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# Faculty Recital: Allison Adams, saxophone

Allison Adams

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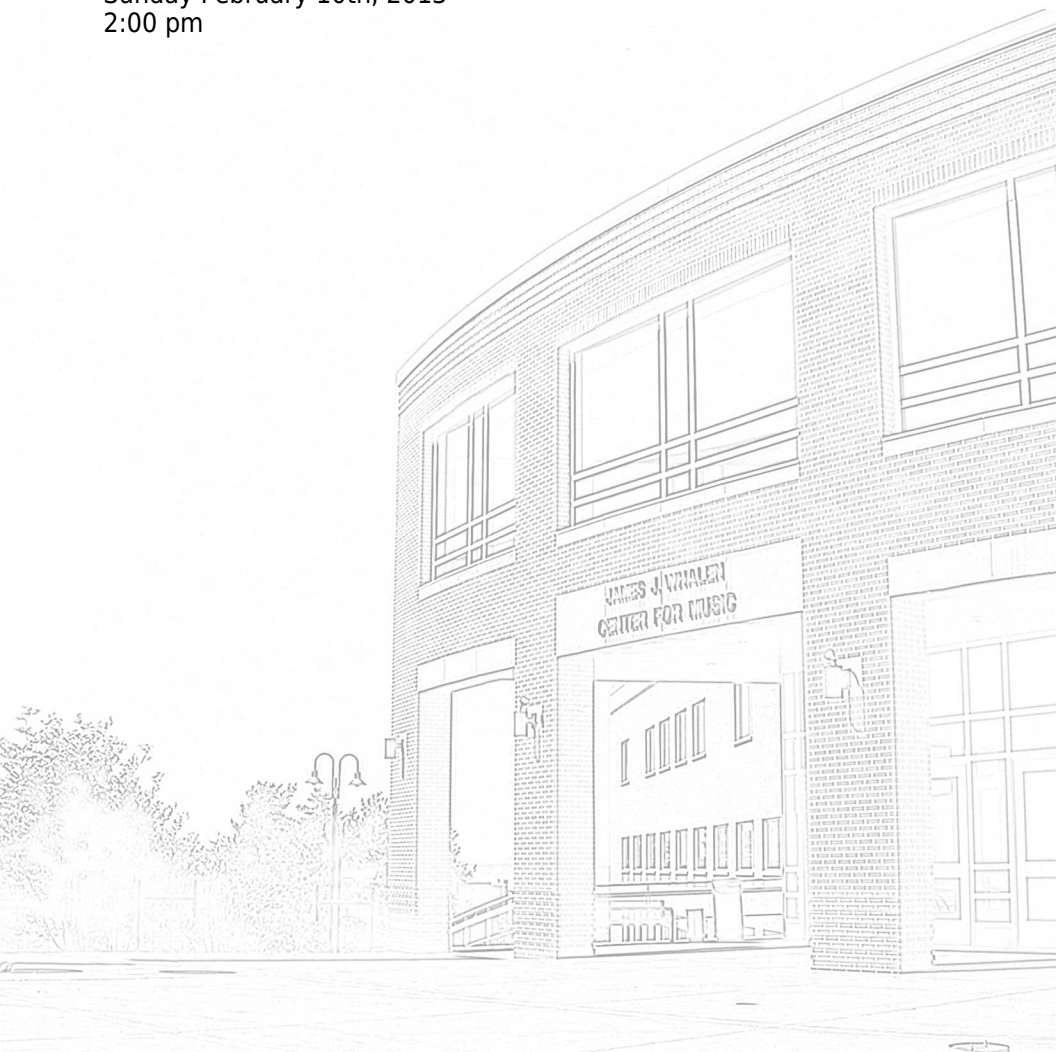
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# Faculty Recital: Allison Adams, saxophone

Liz Ames, piano

Hockett Family Recital Hall  
Sunday February 10th, 2013  
2:00 pm



**ITHACA COLLEGE**

School of Music

# Program

L'Incandescence de la Bruine (1997)

Bruno Mantovani  
(b. 1974)

Shadowed (2006)

Nicolas Scherzinger  
(b. 1968)

## Short Pause

Der Hölle Nachklang I (1991/1992)

Dimitri Terzakis  
(b. 1938)

Lilith (1984)

- I. The Female Demon
- II. Succuba
- III. Will-o'-the-Wisp
- IV. Child-Stealer
- V. The Night Dance

William Bolcom  
(b. 1938)

## Biographies

**Dr. Allison Dromgold Adams** is pleased to return to Ithaca College as the Visiting Assistant Professor of Saxophone during Steve Mauk's sabbatical leave. She graduated with a BM in music education and saxophone performance from Ithaca College and went on to receive her masters degree in saxophone performance from the University of Minnesota, where she studied with renowned saxophonist Eugene Rousseau. Adams recently completed her doctorate in saxophone performance at Arizona State University with saxophone virtuoso Timothy McAllister. She is also currently teaching at Cornell University as Visiting Lecturer of Saxophone.

