



COLLEGE *of*
FINE ARTS

School of Music

Presents

Axel Bevensee, tenor trombone
Taiko Young, piano

Saturday, April 15, 2023

7:00 pm

PepsiCo Recital Hall

Program

Trombonsillo
Taiko Young, Piano

Carolina Calvache
(1985-present)

Sonata (Vox Gabrieli)
Taiko Young, Piano

Stjepan Sulek
(1914-1986)

Dance of the Blessed Spirits
Taiko Young, Piano

Christopf Willibald Gluck
(1714-1787)

Intermission

Fantastic Polka
Taiko Young, Piano

Arthur Pryor
(1869-1942)

Memories

Axel Bevensee, Trombone

Molly Leonard, Baritone Saxophone

Sebastian Marin, Trumpet

Ivan Mendoza, Drumset

Tyler Moseley, Sousaphone

Aleck Olmedo, Clarinet

Lucky Chops
(Formed 2006)

Cuando, Cuando, Cuando

Axel Bevensee, Trombone

Molly Leonard, Baritone Saxophone

Sebastian Marin, Trumpet

Ivan Mendoza, Drumset

Tyler Moseley, Sousaphone

Aleck Olmedo, Tenor Saxophone

Engelbert Humperdinck
(1936-present)

Axel Bevensee is a student of Dr. Dave Begnoche.
The use of recording equipment or taking photographs is prohibited.
Please silence all electronic devices including watches, pagers, and phones.

Program Notes

Trombonsillo, Carolina Calvache:

Born in Cali, Colombia in 1985, Carolina Calvache is a composer and jazz pianist. She has degrees from Universidad del Valle in Colombia, and the University of North Texas, and released her debut album *Sotareño* in 2014. *Trombonsillo*, and another of her compositions, *Ethereal*, were recorded on Achilles Liarmakopoulos's album, titled *Ethereal*. *Trombonsillo* was specially written for Achilles and employs a traditional Colombian "pasillo" rhythm, which takes on aspects of a European waltz, while typically being played by a guitar, mandolin or string instruments.

Sonata (Vox Gabrieli), Stjepan Sulek:

Born in Zagreb, Austria-Hungary (now Croatia), Stjepan Sulek began his study of music early, learning violin, piano, and composition. In 1936, he received his diploma from the Zagreb Academy of Music. Until 1952, Sulek was an active soloist, gave many recitals, and was an active part of the Zagreb String Quartet and the Macek-Sulek-Janigro Trio. In 1939, he began teaching Violin at the Zagreb Conservatorium, and later taught composition in 1948, and orchestration in 1953. He then took up a career in conducting, eventually becoming the principal conductor of the Zagreb Symphony and chamber orchestras.

Sulek's Sonata (Vox Gabrieli) was commissioned by the International Trombone Association in 1973 and has since become a massive trombone repertoire staple. Although Sulek does not provide context for the piece, the subtitle "Vox Gabrieli" gives us a hint. Translating to "Voice of Gabriel", many people believe it could possibly be referring to the story of the angel Gabriel in the Old Testament of the Bible.

Dance of the Blessed Spirits, Christopf Willibald Gluck, arr. Patrick Sheridan:

Born in the Upper Palatinate, and raised in Bohemia (both part of the Holy Roman Empire) in 1714, Christopf Willibald Gluck was a composer of Italian and French opera. He gained prominence in Vienna, where he composed operas such as *Orfeo ed Euridice*, and *Alceste*. He later moved to Paris, inspired by French opera, and wrote many operas for the Parisien stage, including *Iphigénie en Tauride*, considered one of his best works. Later, however, the poor reception of his opera *Echo et Narcisse* in 1779 prompted Gluck to move back to Vienna for the rest of his life.

Dance of the Blessed Spirits is a song that comes from the opera *Orfeo ed Euridice*. In this opera, Orfeo mourns the loss of his wife, Euridice. He is then approached by Amore (cupid), who tells him that he may go to the underworld and return with his wife, on the condition that he does not look at her until they return to Earth. Orfeo sings his way past the furies denying him entry into the underworld and enters Elysium. Euridice is happy to be returning, but upon remembering his deal with Amore, Orfeo lets go of his wife's hand and remains silent on their way back. She takes this as a sign that he no longer loves her, and says she would prefer death to returning with someone who does not love her. Orfeo is unable to take any more and turns to look at her, leading to her immediate death. In Orfeo's grief, Amore returns, and as a reward for his continued love, returns Euridice back to life.

Dance of the Blessed Spirits comes in the opera as Orfeo enters Elysium, originally played by solo flute with orchestra, depicting Orfeo's desperate search through Elysium for his love, with a feeling of yearning and loneliness.

Fantastic Polka, Arthur Pryor:

Born in 1869, in Saint Joseph, Missouri, Arthur Pryor began playing the valve trombone at age 11. Pryor joined the John Phillip Sousa band in 1892 and was seen as a prodigy. He played his first solo with the band at the age of 22 and began touring with the band through the U.S. and Europe. After his father's death in 1902, he took over conducting the Pryor Band, which was previously conducted by his father, Samuel Pryor. Pryor retired from conducting in 1933 and went into politics. Throughout his career, Pryor composed around 300 works, including band

pieces, operas, and solos. The majority of the solos he wrote were typically waltzes, polkas, or theme and variations.

Among his most famous pieces are his arrangement of the Blue Bells of Scotland, and Fantastic Polka, the likes of which Pryor would play as a soloist with the Sousa Band on tour through the world, leaving people everywhere in awe.

Memories, Lucky Chops:

The Lucky Chops is a brass band formed in 2006, by tubist Raphael Buyo, trombonist Josh Holcomb, and saxophonist/clarinetist Daro Behroozi. They began by making funky brass covers of popular songs, playing in the New York City subway stations. Since then, they have toured all over the world and made original music as well as iconic covers. They have stated that their goal is to bring the brass band more into the mainstream. *Memories* is an original tune from their self-named album, *Lucky Chops*, released in 2019. This album was one of their first times delving into original tunes and sounds more like pop music while still staying true to their funky brass band genre.

Cuando, Cuando, Cuando, Engelbert Humperdinck, arr. Axel Bevensee:

Cuando, Cuando, Cuando is a classic tune made famous by Engelbert Humperdinck. Other great performances include those of Tito Rodriguez and Michael Buble. This arrangement was done by me for a brass band, inspired by the style of Lucky Chops. The instrumentation is similar to what the Lucky Chops typically utilize, and includes a solo section similar to how they had in their older cover arrangements. Within this arrangement I have also borrowed an interesting groove from a chart played by Don Ellis, an incredible jazz trumpeter, titled *Open Wide*, which adds a lot to the energy of the tune.