Jazz Ensembles II & III
Rob Opitz, Conductor
Wes Funderburk, Conductor

Thursday, October 31, 2019 | 8:00 PM
Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center, Morgan Hall
KSU Jazz Ensemble III
Rob Opitz, Conductor

Jazz Traditions

Program

SUNNY RAY
SANTOS / ARR. DAVIS

BLUE SKIES
BERLIN / ARR. EVANS

LULLABY OF BIRDLAND
SHEARING / ARR. KENTON

WE’LL BE TOGETHER AGAIN
FISCHER / ARR. KENTON

DON’T GET AROUND MUCH ANYMORE
ELLINGTON / ARR. DAVIS

THE BEST IS YET TO COME
COLEMAN / ARR. DAVIS

—BRIEF INTERMISSION—

Personnel

Vocals
Piper Johnson

Saxophone
Bailey Carter
Kevin Douglas
Tom Smith

Brass
Patrick Reyman
Trombone
Alex McCarthy
Trumpet
Candice Simmons
Trumpet
Michael Brown
Trumpet

Rhythm
Diego Fonesesca
Guitar
Louis Reyes
Guitar
Jimmy Durkin
Bass
Piper Johnson
Bass
Carlos Diaz
Drums

Audio/video recording and flash photography is prohibited at School of Music concerts.

We welcome all guests with special needs and offer the following services: easy access, companion seating locations, accessible restrooms, and assisted listening devices. Please contact a patron services representative at 470-578-6650 to request services.
KSU Jazz Ensemble II  
Wes Funderburk, Conductor

Program

TAKE THE A TRAIN  
STRAYHORN / WOLPE

PASSING THROUGH  
GARNER / WOLPE

TRUTH BE KNOWN  
FUNDERBURK

BLACK COFFEE  
BURKE / WEBSTER

ALL THE THINGS YOU ARE  
KERN / MYAGKOV

CYCLOPS  
ADDERLY / FUNDERBURK

Personnel

Reeds
Brandon Printup  
Alto 1
Anthony Barasouain  
Alto 2
Noah Pirkle  
Tenor 1
Michael Siler  
Tenor 2
Marco Hernandez  
Baritone

Trombones
Austin Coker  
Samuel Missner  
Wes McDonald  
Blue Goodman  
(Bass Trombone)

Trumpets
Eli Rickles  
Cierra Weldin  
Kameron Clarke  
Jalen Dobson

Rhythm
Alex Deen  
Piano
Max Toomey  
Drums
Asuria Austin  
Bass
Brad Cannata  
Bass
Rodrigo Suarez  
Guitar

Vocals
Sadie Llop  
Auriyan Tillman
Biographies

Rob Opitz

Rob Opitz holds the title of Artist-in-Residence in Jazz Trumpet at Kennesaw State University. Originally from Illinois, Mr. Opitz’s career has ranged from elementary music, to middle school, high school, and now at the collegiate level. Mr. Opitz has been the Director of Bands at Marietta High School, Creekview High School, Barber Middle School, and Reinhardt University.

Rob is a very active performer. Recently, Rob completed a 4 week tour with international superstar Noel Gallagher’s High Flying Birds. The tour featured multiple US Cities, Austin City Limits, and the Jimmy Kimmel show. Rob is the founder and director of his own group, the Atlanta Latin Jazz Orchestra – an 18 piece big band featuring the music of some of the greats in Latin Jazz.

He has also appeared as a sideman with Tito Puente, Louis Bellson, Marian McPartland, Rufus Reid, Hal Crook, Marshal Royal, Jon Faddis, Diane Schuur, Paquito D’Rivera, Claudio Roditi, Bob Mintzer, and many more. Rob has performed in local groups in the metro Atlanta Area, including Orquesta MaCuba, the Georgia Symphony Orchestra Jazz Ensemble, Yacht Rock Revue, Bumpin’ the Mango, Bogey and the Viceroy, the Joe Gransden Big Band, Macon Pops Orchestra, and numerous others.

Rob has been married to a terrific woman and Pre-K teacher, Stacie, for over 20 years and has two wonderful sons, Michael and Zach – both of whom are musicians.

