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ABOUT MUSIC

The University of Arkansas is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music and the Department of Music is housed within the Fulbright College of Arts & Sciences.

Home to over 300 music students and fifty faculty members, we offer a variety of degree programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Department faculty and students perform over 400 concerts per year, on and off campus. Large concerts are performed at the 600-seat Faulkner Performing Arts Center that opened in 2015. Chamber and solo recitals are primarily presented at the 200-seat Stella Boyle Smith Concert Hall, which is slated for a full renovation starting December 2022.

For more information, find us on social media or contact us at (479) 575-4701, email us at **music@uark.edu**, or visit **music.uark.edu**.



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JAKE HERTZOG & THE OZARK JAZZ PHILHARMONIC

Directed by Susumu Watanabe

7:30pm, Tuesday, April 16th, 2024

Jim & Joyce Faulkner Performing Arts Center

University of Arkansas

PROGRAM

“Anthropoesia: A Concerto for Jazz Guitar and Jazz Philharmonic”

Movement I: The majesty of existing at all

Interlude: Energy at play

Movement II: The panic of beautiful life

Interlude: Memory keeps us

Movement III: A wild breath of miraculous sadness

Interlude: Occasional entropy

Movement IV: The silent joyful madness of it all

Music Composed by Jake Hertzog

Arranged & Orchestrated by Susumu Watanabe

PROGRAM NOTES

“Anthropoesia” (the poetry of being human) is about the omnipresent contradictions of the human experience: The universal joy, sadness, grandiosity, and intimate madness of a person’s inner emotional life. So much of our shared humanity is in our internal dialogue - precious marriages of unique feelings melded from pain, sorrow, desire, and rapture. This work celebrates the complexity of that tri-

umph and despair; the often indescribable emotional conditions that make us so fragile and so singularly human, and the fleeting gratitude we must share for our brief time in such a poetic form.

The work contains four ensemble movements and three small group interludes. As a jazz work, improvisation is a major component, but most of the music is composed. As a concerto for guitar, the guitar is heavily featured as a lead instrument, however, much of this music was written for the exact group of people on this stage, and thus, in many moments, the ensemble and its members are featured and celebrated. I've always loved music from every idiom, while I have spent much of my life playing "jazz", or "rock", I've always considered myself just a "guitarist". This concerto represents my love of classical music, jazz, hard rock, and many other genres. In it, I hope you will find a melody to take home with you.

This performance marks the conclusion of my Jazz Road Creative Residency Project- a grant program from South Arts - that also included a recording of this same work to be released in 2025. I am so grateful to this incredible ensemble and all the friends and colleagues who have shared my enthusiasm for this endeavor. Large ensemble jazz can be complicated to sustain, and a mission of this project is to aid in supporting more large ensemble jazz in Arkansas. I hope the Ozark Jazz Philharmonic continues to play this music, and launches a life of its own in the future. I am grateful to the South Arts Foundation and their partners that saw merit in this project, and the University of Arkansas for allowing me to share it with my community. Most of all I am grateful for the talent and tenacity of my partner Susumu Watanabe who embraced my vision and never let go.

As a guitarist, creating a large ensemble work has always been a dream of mine. Living that dream for the last nine months has been such a tremendously enriching and joyful experience. I hope this music resonates with you, and you embrace your own inner poetry. Jazz Hard.

-Jake Hertzog, April 2024

PERSONNEL

THE OZARK JAZZ PHILHARMONIC:

Conductor: Susumu Watanabe

Rhythm Section: Matt Nelson, Garrett Jones, Chris Peters, Jake Hertzog, Tomoko Kashiwagi

Trumpets: Rich Rulli, Cameron Summers, Ben Hay, Bill Gable

Trombones: Cory Mixdorf, Shea Pierce, Michael Olefsky, Jason Hausback

Saxophones: Rick Salonen, Michael Hanna, Alisha Pattillo, Sarah Hetrick, Austin Farnam

Strings: Er-Gene Kahng, Dayton Strick, Grace Clark, Pecos Singer

JAKE HERTZOG

Dr. Jake Hertzog is a critically acclaimed guitarist, composer and educator whose career to-date has spanned eleven albums as bandleader across jazz, rock and classical new music styles. He has toured throughout the U.S., Europe, Latin America, the Middle East and India and performed and recorded with a diverse cadre of artists including Randy Brecker, Ivan Neville, Mike Clarke, Blondie Chaplin, Anton Fig, Corey Glover, Barry Altschul, Dave Leibman, Ingrid Jensen and many others.

