

Ensemble Concert:

2020-10-23 – Music from the Margins: African American Composers



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IOWA

School of Music



COLLAGE CONCERT

Music From the Margins: African American Composers

Friday, October 23, 2020 at 7:30pm
Voxman Music Building

Music From the Margins: African American Composer Collage Concert

featuring

Johnson County Landmark
UI Orchestra
UI Concert Band (Chamber Ensembles)
Graduate Jazz Combo

PROGRAM

UI Orchestra

String Quartet in G Major

Andante moderato

Florence Price
(1887–1953)

Megan Maddaleno, *conductor*

Graduate Jazz Combo

Deluge

Wayne Shorter
(b.1933)

Cole Peterson, *alto saxophone*

Jonathan Eldridge II, *piano*

Jacob Pembleton, *bass*

Giauna Neville, *drums*

William Menefield, *director*

Symphony Band Low Brass Quartet

Emma Catherine (2004)

Omar Thomas
(b. 1984)

Grace Bergstrom

Wiatt Cariveau

Joseph Horne

Sam Shea

Richard Mark Heidel, *director*

Johnson County Landmark

**Black, Brown and Beige Suite
Movement 1, Part 1 "Work Song"**

Edward Kennedy "Duke" Ellington
(1899–1974)

Saxophones:

Cole Peterson
Gabriel Sanchez-Porras
Marvin Truong
Charlotte Leung
Luke Wymore

Trumpets:

Jada Spooner
Mason O'Brien
Henry Leaders

Trombones:

Michael May
Kolbe Schnoebelen
Ryan Carter

Rhythm Section:

Jonathan Eldridge, *piano*
Jacob Pembelton, *bass*
Giauna Neville, *drums*
Damani Phillips, *director*

UI Orchestra

Lyric for Strings

George Walker
(1922–2018)

Simón Zerpa, *conductor*

BIOGRAPHIES

Damani Phillips, (*Johnson County Landmark*)

Dr. Damani Phillips is a native of Pontiac, Mich., and currently serves as jazz studies area head and associate professor of African-American Studies at the University of Iowa. Phillips has earned Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from DePaul University and The University of Kentucky in classical saxophone, a second Master of Music degree in Jazz Studies from Wayne State University, and the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in jazz studies at the University of Colorado at Boulder; becoming one of the first African Americans in the country to do so. An active performer, pedagogue, and lecturer, Phillips has taught and performed throughout the world. He has previously served on the faculty of Grinnell College and Oakland University and is actively sought as a guest artist, clinician, presenter, and adjudicator throughout the nation. He has performed with artists and groups such as Lewis Nash, Christian McBride, Wycliffe Gordon, Bobby McFerrin, Marcus Belgrave, Terrell Stafford, Hank Jones, Red Holloway, and Pat Bianchi among many others. He has released five albums as a leader and published his first book "What Is This Thing Called Soul: Conversations on Black Culture and Jazz Education" in 2017.

William Menefield (*Graduate Jazz Combo*)

Dr. William Menefield, an active performer and composer, is assistant professor of jazz studies. His eclectic sound of jazz, R&B, soul, and classical music, draws the audience in with each note, in every song, at all performances. The Cincinnati native flawlessly and creatively blends the influences of Stevie Wonder with Beethoven and Kenny Kirkland with Bach. He is seen as "a leader whose playing is nothing short of breathtaking" (*CityBeat*). His distinctive style creates a sound that is uniquely robust and smooth.

William began his professional jazz piano career at age twelve and released his first album, *Big Will Leaps In* (1999) with J-Curve Records, right out of high school. On this debut album, his "original pieces stand out ... because they are intelligently crafted and flow with...lyricism..." (*JazzTimes*). His second album, *Will's Revenge*, was self-produced and released in 2005. In 2002, he was honored to serve as the artist-in-residence for The Robert S. Duncanson Society at the Taft Museum of Art. He has also been a soloist with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra (2005) and the Cincinnati Opera's *Opera Goes to Church* (2006, 2013, 2016).

Dr. Menefield has shared the stage with Roy Ayers, Clark Terry, David "Fathead" Newman, Gary Bartz, John Blake, Don Braden, Steve Wilson, Javon Jackson, and a host of other outstanding musicians. In 2018, he served as musical director for Jennifer Holliday and participated on the creative team that produced music for the pilot episode of the HBO television series *The Watchmen*. He continues to perform at venues across the United States and the world, most recently performing in Namibia and Guatemala. He also traveled as a performer/presenter on the university tour, "400: An Afrikan Epic," with the Mark Lomax Quartet (2019–2020).