Dr. Adams is an avid teacher and performer. While working on her doctoral degree, she headed an elementary and middle school band program in Scottsdale, Arizona. After moving back to Ithaca in the summer of 2012, she served on the faculty at Ithaca College's Summer Music Academy, teaching both saxophone and yoga for musicians. Adams has recently been featured in recitals at Cornell University, Western Carolina University, and the Syracuse recital series, "Civic Morning Musicals." In addition, she was a semi-finalist at the 2012 International Saxophone Symposium and Competition, and is a member of the *Estrella Consort*, a saxophone quartet based in the Phoenix area. With this group she has performed and presented master classes across Ecuador and competed at the 2012 Fischhoff Chamber Music Competition. This semester, Adams will be featured at the Region 8 Saxophone Conference in Salem, MA and the Northeast Regional Tuba and Euphonium Conference at Ithaca College. Adams is a certified yoga instructor and enjoys integrating this practice with music.

**Liz Ames** is a collaborative pianist who is passionate about performing and working with instrumentalists, vocalists, and composers. Her international appearances include performances at the 2008 Contemporary Music Festival in Lima, Peru as a member of the Trio de las Americas (with her husband, saxophonist Kevin Ames, and flutist Penelope Quesada) and at the 2011 International Double Reed Society Conference where she played for the master classes of Richard Woodhams, Nicholas Daniel, and John Steinmetz.

In March 2012, Ames served as piano coordinator and staff pianist at the North American Saxophone Alliance Biennial Conference in Tempe, AZ. In September, she performed with saxophonist Dr. Chien Kwan-Lin and clarinetist Dr. Kimberly Cole Luevano at Northern Arizona University's Single Reed Symposium. Ames received permission to create piano reductions for four concerti, including Henry Brant's Concerto for Saxophone and Orchestra, Edison Denisov's Concerto for Alto Saxophone and Orchestra, My Assam Dragon by Jan Sandstrom, and John Mackey's Concerto for Soprano Saxophone and Orchestra. These four reductions are the beginning of her life-long project of making saxophone concertos more accessible to saxophonists. Ames recently performed her reductions of the Brant Concerto and My Assam Dragon at the 2012 World Saxophone Congress in St. Andrews, Scotland.

While specializing in saxophone literature, Ames continues to pursue projects with a wide variety of instrumentalists and vocalists. She was the pianist for a series of concerts during the 2010-2011 season where she performed the entire collection of 114 Songs by Charles Ives with eight different singers. Ames is finishing her doctorate in collaborative piano at Arizona State University and is currently living in Chicago, IL.

## **Program Notes**

### **L'Incandescence de la Bruine (1997) by Bruno Mantovani**

Bruno Mantovani (b. 1974) received 5 first prizes from the Paris Conservatory (analysis, aesthetics, orchestration, composition, and music history) and is an actively sought after composer in Europe. He has collaborated with the Paris Opera and is currently working on a piece for the Ensemble Modern Orchestra, conducted by Pierre Boulez. Mantovani has been the headmaster at the Paris Conservatory since 2010.

L'Incandescence de la Bruine was written for French saxophonist Vincent David and his pianist, Dorothee Bocquet, and the duo premiered the piece at the Paris Conservatory in 1997. The title translates roughly to "The Glow of the Drizzle." As you listen, consider how the sound of the music reflects a vision of the world through the rain. The first note is a concert F, and this note is repeated throughout the piece in both the saxophone and piano parts. Sometimes the note is repeated incessantly, like the pounding of the rain. Other times it is obscured by a quarter-tone, much like the rain can blur the vision of the outside world. Throughout the piece, the musical lines of the piano and saxophone weave in and out of each other, often interacting conversationally. The saxophone frequently imitates sounds that are electronic in nature and features many extended techniques for the instrument such as slap tongue, flutter tongue, and growling.

### **Shadowed (2006) by Nicolas Scherzinger**

Nicolas Scherzinger (b. 1968) is currently associate professor of composition at the Setnor School of Music at Syracuse University and received a Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts in Composition from the Eastman School of Music. Since 2006, he has also been composer-in-residence at the Kinhaven Summer Music School in Vermont. A saxophonist himself, Scherzinger is an active performer of improvisatory works for saxophone and interactive computer in addition to his work as a professional composer and educator.

