

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Faculty Recital

Trey Wright, guitar

"Some of my Best Friends are Saxophonists"



with

MACE HIBBARD
saxophone

SAM SKELTON
saxophone

MARC MILLER
bass

MARLON PATTON
drums

Monday, January 23, 2017 at 8 pm

Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center, Morgan Hall

Seventy-fourth Concert of the 2016-17 Concert Season

program

"Some of my Best Friends are Saxophonists"

The title of this program was inspired by bassist Ray Brown's "*Some of my best friends are ...*" album series in which each album would feature some of Ray's favorite artists on a specific instrument. Over the past several years, I have been fortunate to have Mace and Sam perform music I have written but I have never had the opportunity to have both saxophonists on the same concert. Tonight's program will celebrate the artistry of both musicians with a mix of older and more recent original compositions.

- *Trey Wright*

Boomerang / Trey Wright

Dear Leonard (for Leonard Cohen) / Trey Wright

Some Other Monday / Trey Wright

I've Been Meaning to Tell You / Trey Wright

Chance of Snow / Trey Wright

Prelude to A Kiss / Duke Ellington / Irving Gordon / Irving Mills

One Foot in Front of the Other / Trey Wright

Come What May / Mace Hibbard

about the musicians

TREY WRIGHT, *Senior Lecturer In Jazz Guitar and Jazz Studies*

Trey Wright is a jazz guitarist, composer and recording artist based in Roswell, Georgia. Initially inspired by the blues, Trey was exposed to jazz early in his development by a private instructor. While studying Sociology at the University of Georgia, Wright furthered his study of jazz improvisation with pianist and composer Steve Dancz. In 1994, he co-founded the Athens/Atlanta based jazz band, Squat. The group is a six-time winner of *Best Jazz Band* at the Flagpole Athens Music Awards and has been a featured artist at the Atlanta Jazz Festival, Bel Chere, the Twilight Athens Jazz Festival, the Cherry Blossom Festival, Harvest Midtown and Athfest. Several of Trey's compositions with the group have received international airplay and have been featured on *Sirius* radio and NPR's *All Things Considered*.

Trey also performs freelance in the Athens and Atlanta area and has performed with Yellowjackets' bassist Jimmy Haslip, John Patitucci, Joe Lovano, Corey Christiansen and Darmon Meader of the *New York Voices*. Trey has performed at the Montreux Jazz Festival; Jazz A Vienne; the International Festival of University Theatre of Casablanca Morocco; the World Sacred Music Festival in Bangalore, India; and in Montepulciano, Italy. As a solo guitarist and with his trio, Trey has been a featured performer at the Athens Music and Arts Festival, the Lake Oconee Jazz Festival, and the Atlanta Jazz Festival. In early 2008, Trey began playing with the Georgia Symphony Jazz Orchestra.

In December of 2002, Trey completed a Master of Music degree in Jazz Studies at Georgia State University and he currently teaches Applied Jazz Guitar, Jazz Theory and Composition, Jazz Guitar Ensemble, Jazz History, Jazz Improvisation and The History of Rock at Kennesaw State University. Trey has also taught at LaGrange College, Gainesville College, the Atlanta Institute of Music and Media, and was a Jazz Artist in Residence at the University of Georgia. In addition, Trey writes a column on Jazz Harmony for the Guitar for the quarterly print magazine, *Just Jazz Guitar*.

In 2006, Trey released his first CD, *Where I'm Calling From*, receiving rave reviews and airplay throughout the United States, New Zealand, England, Australia, Germany, Italy, Canada, Luxembourg, Scotland and the Netherlands. The Trey Wright Trio released *Thinking Out Loud* in the summer of 2009 on Blue Canoe Records. In 2010, The CD was included in the first round Grammy Nominations for *Best Jazz Instrumental Album*. In the Fall of

2012, the Trey Wright Trio's version of Thom Yorke's "Analyze" was included on the compilation *Head Radio Retransmissions: A Tribute to Radiohead* on the German label ESC records. Trey's long awaited collaboration with Grammy winning saxophonist Mace Hibbard *The Hibbard/Wright Project* was released to rave reviews in May 2013 and Trey's most recent release, *Songs From Oak Avenue*, was released on Blue Canoe Records in Spring 2015.

MACE HIBBARD, *Saxophonist, Composer, Educator*

Mace Hibbard, Grammy award winning saxophonist/composer/educator, has quickly established himself as one of the most exciting and versatile saxophonists on the scene today. Journalist John Barron succinctly



commented, "Hibbard is an artist who uses his technical mastery, compositional skills, and informed understanding of the jazz saxophone lineage to create musical offerings that are truly unique."

