

# OASIS 451°

Student Ensemble Series

Katzin Concert Hall | April 18, 2016 | 7:30 P.M.

## Program

Jettisoned (2016)

Dale Sakamoto

*Caleb West, marimba*

Visions of the Flagstaff Sky (2016)

Ben Vining

*Ben Vining, cello*

*Jeremiah Sweeney, piano*

Macbeth (2016)

Matthew Brew

*Izayah Dutcher, Violin 1*

*Emily Rumney, Violin 2*

*Katie Holste, Viola*

*Angelese Pepper, Cello*

Inspired by the play 'Macbeth' this is the first movement, intended to reflect events from the character Macbeth's perspective, the quartet is characterised loosely, with the violins representing the witches, the cello Lady Macbeth and the viola Macbeth.

set shimmering in the firmament (2016)

Jeremiah Sweeney

*Ben Vining, cello*

*Jeremiah Sweeney, piano*

"set shimmering in the firmament" was written as an exploration into music not relying as heavily on sectional repetition to achieve cohesion, instead leaning more upon mood and color, yet also avoiding lingering too long at any tonal center.

This is for you, whom I could spend eternity looking up at the stars with.



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## INTERMISSION

Court Chroma (2016)

Zach Jones

*Andrew Lesley Smith, guitar*

The first movement opens with lyrical, melodic lines that transform into a more modal, courtly music with rhythmic ostinati, chromatic themes, and drones. The second movement is a slower, tender music that develops themes from the first movement. The third movement utilizes syncopated rhythms and widespread chordal planing for a fast, funky finale.

Cognitive Landscape (2016)

Stephen Mitton

*Erin Heidrick, Violin I  
Megyn Neff, Violin II  
Sarah Evins, Viola  
Emily Hunt, Violoncello*

This piece was written in response to a painting called "Cambium" by Paul Morrison. Morrison's paintings often depict disproportionately large plants against a backdrop of tiny landscapes. Of his aesthetic, the painter said: "I'm interested in cognitive landscape, the terrain that one sees, somewhere beyond the eyes."

Kudzu (2015)

Christopher Mitchell

*Rebekah Watkins, Flute  
Patrick Englert, Bb Clarinet and Bass Clarinet  
Alexandra Birch, Violin  
Stephen Mitton, Cello  
Kevin Villalta, Piano  
Joseph Perez, Found Percussion  
Mark Alpizar, Conductor*

Kudzu is inspired by the process of growth, degeneration and death. During the 3 years I lived in Alabama, I became intrigued by the Japanese plant, Kudzu, which



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had been planted in the south in the early 20th century to help with soil erosion. However, what the southerners did not realize was that the plant will grow exponentially faster in warmer conditions. Since the south is warmer than Japan and has a mild winter, the plant never stops growing. It covers trees from bottom to top, to the point where the tree no longer receives sunlight and slowly dies. Metaphorically speaking, a similar process occurs in the mind and body when evaded by a terminal disease. I witnessed a family member die of Alzheimers disease. It was as if a plant was growing inside their mind, shrouding all light.

Identity Problems (2009)

Gil Dori

*Chelsea Janzen, voice*

Identity Problems/Yona Wallach (1944-1985)  
Originally in Hebrew, translated by Maya Felixbrodt

Bird what are you singing someone else  
singing from your throat  
someone else  
wrote your song  
sings at home  
through your throat.  
Bird bird  
what are you singing  
someone else sings  
through your throat

This miniature for solo voice is one of the first pieces of mine that I had performed, and it still is dear to my heart. The work revolves around the idea of identity problems, conveyed by setting jumbled words from the poem (but you probably can't understand because it's in Hebrew).



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