“Shadowed (2006) is a single movement piece of approximately eleven minutes for soprano saxophone and interactive computer (it is also possible to perform the piece as a solo work without the computer). The computer listens to the pitch (frequency) of the saxophone throughout the performance for cues, leaving the saxophonist in complete control of the pacing of the piece. All the electro-acoustic sounds originate from the live saxophone sound; there are no pre-recorded sounds, and all the sounds from the computer are processed at close to real-time. Therefore, as the title suggests, the saxophonist is “shadowed” throughout the piece by the electro-acoustic sounds. Most of these sounds consist of delayed effects that are modulated or filtered. The computer also records the saxophonist during the performance and then plays back granulated samples near the end of the piece. Shadowed was commissioned by Randall Hall, who premiered the work at the 2006 North American Saxophone Alliance Conference in Iowa City, Iowa, and the piece is dedicated to him with admiration.”

- Nicolas Scherzinger, Syracuse, NY, 2006  
(<http://www.scherzimusic.com>)

## **Der Hölle Nachklang I (1991/1992) by Dimitri Terzakis**

Dimitri Terzakis (b. 1938) is a Greek composer who taught composition at the Bern Conservatory in Switzerland from 1990 to 1997 and was the chair of composition at the Leipzig conservatory “Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy” from 1994 to his retirement. Terzakis was awarded the Apollo Award of the Friends of the Greek National Opera in 2008 and was also given the award of the Academy of Athens for his lifetime achievement.

The title of this piece translates as “The Echo of Hell.” Dedicated to John Edward Kelly, this work uses various microtones and moments of rhythmic simplicity contrasted with rhythmic complexity to produce an eerie atmosphere and haunting melodies.

## **Lilith (1984) by William Bolcom**

William Bolcom (b. 1938) is an American pianist and composer. He taught composition at the University of Michigan from 1973-2008, and was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in 1988 for his composition *Twelve New Etudes for Piano*. In addition, he has been awarded the National Medal of Arts, two Grammy Awards, and the Detroit Music Award. He was named 2007 Composer of the Year by Musical America. Bolcom's teachers include Darius Milhaud and Oliver Messiaen.

Lilith is a five-movement work that was funded by the National Endowment for the Arts Consortium Commissioning Grant in 1983. The consortium members included saxophonists Laura Hunter, Donald Sinta, and Joseph Wytko.

William Bolcom writes the following about Lilith: "She isn't a witch with a pointed hat on a broom. Simply put, she is the female without any trace of the ladylike at all. She is the despair of the orderly, particularly the religious orderly. She makes animal sounds like owls, hyenas, and kites and she spends her time in her lair. She is accused of childstealing, which if she did, she would take the child back to this lair of outcast animals. When cornered, she spits like a cat. She has a certain kind of rueful tenderness which is never understood by everyone she frightens. Men are frightened by the spectre of the female unleashed. She doesn't obey any rules of conduct; she laughs at religious laws; she is the door to chaos." (Taken from "William Bolcom's "Lilith"" by Laura Hunter in *Saxophone Journal*, Fall 1987)

Each of the five movements depicts a different quality of Lilith, using a wide range of extended saxophone techniques such as flutter-tongue, slap tongue, growls, and glissando to achieve animal-like sounds and other-worldly effects.



## Upcoming Events

### February

- 10** - Ford - 3:00pm - Women's Chorale (*This concert will be webstreamed live at <http://www.ithaca.edu/music/live/> )*
- 11** - Hockett - 8:15pm - Will Alderman, percussion
- 12** - Hockett - 7:00pm - David Parks, tenor
- 16** - Hockett - 2:00pm - Richard Faria, clarinet
- 16** - Hockett - 7:00pm - Verdi Project
- 17** - Hockett - 4:00pm - Blakemore Trio
- 18** - Ford - 8:15pm - Rachel S. Thaler Concert Pianist Series: Ilya Itin, piano
- 19** - Ford - 8:00pm - Rachel S. Thaler Concert Pianist Series Masterclass: Ilya Itin
- 19** - Hockett - 8:15pm - Frank Gabriel Campos, trumpet
- 20** - Hockett - 7:00pm - Robert Zolnowski, percussion
- 20** - Nabenhauer - 8:15pm - Electroacoustic Music
- 22** - Ford - 8:15pm - Black History Month Concert
- 23** - Ford - 8:15pm - Percussion Ensembles
- 25** - Hockett - 7:00pm - Composition Premieres
- 25** - Ford - 7:00pm - WeBe3 workshop
- 26** - Hockett - 7:00pm - WeBe3 Workshop
- 27** - Ford - 10:00am - Convocation with WeBe3
- 27** - Ford - 8:15pm - WeBe3
- 28** - Ford - 8:15pm - Concert Band (*This concert will be webstreamed live at <http://www.ithaca.edu/music/live/> )*