Born and raised in Waco, Texas, early music lessons included piano and voice until settling on the saxophone at age ten. Mace's firm grasp of the history of jazz and its standard repertoire comes from the gigs he played with his father - Dave Hibbard, a great trumpet player who was a staple in the Texas jazz scene for years - throughout his teen years.

Beginning in 2005, Hibbard began his association with The Derek Trucks Band and Soul Stew Revival with Derek Trucks

and Susan Tedeschi. On select tours for the next five years, Mace was a featured soloist and horn arranger for the two bands. This union culminated in Hibbard winning a *2010 Grammy Award* for his playing and horn arrangements on *Already Free*. He is also featured on the critically acclaimed live album, *Roadsongs*, released in 2010 by The Derek Trucks Band.

In 2007, he released his debut album as a leader, *When Last We Met*, featuring all original material and a lineup of Atlanta's finest musicians. Released to worldwide airplay, it amassed incredible reviews, with one critic declaring, "Mace Hibbard's new CD grabbed me right from the git go. His writing is wonderful and his playing first class. One of the finest young alto players on the scene and he's just as impressive on soprano and tenor. The rest of the group is also first class. This is already on my list of year's best."

Time Gone By, Hibbard's second album, was released in 2011. Once again featuring his long-time quintet and original compositions, it was a fixture at the top of the CMJ Jazz Charts, peaking at #3. Dr. Michael Matheny of *RadiO Real Jazz* was emphatic in his praise for the new album, "*Time Gone By* is a huge new release for jazz, one of the best CDs of 2011 - maybe even 2012!"

With Atlanta, Georgia, as his home base, Hibbard's playing and compositions can be found on recordings by Melvin Jones, Yonrico Scott, Ben Tucker, The Joe Gransden Big Band, Jennifer Holliday, Trey Wright, Dave Frackenpohl, Bryant Thompson and Marlon Patton. He is also a featured saxophonist/composer on *Atlanta Sax Allstars*, which will be released by Hotshoe Records and will feature four of Atlanta's finest saxophonists. Continuing his standing as an all-around musician, Hibbard has performed throughout the United States and Europe, sharing the stage with Quincy Jones, Jamie Cullum, The Temptations, The O'Jays, The Four Tops, Kenny Rogers, Wayne Newton, Frankie Avalon, Frankie Valli, The Tommy Dorsey Orchestra, Jacob Fred Jazz Odyssey, Travis Sullivan's Bjorkestra, and rock bands Scrapomatic and Son Volt.

SAM SKELTON, *Director of Jazz Studies & Senior Lecturer in Saxophone*

Sam Skelton, a native of Conyers, Georgia, has been active on the Atlanta music scene for well over two decades. Skelton graduated summa cum laude from Georgia State University and the private studio of Tony Carere with a degree in Jazz Studies.



During his course of study at GSU, Skelton was a Montgomery Music Scholar and a two-time fellowship recipient to the Aspen Music Festival. He continued his saxophone studies with Kenneth Radnofsky at Boston University in 1991.

As a woodwind doubler, Skelton is well versed in any genre of music. His grasp of saxophone, clarinet and flute has enabled him to remain very busy in live performance as well as in the studio.

Skelton has performed and/or soloed with The London Symphony Orchestra, The Atlanta Symphony, The Atlanta Pops, The Peachtree Pops, The Atlanta Ballet Orchestra and The Cobb Symphony

Orchestra as well as numerous local high school and civic ensembles. World Premieres include James Oliverio's *Children of a Common Mother*, Lee Johnson's *Ora Pro Mi: Concerto for Winds Soloist* (clarinet, flute and soprano saxophone) and *Seaside Symphony* (clarinet and soprano saxophone soloist). Skelton also played the premier recording of *Ora Pro Mi* and *Seaside Symphony* with the London Symphony Orchestra.

As a sideman on over 175 compact discs, Skelton remains very active in the studio and can be heard on recordings by such artists as: Elton John, December Radio, Babbie Mason, Howard Tate, Matchbox 20, Train, Edwin McCain, The Gap Band and The Ohio Players. Television and radio jingles include *The Georgia Lottery*, *Glen Beck*, *The Weather Channel*, *The Travel Channel*, *Ford*, *The Cartoon Network*, *CNN*, *Nature's Own*, *Popeye's*, *Papa John's* and *Turner South*. Television appearances include *In the Heat of the Night*, *Savannah* and *Sinbad's Summer Jam II* on HBO.

