone (609) 989-1100

**QuickTakes!**

## William Paterson University Director of Jazz Studies Collaborates with Tony Bennett and Diana Krall on New Album, *Love is Here to Stay*

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*Tony Bennett and Bill Charlap*

Bill Charlap, internationally acclaimed pianist and director of William Paterson University's Jazz Studies program, collaborated with music icons Tony Bennett and Diana Krall on *Love Is Here to Stay*, an all-Gershwin recording that features The Bill Charlap Trio. The Verve Records/Columbia Records album is set for a September 14 release.

Mr. Charlap, who joined William Paterson University in September 2015, is considered one of quintessential

interpreters of the American Songbook. In addition to Mr. Bennett and Ms. Krall, he has performed with many leading artists from Phil Woods to Gerry Mulligan and Wynton Marsalis.

His trio comprises Charlap on piano, Peter Washington on bass, and Kenny Washington on drums.

Not only does *Love Is Here to Stay* feature The Bill Charlap Trio, but Mr. Charlap also served as co-producer for the album, along with Grammy Award winner Dae Bennett and executive producer Danny Bennett. The album will be released on CD, vinyl, digital and streaming platforms.

In it, Mr. Bennett and Ms. Krall share their love of George and Ira Gershwin's music, performing duets of "Love Is Here to Stay," "S'Wonderful," "They Can't Take That Away From Me," and "Fascinating Rhythm," among the hit parade of Gershwin tunes.

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Bill Charlap and Tony Bennett have a successful history together. They won a Grammy Award for their 2016 collaboration, *The Silver Lining: The Songs of Jerome Kern*.

**Anthony Dominick Benedetto** (born August 3, 1926), known professionally as **Tony Bennett**, is an American singer of traditional pop standards, big band, show tunes, and jazz. He is also a painter, having created works under the name Anthony Benedetto that are on permanent public display in several institutions. He is the founder of the Frank Sinatra School of the Arts in Astoria, Queens, New York.

**William Morrison Charlap** (born October 15, 1966, pronounced "Shar-Lap"), known professionally as Bill Charlap, is an American jazz pianist. Born in New York City, Bill Charlap comes from a musical background. His father was composer Moose Charlap. His mother, Sandy Stewart, is a singer who was a regular on Perry Como's *Kraft Music Hall* television series and had a hit recording in 1962 with "My Coloring Book." Bill Charlap is a distant cousin to jazz pianist Dick Hyman. Bill Charlap began playing piano at age three. He studied classical music, but his career has been jazz. He became William Paterson University's Jazz Studies director in 2015.