

SCHOOL of MUSIC

Where PASSION is *heard*

Virtually Yours!

KSU Jazz Ensemble I & II

Wes Funderburk, *director*

Sam Skelton, *director*

PROGRAM NOTE

As we begin this Fall 2020 semester in the middle of a global pandemic, we are faced with numerous challenges in our day to day exchanges (or lack thereof) with each other. Once we add the task of making music as an ensemble to the mix, an entirely new set of obstacles appear. Live music, as we know it, has taken on a new look. The School of Music faculty and students spent the summer figuring how to remain relevant in a remote way in an art form that is typically the opposite of remote! Tonight's "concert" is our first attempt at this new modality of delivering music to the public. All of the pieces you will hear this evening were recorded remotely and individually from the comforts of the student's homes or dorms. This was also done to prepare our students for music making in the digital domain. We hope you enjoy this abbreviated program and please know that we can't wait to see you all in person in Morgan Hall at the Bailey Performance Center!!!

-Sam Skelton

PROGRAM

KSU Jazz Ensemble II

Brazil - Ary Barroso, arr. Billy May

KSU Jazz Ensemble I

You Go To My Head - Gillespie & Coots / Bill Holman

It Could Happen To You - Burke & Van Heusen / Al Cobine

Just Friends - Klenner & Lewis / Mike Carubia

Dizzyland - Don Menza



**KENNESAW STATE
UNIVERSITY**
COLLEGE OF THE ARTS
School of Music

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PERSONNEL

Jazz Ensemble II

Wes Funderburk, *director*

Brandon Printup,
alto sax

Eli Ethridge, *alto sax*

Noah Pirkle, *tenor sax*

Isaac Turner, *tenor sax*

Alex Barasoain, *bari sax*

Luis Rivera,
trombone

Wesley McDonald,
trombone

Blue Goodman,
trombone

Kameron Clarke,
trumpet

Eli Reeves, *trumpet*

Matthew Garren,
trumpet

Jacob Lack, *trumpet*

Jake Daron, *piano*

Diego Fonseca, *guitar*

Bill Pritchard, *bass*

Alex Sotka, *drums*

Auriyan Tillman, *vocals*

Sadie Llop, *vocals*

Jazz Ensemble I

Sam Skelton, *director*

Raphael DeJesus, *reed 1*

Alan Scott, *reed 2*

Jimmy Snyder, *reed 3*

Kevin Worley, *reed 4*

Marco Hernandez, *reed 5*

Grady Housworth,
trombone 1/2

Zachary Opitz,
trombone 1/2

Noah Minch, *trombone 3*

Tyler Quick, *trombone 4*

Jason Dokes, *trumpet 1*

Cierra Weldin, *trumpet 2*

Andrew Olsen, *trumpet 3*

Ezra Trotman, *vocals*

Melodie Fort, *vocals*

Alexander Deen, *piano*

Chris Marks, *guitar*

Rodrigo Suarez, *guitar*

Brad Cannata, *bass*

Asuria Austin, *bass*

Carlos Diaz Hernandez,
drums



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BIOGRAPHIES

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.

Sam Skelton

A native of Conyers, Georgia, Sam Skelton has been active on the Atlanta music scene for well over three decades. Mr. Skelton graduated summa cum laude from Georgia State University with a degree in Jazz Studies. During his course of study at GSU, Sam 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 focusing on classical saxophone and music education. Other teachers include David and James "Dub" Hudson and Jeff Benedict.

Sam is currently Director of Jazz Studies and Senior Lecturer in Saxophone at Kennesaw State University. He is also Artistic Director of GSO Jazz and GYSO Jazz. Sam 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: The JazzEducators Network, Georgia Music Educators Association, Georgia Association of Jazz Educators, National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences (voting member) and the American Federation of Musicians. For his contributions to the city's cultural life, Atlanta Public Broadcasting named him a "Lexus Leader in the Arts" in 2003. Sam is proud to be a Conn-Selmer and D'Addario Artist.