KSU Jazz Ensemble III

The Kennesaw State University Jazz Ensemble III is in its second year of existence. Under the direction of Rob Opitz, this ensemble features both music majors, and non-majors working together to understand jazz style, performance, and literature. This group strives to take students from all different backgrounds and create a cohesive sound that audiences and performers alike can enjoy.
Wes Funderburk

Wes Funderburk has performed across the United States and Europe and is currently one of the most sought after trombonists and arrangers in the Southeast. He has written, performed and recorded with a wide array of national and internationally-renowned artists including: Arrested Development, John Driskell Hopkins, Jennifer Holliday, Natalie Cole, Jermaine Dupri, Cee Lo, the Boston Brass, Dallas Austin, Joe Gransden, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, the Atlanta Pops Orchestra, the Macon Pops Orchestra as well as the Cartoon Network and the Weather Channel.

Wes’ arranging credits include music for the Joe Gransden Big Band, Russell Gunn’s Krunk Jazz Orchestra, Jennifer Holliday, John Driskell Hopkins, the Atlanta Pops, Natalie Cole, the Georgia Brass Band, Kennesaw State University Jazz Ensemble, Georgia State University Jazz Ensemble and the Piedmont Trombone Society.

Wes earned his Bachelor’s Degree in trombone performance from the University of North Florida and his Masters’ Degree in trombone performance with a concentration in jazz studies from Georgia State University. He is a former governor for the Atlanta chapter of the Recording Academy and is a performing artist for Rath trombones.

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Visit the Live Streaming page on musicKSU.com to watch live broadcasts of many of our concerts and to view the full schedule of upcoming live streamed events.

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SCHOOL OF MUSIC FACULTY AND STAFF
Leslie J. Blackwell, Interim Director

Brass and Percussion
Jason Casanova, Tuba/Euphonium
Paul Dickinson, Tuba/Euphonium
Tom Gibson, Trombone
Brian Hecht, Bass Trombone
John Lawless, Percussion, Area Coordinator

Leslie J. Blackwell, Interim Director
Jason Casanova, Tuba/Euphonium
Paul Dickinson, Tuba/Euphonium
Tom Gibson, Trombone
Brian Hecht, Bass Trombone
John Lawless, Percussion, Area Coordinator

Brass and Percussion
Doug Lindsey, Trumpet, Area Coordinator
Ryan Moser, Trumpet
Hollie Pritchard, Trombone
Michael Stubbart, Percussion
Mike Tiscione, Trumpet
Richard Williams, Horn

Strings
James Barket, Double Bass
Elisabeth Remy Johnson, Harp
Helen Kim, Violin, Area Coordinator
Yinzi Kong, Viola
Charae Krueger, Cello

Joseph McFadden, Double Bass
Sean Thrower, Classical Guitar
Kenn Wagner, Violin

Strings
James Barket, Double Bass
Elisabeth Remy Johnson, Harp
Helen Kim, Violin, Area Coordinator
Yinzi Kong, Viola
Charae Krueger, Cello

Woodwinds
Andrew Brady, Bassoon
Kelly Bryant, Flute
Barbara Cook, Oboe
Robert Cronin, Flute
Anthony Georgeson, Bassoon
Cecilia Price, Flute
Sam Skelton, Saxophone

Todd Skitch, Flute
Christina Smith, Flute
Justin Stanley, Clarinet
Elizabeth Koch Tiscione, Oboe
John Warren, Clarinet, Area Coordinator
Luke Weathington, Saxophone

Woodwinds
Andrew Brady, Bassoon
Kelly Bryant, Flute
Barbara Cook, Oboe
Robert Cronin, Flute
Anthony Georgeson, Bassoon
Cecilia Price, Flute
Sam Skelton, Saxophone

Jazz
Justin Chesarek, Jazz Percussion & Combos
Wes Funderburk, Jazz Ensembles and Jazz Trombone
Karla Harris, Vocal Jazz & Combo
Tyrone Jackson, Jazz Piano & Combos
Marc Miller, Jazz Bass & Combos

Rob Opitz, Jazz Ensembles and Jazz Trumpet
Sam Skelton, Jazz Ensembles and Jazz Saxophone, Area Coordinator
Luke Weathington, Jazz Saxophone & Combos
Trey Wright, Jazz Guitar & Combos, Area Coordinator

Jazz
Justin Chesarek, Jazz Percussion & Combos
Wes Funderburk, Jazz Ensembles and Jazz Trombone
Karla Harris, Vocal Jazz & Combo
Tyrone Jackson, Jazz Piano & Combos
Marc Miller, Jazz Bass & Combos