Most recently, Jake Hertzog is pushing the boundaries of improvisation, guitar, and technology with his newest release a turn of events, with media artist Adam Hogan. The pair blend free jazz, and ambisonic technology on a completely innovative new album released in 2023. Hertzog's many active projects have included the Jake Hertzog Trio with Harvie S and Victor Jones — a jazz/rock group that has released five albums to wide acclaim and radio success and headlined venues such as The Blue Note in New York and Salo Jazz Festival in Finland. In 2023, Jake was honored with a Jazz Road Creative Residency Grant from the South Arts Organization, funded by the Doris Duke foundation and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, for a large-scale work for jazz orchestra, guitar, and strings to be recorded, released and debuted in 2024. Jake also received a 2023 Artist 360 Grant from the Mid-America Arts Alliance for an upcoming jazz/folk project.

A true sonic explorer, Hertzog's music has also included fusions with the classical world. In 2018 he released "Stringscapes: A Portrait of the World in Nylon and Steel"(2018) on Fretmonkey Records. This 12 movement through-composed work for two guitars co-features classical guitarist Yishai Fisher and is a unique blend of classical and jazz. He was awarded a fellowship from the Arkansas Arts Council in 2018 for music composition for this project. Hertzog's classical work also includes a solo guitar album, "Well Lit Shadow" (2016), a classical suite for solo electric guitar celebrating themes and images in particle physics.

As a musical director for pop stars Hertzog has performed on national television shows including Good Morning America, The View, and The Today Show. Hertzog's former rock group "The Young Presidents" (2009-2016) has been featured on Vh1 and MTV as well as radio stations around the world. He also produced a documentary film about the making of their album "Coalition," in collaboration with Grammy-winning producer Rob Fraboni (Rolling Stones, The Band).

As an educator, Hertzog has been an artist-in-residence and guest clinician in colleges and conservatories in the U.S., Europe, Latin America and India. He created the instructional series "Hey Jazz Guy" for Guitar Player magazine and contributed over 30 articles to the publication. He currently serves as Jazz Area Coordinator as Assistant Professor of Guitar at the University of Arkansas. Jake is the author of two guitar instructional books, Guitar SFX (Hal Leonard), and Guitar University

(Royal Press). Hertzog is a grand prize winner of the Montreux Jazz Guitar Competition, holds a performance degree from Berklee College of Music and a master's degree from The Manhattan School of Music in New York. In addition to his musical work, Hertzog also holds a Ph.D. in higher education from the University of Arkansas. His research focuses on how higher music education is adapting to the digital music industry. Other research includes data use in the music industry, music ecosystems, ambisonic improvisation, and entrepreneurial pedagogy. Hertzog's research has appeared at numerous international conferences and in journals such as *Artivate*, and *Jazz Education in Research and Practice*, and *Journal of Popular Music Education*. Most recently, Hertzog's innovative music ecosystem research is being supported by the National Endowment for the Arts with results of multiple studies anticipated in 2025. www.jakehertzog.com

SUSUMU WATANABE

Susumu Watanabe was born in Nagoya, Aichi, Japan. He holds a Bachelor of Music in Jazz Composition from Berklee College of Music, a Master of Fine Arts in Composition from City University of New York and a Doctor of Musical Arts in Jazz Composition from University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

He has been serving as a music director for many ensembles, including Fenway Brass Art Orchestra, UMASS Jazz Lab Ensemble, UMASS Jazz Ensemble I/Studio Orchestra, Bay Colony Brass and UNL Big Band, and Tokyo Brass Art Orchestra. He appeared as a guest conductor for the U.S. Army Field Band Jazz Ambassadors and Vermont Jazz Center Big Band.

His works for jazz orchestra are performed in the U.S., Taiwan and Japan. Recently Watanabe's wind ensemble composition *With All Sails Set* won the first prize and was chosen to be a contest piece for the Japan National Symphonic Jazz and Pops Contest for Wind Ensemble 2019. It was premiered by the Japan Ground Self Defense Force Eastern Army Band under the direction of Lt. Cmdr. Yoshiyuki Kato. His works are not only for jazz ensemble, but also for various chamber ensembles, wind ensemble and symphonic orchestra.

He previously taught at University of Massachusetts-Amherst, University of Nebraska-Lincoln and Concordia University, Nebraska.



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