

Student Recital

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SENIOR RECITAL

Davis Vaughn, composer

7:30pm, Monday, October 30, 2023
Jim & Joyce Faulkner Performing Arts Center
University of Arkansas

PROGRAM

The Memories That Stay (2023)

Davis Vaughn (b.2000)

University of Arkansas Children's Choir
Jason Burrow, piano

Follow the Needle (2021)

Mason Thomas, euphonium
William Sullivan, percussion
Leah Foster, synthesizer

Cherry Cider (2023)

Davis Vaughn, vocalist
Drew Swiecicki, guitar

Thumb War (2023)

Davis Vaughn, vocalist
Drew Swiecicki, guitar
Kyle Telgemeier, bass guitar
Gavin Engholm, drums
William Rowe, trumpet

Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Blackbird (2022)- Poem

By Wallace Stevens

Davis Vaughn, vocalist

Jason Burrow, piano

Jonathan Lea, cello

Samantha Ellis, clarinet

Our Stars, Acclaimed (Lambda Hymn) (2020)

Lambda Chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi, vocalists

Light of Day (2018)

Piece for Choir

Wapikaimaski (2022)

Piece for Wind Ensemble

Airplanes! (2023)

Concerto for Alto Saxophone and Wind Ensemble

Catherine Ryan, alto saxophone

Davis Vaughn is student of Dr. Robert Muller

This recital is given in partial fulfillment of the Bachelor of Music in Music Composition

PROGRAM NOTES

The Memories That Stay is an original piece that was written for the University of Arkansas Children's Choir. Vaughn spent two years interning with them during his time at Arkansas. The title encapsulates the hardships and the beauties that create the memories of our youth.

Follow the Needle is a solo piano piece inspired by the works of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. The beginning of the piece features a more traditional section of a classical piano sonata, while the succeeding section is a modern revoicing of classical compositional techniques. The piece is meant to evoke imagery of a swashbuckling adventure on the open ocean.

Emission Nebula is inspired by the many galactic adventures of Vaughn's youth through his love of movies, such as Star Wars and Close Encounters of the Third Kind. The piece was written for fellow musician Ethan Andrews' Senior Tuba Recital but has since been adapted into a different orchestration. This piece, featuring an eclectic instrumentation of euphonium, synthesizer, and percussion, is meant to act as a broad soundscape putting the audience in a world they've never explored

before.

Cherry Cider is a modern piece for guitar and voice inspired by the works of John Denver and modern folk music. The song takes you on a scenic journey through the Rocky Mountains, while paying homage to classic songs of heartbreak.

Thumb War is Vaughn's take on an alternative rock anthem. Inspired by Guster and Coldplay, it plays on the parallels between a classic game of thumb war and the hardships one faces in a relationship.

Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Blackbird is a musical arrangement of Wallace Stevens' poem of the same name. Each of the thirteen stanzas is represented by different musical styles intended to evoke the different perspectives of the narrator. Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Blackbird was premiered at Stella Boyle Smith Concert Hall in 2022 when Vaughn performed it for his Junior Vocal Recital. He is excited to reprise the piece with new performers.

Our Stars, Acclaimed (Lambda Hymn) is a vocal piece written for Kappa Kappa Psi, the National Honorary Band Fraternity, in which Vaughn has had an extensive involvement with throughout his college career. The piece was written in 2020 with the intent of bringing the fraternity together during a time when they were separated and going through individual hardships, much like the rest of the world during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Wapikaimaski depicts a fishing expedition Vaughn took with his family in 2022. The titular Wapikaimaski is a lake in Ontario, Canada that inspired Vaughn to write melodies based off of flowing rapids, pesky mosquitos, and beautiful landscapes, all isolated from the outside world. While originally intended for solo piano, Vaughn arranged his original piece for full concert band. He thought the timbre of this instrumentation better fit the grandeur and scenery of the lake.

Airplanes! was originally conceived as a four-movement piece for alto saxophone and piano, in which each movement was composed during different flights on a trip to and back from Medford, Oregon. This wind band piece was directly translated from the fourth and final movement, originally entitled "Awake", and was composed while en route from Denver to Kansas City. The thrilling and virtuosic melodies are a direct correlation to the wonders and emotions experienced while in flight.

PERSONNEL

Flute: Ashley Gierth, Rebekah Holland, Abby Short

Oboe: Wes Brecherer

Clarinet: Samantha Ellis, Alex Garcia, Abby Lawson, Juan Ramos, Abigail Tanner

Bass Clarinet: Garland Watson

Alto Saxophone: Edgar Canales, Ethan Estes, Catherine Ryan

Tenor Saxophone: Avery Angus

Baritone Saxophone: Erin Newberry

Bassoon: Nathan Fuhrman

Trumpet: Bailey Griggs, Drew Grove, Abby Jones, Megan Park, William Rowe

French Horn: Rachel Breitenstein, Blake Collins, Alivia Holiman, Hudson Martin

Trombone: Logan Ballard, Teddy Blair, Kizer Brown, Ian Gelicame

Euphonium: Nathan Dunlap, Sebastian Miranda- Morales, Mason Thomas

Tuba: Robert Anderson, Jackson Mettey, Henry Sargent

Percussion: Hallie Hanby, William Sulliban

Vocal: Kariman Alsein, Nathalies Arias, Kalista Brown, Garrett Cash, Crystal Espinosa, Leah Foster, Alex Garcia, Ian Gelicame, Connor Gustafson, Cole Jackson, Karley Jones, Jefferey Kerst, Gavin Miller, Hunter Mills, JK Njenja, Davis Vaughn

Cello: Jonathan Lea

Bass Guitar: Kyle Telgemeier

Drumset: Gavin Engholm

Synthesizer: Leah Foster

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University of Arkansas Children's Choir: Catelyn Allen, Claire Allen, Gianna Arens, Stella Atkinson, Wanda Baker, Eva Beers, Hayley Blakemore, Nadia Bridges, Samuel Burrow, Alli Butler, Aubrey Butler, Forrest Clampitt, Amelia Collins, Annie Cornett, Oliver Edge, Samantha Gardner, Jenna Hall, Jade Holland, Jacob Isenberger, Ramey Jones, Madelyn Konkle, Jordan Long, Roselyn Mays, Abby Metzner, James Metzner, Josiah McCourt, Timiyah McCourt, Andy Metzner, Emilia McClymonds, Asha Mora, Tommi Morris, Carina Murie, Raella Owens, Annaliese Schader, Claudia Schaffner, Zoe Schrader, Dottie Schrock, Parker Sisney, Presleigh Sisney, Mackenzie Smith, Ryker Snelgrove, Chloe Taylor, Gwendolyn Unger, Shiloh Wetzels, Sophia White, Jo Willis, Cadence Woods-McCormick

Davis Vaughn, Composer

Davis Vaughn is a 5th year senior at the University of Arkansas. He is a Music Composition, Music Education, and Music Theory triple major, with the Education in voice and the composition in clarinet, which means he has absolutely no free time, but that's okay because he loves what he does. Vaughn is from Kansas City, the Kansas side, which is arguably the better side (if you know, you know). While at the university, he has studied with Dr. Robert Mueller and Dr. Jeremy Allen, who he is deeply indebted to for their constant support of his musical 2024 In the future, he hopes to share his passion or music win sucensay or becoming a high school choir director.