Columbia Global Centers/Latin America in Rio and Columbia School of the Arts Present

**Shared Jazz Musical Traditions in the U.S. and Brazil**

With Columbia’s Associate Professor of Music and Director of the Louis Armstrong Jazz Performance program, Chris Washburne, his band SYOTOS, and special guest Brazilian guitarist Bernardo Ramos.

**Tuesday, March 19** at Columbia Global Center/Rio de Janeiro Headquarters in Rua da Candelária, 9 – 13th floor (Mezzanine)

- 6:00 pm – Reception
- 6:30 pm – Performance and presentation
- 7:30 pm – Reception continues

Please RSVP with your name and the name of the event to: riodejaneiro.cgc@columbia.edu (limited availability)
Jazz is a musical art that emerged from African American culture and quickly spread to become one of the world’s first truly global musics, being performed by musicians from many diverse cultures and places. Jazz retains at its core certain African American principles and aesthetics that include the centrality of improvisation, the fluidity of leadership and the collective nature of a jazz band, and an open and porous aesthetic enabling jazz to absorb new traits without sacrificing its identity. Brazilian music traditions share many of these traits and this has facilitated the rich cross-fertilizing relationship that Brazilian musicians and US jazz musicians have shared for many years.

This musical presentation will explore and sound out that relationship through a collaborative cross-cultural performance and will address how jazz musicians use improvisation to create their art form; how those processes translate into daily life and enrich our cross cultural experiences; what jazz can teach us about nurturing our own creativity, interactions and survival skills; and how can jazz serve as a strategic model for diplomacy, leadership, and cross-cultural collaboration between the Brazil and the US.

SYOTOS is:
Chris Washburne - trombonist
Ole Mathisen - saxophone
Leo Traversa - bass
Vince Cherico - drums

S.Y.O.T.O.S. (an acronym coined by Chris Washburne, meaning See You On The Other Side) was founded in 1992 by trombonist Chris and features some of the best jazz and Latin jazz players in New York City. SYOTOS pushes the genre of jazz and Latin jazz into uncharted waters with a postmodern mix that embraces dissonance, weaving contemporary uptempo beats with a driving sound. This boundary-breaking band exemplifies jazz with a global reach, combining Afro-Cuban, funk, jazz, gospel, and contemporary classical music – “think Tito Puente meets James Brown meets Charles Ives!” TimeOut New York calls the group “a Latin jazz institution”. The New York Times opines “SYOTOS plays with fire with erudition!” The band’s members are alumni from the bands of Tito Puente, Eddie Palmieri, and Ray Barretto. SYOTOS has performed at Carnegie Hall, The Kennedy Center in Washington DC, the Blue Note in NYC, Lincoln Center, BB Kings in NYC, Smoke Jazz club, Zinc Bar, BAM, the Brooklyn Museum of Art, MOMA (Museum of Modern Art in NYC), Aaron Davis Hall in Harlem, the World Economic Forum, and many jazz festivals across the US, including the Harare International Arts Festival, Burlington Discover Jazz Festival and Lake George Jazz Festival.