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3-27-2022

Senior Recital: Michael Pidgeon, Saxophone; Lu Witzig, Piano; Riley Erskine, Saxophone; Ethan Machamer, Piano; Hunter Thoms, Bass; March 27, 2022

Michael Pidgeon Saxophone

Lu Witzig Piano

Riley Erskine Saxophone

Ethan Machamer Piano

Hunter Thoms Bass

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Illinois State University
Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts
School of Music

Program

Please silence all electronics for the duration of the concert. Thank you.

Senior Recital
Michael Pidgeon, *Saxophone*
Lu Witzig, *Piano*
Riley Erskine, *Saxophone*
Ethan Machamer, *Piano*
Hunter Thoms, *Bass*
Jameel Stephens, *Drums*

Concerto (2018) Chris Evan Hass
1. Allegro (b.1993)

Taking Flight (2022) Tyler Bloomfield
Mvt. 1 (b. 2000)
Mvt. 2

World Premiere

Pequeña Czarda (1998) Pedro Iturralde
(1929-2020)

~ Intermission ~

On Green Dolphin Street (1947) Bronislaw Kaper
(1902-1983)

Summertime (1935) George Gershwin
(1898-1937)

This recital is in partial fulfillment of the
graduation requirements for the degree,
Bachelor of Music Education.

Kemp Recital Hall
March 27, 2022
Sunday Evening
7:30p.m.

This is the one hundred and thirty-second program of the 2021-2022 season.

Program Notes

Concerto (for Baritone Saxophone and Piano) was composed by Chris Evan Hass and was commissioned in 2018. This composition was made to show the versatility of the baritone saxophone as well as the range and capacity of the instrument. You will hear many different ideas melded into the first movement to come together and connect the writing in a beautiful and ferocious way.

Taking Flight (for two baritone saxophones) was composed by Tyler Bloomfield in 2022. It was written in the request of the performer, Michael Pidgeon. Tyler is a fellow student with the performer and with their friendship, came this piece. Tyler made this piece to show the beauty of the instrument and how two can be better than one. The first movement will demonstrate a melancholy chant while the second movement will show a fast, technical work that mimics certain jazz standards. Both movements together will allow you to grasp even more so the potential beauty and intensity of the baritone saxophone.

Pequeña Czarda was composed by Pedro Iturralde in 1998. Pedro Iturralde is known to many to be a major figure in Spanish jazz. While there are elements of the piece that you may find in jazz tunes, the listener will be led in by the beauty of the alto saxophone on this Latin piece. The intensity comes quick as you are thrown “into the deep end” with a fast, technical passage. The piece is very much pulling you in and releasing intensity in the end. This pattern continues into the fiery ending.

On Green Dolphin Street was composed by Bronisław Kaper in 1947. Kaper is a Polish composer who has done compositions for movies and films across Europe and into the U.S. The piece, On Green Dolphin Street, was composed for the film “Green Dolphin Street,” which was filmed based off of the book “Green Dolphin Street.” The head of the piece is slow as the listener can perhaps envision walking down a city street at night under the light posts. However, the solo section adds the extra flares needed to really bring the tune to life. The piece will end with the melody being played out by the performer as the fantasy comes to an end.

Summertime, composed by George Gershwin in 1935, is a great way to end off the night. George Gershwin is an American pianist who is most famous for incorporating jazz into popular culture. His piece, Summertime, is a

blues tune which was made even bigger when one of the most famous saxophonists played this piece. Not only did this performer play the piece, he incorporated a string orchestra into the tune. This performer is none other than Charlie “Bird” Parker. The performer of the recital has based their playing off of the track of “Charlie Parker With Strings.” It is a piece that is meant to be played out only to be given the emotions of the time during the solo section. This piece ends the night due to its dramatic nature which gives a final goodbye from the performer.