Voice
Eileen Moremen
Oral Moses
Nathan Munson
Valerie Walters

Todd Wedge
Heather Witt
Jana Young, Area Coordinator

Voice
Eileen Moremen
Oral Moses
Nathan Munson
Valerie Walters

Piano
Judy Cole, Collaborative Piano
Julie Coucheron
Robert Henry, Area Coordinator
Eric Jenkins, Collaborative Piano Coordinator

Huu Mai
John Marsh
Erika Tazawa, Collaborative Piano

Piano
Judy Cole, Collaborative Piano
Julie Coucheron
Robert Henry, Area Coordinator
Eric Jenkins, Collaborative Piano Coordinator

Kennesaw State University School of Music
Ensembles in Residence
Georgia Youth Symphony Orchestra and Chorus
KSU Community & Alumni Choir

Ensembles & Conductors
Leslie Blackwell, Director of Choral Activities
Nancy Conley, Philharmonic Orchestra
David T. Kehler, Director of Bands
Alison Mann, Women’s Choir
Reid Masters, Assistant Director of Choral Activities
Eileen Moremen, Opera Theater
Oral Moses, Gospel Choir

Nathaniel F. Parker, Director of Orchestral Studies
Joseph Scheivert, Assistant Director of Bands
Sam Skelton, Director of Jazz Studies
Debra Traficante, Director of Athletic Bands and “The Marching Owls”

Chamber Music
Julie Coucheron, Piano Ensemble
Charae Krueger, String Chamber Music
Doug Lindsey, Brass Chamber Music

John Warren, Woodwind Chamber Music
Trey Wright, Jazz Combos

Music Education
Judith Beale
Janet Boner
Nancy Conley
Kathleen D. Creasy
Charles R. Jackson
Alison Mann, Area Coordinator
Angee McKee

Richard McKee
Terri Talley
Paula Thomas-Lee
Charles Tighe
Amber Weldon-Stephens

Musicology & Music Appreciation
Drew Dolan
Edward Eanes, Area Coordinator
Heather Hart
Kayleen Justus

John Marsh
Jennifer Marsh
Harry E. Price
Sean Thrower

Music Composition, Technology, & Theory
Judy Cole, Music Theory
Steve Dancz, Composition, Technology
Kelly Francis, Music Theory
Tyrone Jackson, Music Theory
Jennifer Mitchell, Composition

Laurence Sherr, Composition, Technology, Bachelor of Arts Area Coordinator
Benjamin Wadsworth, Music Theory Area Coordinator
Jeff Yunek, Music Theory, Aural Skills Area Coordinator

School of Music Staff
Christine Collins, Audition Coordinator and Advising
Mark Fucito, Technical Manager
Susan M. Grant Robinson, Associate Director for Administration

Joseph Greenway, Assistant Director for Production & Technology
Richard Peluso, Coordinator of Band Operations and Outreach
Colleen Radbill, Office Manager

Georgia Youth Symphony Orchestra and Chorus
KSU Faculty Chamber Players
KSU Faculty Jazz Parliament
Summit Piano Trio

KSU Community & Alumni Choir
Jazz Combos  
Monday, 11/4/2019 at 5:30 pm and 8 pm in Scott Hall

Choral Ensembles  
Tuesday, 11/5/2019 at 8 pm

Philharmonic  
Wednesday, 11/13/2019 at 8 pm

Wind Ensemble  
Thursday, 11/14/2019 at 8 pm

Opera Theatre Scenes  
Saturday, 11/16/2019 at 8 pm in Scott Hall

**artsKSU presents: Anat Cohen Tentet, Musical Director Oded Lev-Ari**  
Saturday, 11/9/2019 at 8 pm

Ever charismatic, prolific, and inspired, GRAMMY-nominated clarinetist-saxophonist Anat Cohen has won hearts and minds the world over with her expressive virtuosity and delightful stage presence. Anat has been declared Clarinetist of the Year by the Jazz Journalists Association every year since 2007 and has also been named the Top Clarinetist, Rising Star, and Jazz Artist of the Year by Downbeat Magazine. The tentet (rhythm section, horns, vibraphone, cello, and accordion) performs tunes from their recent album Happy Song which draws influence from Brazilian music and African grooves to vintage swing and touching ballads.

**Trumpet Festival of the Southeast**  
January 31 - February 2, 2020

*Register at musicKSU.com under Clinics and Workshops.*

Our two featured trumpet artists this year are Jose Sibaja, Paul Merkelo, Brian Shaw, Melvin Jones. Our evening concert artists include the KSU Faculty Jazz Parliament, Georgia Brass Band, and KSU Wind Ensemble.