Skelton is currently Director of Jazz Studies and Lecturer in Saxophone at Kennesaw State University. He is also Artistic Director of GSO Jazz and GYSO Jazz. Skelton served as Professor of Saxophone at Georgia State University from 1991 to 2004 and was Jazz Ensemble Director at Georgia Tech from 2002-2004, and Artist-in-Residence at The University of Georgia Jazz Department. He served as Visiting Professor of Saxophone at Furman University 2001-02. Professional associations include: Georgia Music Educators Association, Georgia Association of Jazz Educators, National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences (voting member) and the American Federation of Musicians. Skelton is a Conn-Selmer Artist.

MARC MILLER, *Artist-in-Residence in Jazz Bass and Jazz Combos*

Marc Miller joined Kennesaw State University in 2010. Starting on tuba in elementary school, he picked up electric bass in middle school and double bass in college. Studying under Melanie Punter and Bill Peterson, Marc completed his Bachelor's degree at Florida State University in Jazz Studies. He then went on to study under John Fremgen and David Neubert at the University of Texas at Austin, completing his Master's degree in Performance in 2002.

Comfortable in any musical style, Marc has performed and recorded with many jazz artists, rock groups, tango, hip-hop, flamenco, salsa and folk ensembles. While in Austin, he was a member of pioneering jazz group, Blaze, winner of the *Austin Music Awards Best Jazz Group* for several years running. He has performed regularly with Bob Reynolds, Jason Marsalis and Lizz Wright. He has also shared the stage with Tim Hagans, Bob Brookmeyer, Wynton Marsalis, Marcus Printup and Mike Stern.

Prior to teaching at Kennesaw State University, Marc taught at Jacksonville State University and LaGrange College. In addition to his bass studios at these universities, he led big bands and combos and taught academic courses including music appreciation and music theory.

Marc can be heard performing around town in a variety of ensembles, encompassing many genres of music. He is a regular member of the Trey Wright Trio and the Mace Hibbard Group, appearing on their most recent albums, as well as many other local jazz ensembles. Additionally, he performs with salsa groups, Orquesta Macuba and Vecinos Del Mundo, pit orchestras at the Fox, The Atlanta Pops Orchestra, and with other local artists.

MARLON PATTON, *Drums*

Marlon Patton was born in Atlanta, Georgia, and raised on music. He began playing his brother's drum set at age one. His love for drums continued to grow, picking up other instruments such as bass and guitar along the way. After studying at the University of Georgia's School of Music, he received his bachelor's degree in Music Performance.

Currently, Marlon's weekly agenda is a continental divide of performances featuring modern and straight ahead jazz to rock, pop, folk, hip hop, Latin, salsa and Afro-Cuban influenced music. Marlon is involved in many different projects that keep him performing and recording year round and all over the world. He is the first call for many musicians, not just because of his impeccable time, but because of the incredible musicality of what he delivers. He plays within a huge dynamic range, making him the perfect match for quiet piano jazz performances to hard-hitting rock gigs and everything in between.

Marlon has performed or recorded with Marcus Printup, Wycliff Gordon, Rufus Reid, John Patitucci, Takana Miyamoto, Ryan Waters of Sade, Jim White, Larkin Poe, Kevin Bales, TOKU and many more. He has recorded for labels such as Sony, Universal, RCA and Yep Roc.

about the school of music



Welcome to the Bailey Performance Center. We are thrilled that you are here!

The School of Music at Kennesaw State University is an exciting place to live, work and learn. Housed in the College of the Arts, the School is infused with masterfully skilled and dedicated performing teachers who care deeply about their profession, our programs, our community, and every student involved in music and the arts. This Performance Center is the jewel in our crown! We are so excited about the musical and artistic events that happen here, and we are excited that you are here with us to enjoy them! The School of Music is busy preparing our students to be productive artists. We want them to be accomplished and creative leaders of the arts world of tomorrow, professionals who are diversely trained and well-practiced. Diverse in their backgrounds, our students hail from many of the leading musical arts and honors organizations from across the Southeast, and as a School of Music, we are dedicated to the purpose of furthering the arts and cultural offerings to our region and beyond.


Please take a look through our program book and notice those who advertise with us. They support us financially and help make this performance possible. I know that they will appreciate your patronage and support! Also, please note our *Name a Seat Campaign* listed within this program book. In preparation of our tenth anniversary, we have established a goal of naming 100 seats. Perhaps there is someone you would like to see honored in this way!


I look forward to a long and rewarding relationship with you. With your continued support of music and the arts, there is nothing that we cannot accomplish together!


A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen W. Plate". The signature is fluid and cursive.


Stephen W. Plate, DMA
Director, KSU School of Music

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