

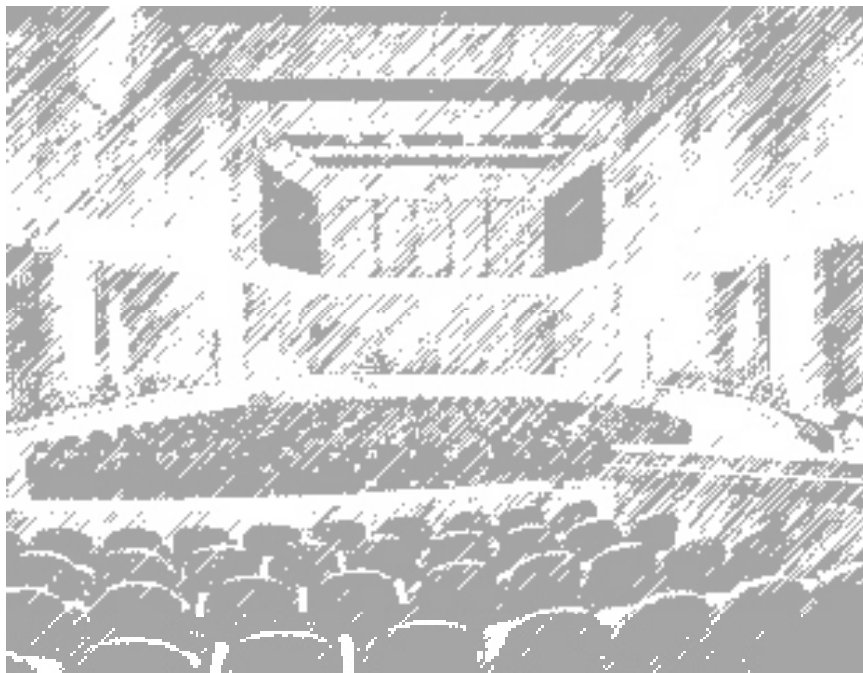
Kennesaw State University  
College of the Arts  
School of Music

presents



Senior Recital

Nick Dixon, jazz trombone



Friday, March 21, 2014

7:00 p.m

Music Building Recital Hall

*Eighty-sixth Concert of the 2013-14 Concert Season*

# Program

## *"Jazz from the 1920s to the 1950s"*

### Early Jazz (1900-1930)

JAMES F. HANLEY (1892-1942)

lyrics by Ballard MacDonald (1901-1976)

**Indiana** (1917)

### Swing Era (1930s)

GEORGE BASSMAN (1914-1997)

lyrics by Ned Washington (1901-1976)

**I'm Getting Sentimental Over You** (1932)

JUAN TIZOL (1900-1984)

**Caravan** (1936)

### Bebop (1940s)

RAY NOBLE (1903-1978)

**Cherokee** (1938)

### Cool (1950s)

BILL EVANS (1929-1980)

**Waltz for Debby** (1956)

### Hard Bop (1950s)

FRANK ROSOLINO (1926-1978)

**Free For All** (1958)

J. J. JOHNSON (1924- 2001)

**Mohawk** (1960)

Mike DeSousa, trombone

Andrew Lastrapes, guitar

Brandon Boone, bass

Noah Kess, drum set

This recital is presented in partial fulfillment of requirements for the degree  
Bachelor of Music in Performance.

Mr. Dixon studies trombone with Wes Funderburk.

# Program Notes

## **Indiana (1917)**

JAMES F. HANLEY / Ballard MacDonald

In 1913 Paul Dresser's "On the Banks of the Wabash, Far Away" is adopted as the state song of Indiana. Four years later, inspired by Dresser's song, Jack Hanley and Ballard MacDonald write "Indiana." In 1917 The Conway Band's recording of "Indiana" rises to number eight on the pop charts. "Indiana" reaches number eight again when the Original Dixieland Jazz Band release their version. In 1929 Red Nichols and *His Five Pennies'* recording hits nineteen on the charts. All three of these recordings are instrumentals. Since 1946 the song has been an integral part of the Indianapolis 500 pre-race ceremonies and is known as "Back Home Again in Indiana."

## **I'm Getting Sentimental Over You (1932)**

GEORGE BASSMAN / Ned Washington

This is George Bassman's most well known composition. It was made famous by trombonist/bandleader Tommy Dorsey. In 1934 a vocal version was released by The Dorsey Brothers Orchestra reaching number twenty in the pop charts. In 1936 Tommy Dorsey and His Orchestra release the most famous version of this song that rises to number eight in the charts. This song is known as Tommy Dorsey's Theme song and is an excellent vehicle for displaying his wide range and lyrical approach to the trombone.

## **Caravan (1936)**

JUAN TIZOL

In 1936 Caravan was released by Barney Bigard and His Jazzopaters reaching number four in the pop charts. The Jazzopaters were a small group consisting of members from the Duke Ellington Orchestra including Barney Bigard (clarinet), Cootie Williams (trumpet), Juan Tizol (valve trombone), Harry Carney (baritone sax), Duke Ellington (piano), Billy Taylor (bass), and Sonny Greer (drums). A month later, Duke Ellington and His Orchestra release their version hitting the charts at number twenty. Since then there have been many successful arrangements of this song. It is a popular song among jazz musicians and it is often programmed to feature the drummer.