William's journey in music composition began early, at the age of eight, in response to his mother's removal of all televisions from their home. His passion for composing inspired him to earn music composition degrees from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (B.M., 2005) and The University of Texas at Austin (D.M.A., 2011).

Dr. Menefield is currently working on commissions for the Cincinnati Opera, including the new opera, *Fierce*, with librettist Sheila Williams and dramaturg D. Lynn Meyer (set to debut in the summer of 2021). In 2020, he was also commissioned by Dr. Victoria Holland, lyric soprano and vocal coach at The Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, to compose the five-part song cycle, *Here*. In the spring of 2019, he had his Carnegie Hall debut with the performance of his choral-orchestral work *Prism*, commissioned by the Young Professionals Choral Collective. His children's choir piece, *My Melody*, commissioned by The Society for the Preservation of Music Hall, was performed at the 125th anniversary celebration of Cincinnati Music Hall in 2003.

William's commitment to his craft is apparent in his expertly executed and engaging performance and teaching style. He is dedicated to both educating and mentoring young musicians. Dr. Menefield is motivated by sharing the power of music.

Richard Mark Heidel, (*Symphony Band Low Brass Quartet*)

Dr. Richard Mark Heidel is the director of bands and a professor of music in the School of Music at the University of Iowa where he conducts the Iowa Symphony Band, teaches graduate courses in conducting and band literature, guides the graduate band conducting program, and oversees all aspects of the University of Iowa band program. Ensembles under Dr. Heidel's direction have performed at national, regional, and state conferences including those of the College Band Directors National Association, Music Educators National Conference, Iowa Bandmasters Association, Wisconsin Music Educators Association, Illinois Music Educators Association, and National Band Association-Wisconsin Chapter. He has also led concert tours to Ireland and the United Kingdom as well as throughout the Midwest.

Dr. Heidel has been distinguished with memberships in numerous national and international honor societies and fraternities including Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, Pi Kappa Lambda, Kappa Kappa Psi, Phi Eta Sigma, Phi Kappa Phi, Kappa Delta Pi, Pi Nu Epsilon, and Golden Key. He was the recipient of the Outstanding Musician award at Texas Tech University in both 1985 and 1986, and in 1997 he received the A. A. Harding award at the University of Illinois for the "highest possible achievement, service, and devotion to the University Bands." In 2002, Dr. Heidel was named to the "Who's Who Among America's Teachers." In 2003 and 2010, he received the Citation of Excellence from the Wisconsin Chapter of the National Band Association, and in 2016 he received the Citation of Excellence from the national chapter of the National Band Association. In 2005, he was initiated into Sigma Alpha Iota as a National Arts Associate, and in 2008 he was elected to membership into the prestigious American Bandmasters Association.

Dr. Heidel maintains a busy schedule as guest conductor, adjudicator, and clinician, and he has appeared in more than 30 states as well as Vietnam, Austria, Ireland, United Kingdom, and the Canadian provinces of Ontario and Manitoba. In 2003, Heidel served as an adjudicator for the Limerick International Marching Band Competition and the 100th St. Patrick's Day Festival in Dublin, Ireland. His list of publications includes numerous articles in the National Band Association Journal, Teaching Music, The Iowa Bandmaster Magazine, Iowa Music Educator, and the Teaching Music through Performance in Band series. He has held offices and positions of leadership within the American Bandmasters Association, National Band Association, College Band Directors National Association, Big Ten Band Directors Association, and Southeast Iowa Bandmasters Association.

William LaRue Jones, (UI Symphony Orchestra)

UI director of orchestral studies Dr. William LaRue Jones is “one of the most active and versatile symphonic conductors in America today, possessing a unique ability to work effectively with musicians at all levels of performing capability and experience” (Minneapolis *Star-Tribune*). His conducting schedule includes a wide array of professional, festival, collegiate, and student ensembles throughout North America, Latin America, Europe, and Asia. He returns annually to China to conduct orchestras and present conducting masterclasses. In addition, Jones has conducted over 100 all-state orchestras with additional festivals and clinics in each of the fifty United States and each Canadian province.

As a professional performer noted for his outstanding technique and musicality, Dr. Jones was principal bassoon for the Minnesota Opera and Minnesota Ballet and was first-call associate with the Minnesota Orchestra and Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra for over fifteen seasons. He has performed under such esteemed maestros as Stanislaw Skrowaczewski, Klaus Tennstedt, Antol Dorati, Charles Dutoit, Aaron Copland, Zubin Mehta, Neville Marriner, Edo deWaart, Daniel Barenboim, and Leonard Slatkin, to name a few.

