

Kennesaw State University  
School of Music



Senior Recital

**Brandon Radaker, saxophone**



Tuesday, May 9, 2017 at 7 pm  
Music Building Recital Hall

One-hundred Fifty-first Concert of the 2016-17 Concert Season

# program

BRANDON RADAKER (b. 1995)

***Margie***

ANN RONELL (1906-1993)

***Willow Weep for Me***

BRANDON RADAKER

***Papi's***

BRANDON RADAKER

***Cigarettes Give You Cancer***

JIMMY DAVIS (1915-1997)

***Lover Man (Oh, Where Can You Be?)***

BRANDON RADAKER

***Always Sunny***

BRANDON RADAKER

***Any Way Round***

Brandon Radaker, saxophone

Patrick Arthur, guitar

Brandon Boone, bass

Jonathan Pace, drums

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

Mr. Radaker studies saxophone with Sam Skelton.

# program notes

## ***Margie*** | Brandon Radaker

Based on the chord changes of the classic standard *Bernie's Tune*, "Margie" is an original hard hitting swing composition. The emotion expressed through this composition is dark and intense, a stark contrast with the tune that "Margie" is based off. The title is a reference to the 2011 film *Bernie* in which a mortician befriends an old widow named Marjorie to take advantage of her wealth.

## ***Willow Weep for Me*** | Ann Ronell (1906-1993)

"Willow Weep for Me" is one of the most popular standards in jazz history. Many of the greatest jazz musicians have recorded versions of this tune such as: Louis Armstrong, Art Tatum, Ben Webster, Phil Woods, Sarah Vaughn, and Frank Sinatra. The tune has also been performed in various styles like in waltz, ballad, and swing styles. I opted to perform "Willow Weep for Me" in a boogaloo style. Some of my earliest jazz idols like Lee Morgan and Lou Donaldson made the boogaloo style a popular thing to do.

## ***Papi's*** | Brandon Radaker

An original samba tune, this composition is a tribute to the greatest restaurant in the known universe. "Papi's" uses an upbeat tempo and typical samba rhythms to create a light atmosphere for the listener.

## ***Cigarettes Give You Cancer*** | Brandon Radaker

"Cigarettes Give You Cancer" is an original composition written with the quirky style of Thelonious Monk in mind. I tried my best to incorporate elements of the blues that are important to the history of jazz while still writing a melody that stands out. I wrote this tune with lyrics in mind and you can hear the title phrase in the first melody line of the tune.

## ***Lover Man (Oh, Where Can You Be?)*** | Jimmy Davis

Another popular standard, "Lover Man" is one of the first tunes I learned when I began studying jazz. It has been performed by jazz greats such as: Charlie Parker, Cannonball Adderley, Ella Fitzgerald, and Johnny Griffin. The tune will be performed as a true ballad because it was written with truly beautiful lyrics.

### ***Always Sunny*** | Brandon Radaker

Bossa Nova has been an important influence on popular American music and certainly one of the coolest most laid-back styles of music. I wrote "Always Sunny" intending to make it laid-back and easy going. The Bossa style and simple melody reflect the joy felt when you are with the people that are the most special in your life.

### ***Any Way Round*** | Brandon Radaker

"Any Way Round" is an original funk tune. With the simple chord changes that are typical of any funk tune, "Any Way Round" focuses on how a band can sound when they focus on tight syncopated rhythms rather than complicated harmonies.

## about the musician

**B**randon Radaker is an Atlanta based artist active in the music scene since 2013. Radaker is currently pursuing a performance degree with a concentration in jazz studies under the direction of Sam Skelton at Kennesaw State University. He has been featured playing many different styles at the top venues in the Atlanta music scene including: The Velvet Note, Churchill Grounds, and Spivey Hall.

Gathering from many different styles such as rock, classical, and jazz, Brandon Radaker is able to write and put a myriad of influences into his music. He has done it all: pit orchestra work, jazz gigs, rock gigs, work as a music educator, and a performance of David Bowie jazz compositions for his junior recital in the spring of 2016. Radaker will be graduating from Kennesaw State University in the spring of 2017.