**Cherokee (1938)**

RAY NOBLE

British bandleader Ray Noble wrote "Cherokee" as the first of five movements for "Indian Suite" (*Cherokee, Comanche War Dance, Iroquois, Seminole, and Sioux Sue*). The following year trumpeter and arranger Billy May created an instrumental arrangement for Charlie Barnet and His Orchestra that would rise to number fifteen on the pop charts. "Cherokee" was a favorite of bebop founder Charlie Parker. Parker is said to have learned "Cherokee" in all twelve keys and he wrote a contra-faction entitled "Ko Ko" that is based on the chord changes to "Cherokee".

**Waltz for Debby (1956)**

BILL EVANS

Bill Evans wrote "Waltz for Debby" for his niece Debby Evans. The first recording of this song was in 1956 on his album *New Jazz Conceptions*. The most well known version of this song is on the 1961 live album entitled *Waltz for Debby*. The album features Bill Evans (piano), Scott LaFaro (bass), and Paul Motian (drums).

**Free For All (1958)**

FRANK ROSOLINO

Frank Rosolino is one of the most influential contributors of innovative techniques and approaches to playing trombone. In 1958 he released the album *Free For All* featuring his blues composition "Free For All". On this track Frank plays the melody with a heavy felt swing style and then develops a intricate solo that demonstrates many of the modern techniques of trombone playing that were being developed during the twentieth century.

**Mohawk (1960)**

J. J. JOHNSON

J. J. Johnson is one of the preeminent Jazz musicians of the twentieth century. He is know for composition, arranging, and trombone mastery. In 1961 "Mohawk" was released on the album *J.J. Inc.* "Mohawk" is a minor blues with a time signature of 6/4. The melody is split between two voices with the pitches moving in parallel fourths. This song is very indicative of the Hard Bop era style. Elements of gospel and soul are important features of Hard Bop and both can be found in J. J.'s writing and improvisation.

# Biography

**N**ick Dixon is a composer, trombonist, and educator based in Atlanta, Georgia. His compositions contain a unique blend of musical genres from around the world utilizing traditional western music theory and modern electronic production methods. From 2011 to present, he has performed with The Fourth Ward Afro-Klezmer Orchestra under the direction of trumpeter Roger Ruzow and also currently performs in the electronic duo N 'n' N with electric percussionist/DJ Noah Kess. As a music instructor Nick is tutoring students in music theory, form, analysis and aural skills. He has successfully prepared trombone students for GMEA All State, Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra, and College auditions.

Nick's current focus is on recording and performing improvised electronic trance compositions with N 'n' N. The creative use of looping stations allows the two person team to create thick orchestrations with head nodding beats, expressive melodies, and interesting harmonies. N 'n' N is presently video recording their rehearsals and sharing their creations on their YouTube Channel. You can access these videos at <http://www.youtube.com/user/NnNband/videos>. They are planning to begin frequent performances and can be contacted at [nandnband@gmail.com](mailto:nandnband@gmail.com).

Nick composed music for the short film "Let Go" by Shutterbug Pictures and his compositions have been performed by The ii V I Trio, The Morgan Hall Jazz Combo, and N 'n' N. In addition to performing and recording with The Fourth Ward Afro-Klezmer Orchestra and N 'n' N, Nick's repertoire includes recording and performance engagements with Monkier, The ii V I Trio, Book of Colors, The Family Funk, Newberry Jam, Kola Ogunkoya and The Atlanta Afrobeat Orchestra, The Vinyard of Praise Gospel Choir, Mount Pisgah United Methodist Church, and Christ Church Presbyterian. Most notably, he has performed at major venues such as Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, The Alliance Theater and Centennial Olympic Park. Performances at local venues include The Five Spot, The Goat Farm, The Earl, Apache, Elliot Street Pub, 529, Tunes From The Tombs in Oakland Cemetery, and Reynoldstown Wheelbarrow Festival.

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Wes Funderburk, Jazz Ensembles

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## Kennesaw State University School of Music

The School of Music at KSU has dedicated, vibrant, and talented faculty and staff that are completely devoted to teaching, performing, scholarship, and serving our community. It is an incredibly exciting place to study, boasting state-of-the-art facilities with opportunities to produce and explore music in a dynamic place that is ahead of the curve for what it means to be a musician in the 21st century. Our students come from the leading musical honor organizations across the region and are poised to lead the cultural offerings and musical education in our area and beyond for years to come.

We welcome you to attend a concert, meet our faculty and staff, and feel the energy and excitement that our students exude. We are fully committed to our purpose as educators, performers, and scholars. We hope that you will find as much enjoyment in our product as we do in producing it.

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## Upcoming Events

*Unless otherwise noted, all events will take place at 8:00 pm in Morgan Concert Hall.*

Monday, March 24  
**Symphony Orchestra**

Wednesday, April 9  
**Gospel Choir**

Tuesday, March 25  
**Chorale and Philharmonic**

Thursday, April 10  
**Trumpet Ensemble**

Thursday, March 27  
**Wind Ensemble**

Friday, April 11  
**Opera Gala**

Monday, April 7  
**Jazz Combos**

Saturday, April 12  
**Mixed Chamber Ensembles**  
10 am • 2 pm • 4:30 pm

Tuesday, April 8  
**Student Composers Concert**

Monday, April 14  
**Summit Piano Trio**

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