

SCHOOL of MUSIC

Where PASSION is *heard*

Kennesaw State University Jazz Ensembles II/III

Wes Funderburk, *director*

Rob Opitz, *director*

Tuesday, November 17, 2020 | 7:30 PM

Presented virtually from Morgan Concert Hall of the Bailey Performance Center

PROGRAM

Jazz Ensemble III

The Look of Love

DAVID / BACHARACH, arr. Berry

Moonlight in Vermont

SEUSSDORF / BLACKBURN, arr. Wolpe

Piper Johnson, *vocals*

Omaha

MATT WALLACE, arr. Gordon Goodwin

Jazz Ensemble II

Ain't Misbehavin'

WALLER, arr. Nowak

Theme from Mr. Lucky

MANCINI

The Girl From Ipanema

JOBIM, arr. Taylor

A Fine Romance

arr. Mandel

Straighten Up and Fly Right

COLE, arr. Amy



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PERSONNEL

Jazz Ensemble III

Rob Opitz, *director*

Slater Carpenter, *alto saxophone 1*
Stan Kiklica, *alto saxophone 2*
Tyler White, *baritone saxophone*

Alex Jaeger, *trumpet 1*
Nathan Patterson, *trumpet 2*

Cade Sexton, *trombone 1*
Zachary Opitz, *trombone 2*

Chris Sarzen, *guitar*
Louis Reyes III, *guitar*
Piper Johnson, *bass, vocals*
Jimmy Durkin, *bass*
Lucas Williams, *drums*

Jazz Ensemble II

Wes Funderburk, *director*

Brandon Printup, *alto saxophone 1*
Eli Ethridge, *alto saxophone 2*
Noah Pirkle, *tenor saxophone 1*
Isaac Turner, *tenor saxophone 2*
Alex Barosoain, *baritone saxophone*

Kameron Clarke, *trumpet*
Jacob Lack, *trumpet*

Luis Rivera, *trombone*
Wesley McDonald, *trombone*
Wes Funderburk, *trombone*
Blue Goodman, *trombone*

Jake Daron, *piano*
Diego Fonseca Perez, *guitar*
Alex Sotka, *drums*
Sadie Llop, *vocals*
Auriyan Tillman, *vocals*

BIOGRAPHIES

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.



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Rob Opitz

Mr. 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 has been a four-time clinician for the Georgia Association of Jazz Educators Clinic Band Festival. He has been an adjudicator for both the District 7 and District 12 GMEA Jazz Festivals. Rob currently serves as the Director of Jazz at Milton High School, Jazz trumpet instructor for the Lovett School, in addition to his duties at Kennesaw State University.

Rob is a very active performer. 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. This group employs the top call players in the southeast.

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, Cladio 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 is a proud Schilke Trumpet artist, and is proud to have an affiliation with a company that has such dedication to excellence in brass!

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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