Since 1997, Dr. Jones has been Professor of Music, Director of Orchestral Studies, and Conductor of Orchestras and Opera at the University of Iowa (Iowa City). In 2008-9, the State of Iowa and the University of Iowa selected Dr. Jones for the Regents Award for Faculty Excellence. He was also appointed an Obermann Scholar and a Stanley International Fellow in 2008. He received the designation of Collegiate Fellow in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences in 2011.

Dr. Jones is currently Music Director and Conductor of the Ottumwa Symphony Orchestra. He has previously held the position of Music Director and Conductor of the Oshkosh Symphony Orchestra, Bloomington (Minn.) Symphony Orchestra. He holds the titles of Founder and Conductor Laureate of Greater Twin Cities’ Youth Symphonies (Minn.) and Conductor Emeritus of the 3M Symphony.

Dr. Jones has been honored with the 2013 “Medal of Honor” presented by the Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic (Chicago). He has received the American String Teachers Associations Exceptional Leadership and Merit Award, the David W. Preuss Leadership Award, the Sigma Alpha Iota Musician of the Year Award, WCCO Radio “Good Neighbor Award,” and the State of Minnesota Governors’ Proclamation of “Dr. William LaRue Jones Week.”

Recognition of Jones’ outstanding gestural skills and score analysis has made him a sought-after teacher of conducting. He is the founding Artistic Director of the critically acclaimed Conductors Workshop of America and was the lead member of the conducting faculty of the International Workshops where he also served as conductor of the International String Orchestra. Jones has also presented conducting seminars/workshops internationally.

In 1972, Dr. Jones founded the Greater Twin Cities’ Youth Symphonies (Minn.) which he guided to international acclaim during a 25-year tenure. The program became a model for youth orchestra structures worldwide, comprised of eight full orchestras involving over 1000 students annually.

Megan Maddaleno is a current Doctor of Musical Arts student in orchestral conducting at the University of Iowa. During her time there, she has had the privilege of conducting the University of Iowa Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, and All University String Orchestra, as well as studying under such respected conductors as Dr. William LaRue Jones and David E. Becker. Ms.

Maddaleno has been the recipient of the Yamaha Fellowship for Eastman Leadership Academy in Summer 2020, the 2019 UI Summer Music Research Grant for her involvement in conducting workshops, and is a member of the collegiate pedagogical association Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning.

Prior to studying at the University of Iowa, Ms. Maddaleno worked in the Columbia Public School District as Director of Orchestras for both West Middle School and Hickman High School. While in Columbia, Missouri, Ms. Maddaleno was a conducting student of Maestro Kirk Trevor, and acted as musical assistant of the Missouri Symphony Society Conservatory. Additionally, she collaborated with the Missouri Composer's Project and Columbia Civic Orchestra to conduct premieres of local composers. Since leaving Columbia, Megan has been involved in festivals and workshops, most recently including those by The Peabody Institute of Music, The International Conducting Institute, and Miami Music Festival.

Ms. Maddaleno received her Bachelor of Music Education degree with emphasis in instrumental studies from Webster University, and her Masters of Orchestral Conducting from the University of Iowa.

Simón Zerpa is a third year D.M.A. orchestral conducting candidate under the tutelage of William LaRue Jones at the University of Iowa, where he regularly conducts the symphony Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, and All-University String Orchestra, and also serves as the orchestra manager. Recently, Zerpa was appointed to the Karen Smuda Emerging Conductor fellowship at the Peninsula Music Festival in Door County, Wisconsin. Among his future engagements, Mr. Zerpa will be debuting in Europe next summer with the Mythos Opera Festival in Italy, and the Berlin Opera Academy in Germany.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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OCTOBER

2020

28 7:30 p.m. UI Symphony Orchestra Livestream

NOVEMBER

2020

01 7:30 p.m. CNM Concert 2: Composers Workshop I Livestream

06 7:30 p.m. Jazz Combo Concert Livestream

07 7:30 p.m. Johnson County Landmark Livestream

08 3:00 p.m. Iowa Percussion Fall Concert Livestream

08 7:30 p.m. CNM Concert 3: CNM Ensemble II Livestream

09 7:30 p.m. Latin Jazz Ensemble Livestream

15 5:30 p.m. DMA: Jordan McFarland, *percussion* Livestream

15 7:30 p.m. DMA: Peter Grubisich, *percussion* Livestream

18 7:30 p.m. Jazz Combo Concert Livestream

19 7:30 p.m. Jazz Combo Concert Livestream