



SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Presents

Ken Nguyen, Saxophone
Dr. Cecilia Lo-Chien Kao, Piano

Sunday, April 7, 2024

7:00 PM

Ed Landreth Auditorium

Program

Pequeña Czarda (1949)

Pedro Iturralde
(1929-2020)

Sonate en Ut# (1943)

Fernande Decruck
(1896-1928)

- I. Tres modere, expressif
- II. Noel
- III. Fileuse
- IV. Nocturne et Rondel

Concerto in Eb Major Op. 109 (1934)

Alexander Glazunov
(1865-1936)

Intermission

The Iberia Suite (2014)

Ed Calle
(b. 1959)

- I. Midnight Rumba
- II. Siesta
- III. Pamplona

Holt Lee, Alto Saxophone
Jett Schnackenberg, Tenor Saxophone
Ashley Tyson, Baritone Saxophone

Program Notes

Pequeña Czarda (1949)

Pedro Iturralde is considered one of the major figures of Spanish jazz. He is also renowned as a composer and performer of classical repertoire for saxophone. Iturralde was born in Falces (Navarra) in 1929. He learned music with his father and at the age of 9 he started playing the saxophone and clarinet in the Falces municipal band. He later studied saxophone, clarinet, piano, violin, guitar, and harmony at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Madrid, where he taught from 1978 until his retirement in 1994. At the age of 20 he composed his most famous piece: La pequeña Czarda, for saxophone and piano.

Sonate en Ut# (1943)

Fernande Decruck (1896-1954) was a French composer, pianist, and organist who studied at the Paris Conservatory. After arriving in the United States, Decruck wrote several works for saxophone quartets and solo saxophone, including *Sonate en Ut#* (Sonata in C#). After her death, Decruck's pieces were left alone until her works were rediscovered by other saxophone enthusiasts in the mid-late 1900s.

Decruck wrote *Sonate en Ut#* for Marcel Mule, a pioneer in saxophone performance and the professor of saxophone at the Paris Conservatory in 1942. *Sonate en Ut#* consists of four movements: a "slow and expressive" movement in sonata form containing both chromatic and diatonic themes; a slow, folksong-like second movement; a "spinning song" third movement; and a rondo-like fourth movement containing bitonality.

Concerto in Eb Major Op. 109 (1934)

Alexander Glazunov was a Russian conductor, music teacher, and composer of the late Romantic period. It was clear from an early age that Glazunov had substantial musical potential due to his exceptional ear and impressive musical memory. He began composing at age 11, receiving tuition in his early years from Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov as a private student.

This concerto is one of the most significant pieces of saxophone literature and one of the few written in this style (Romantic). Comprised of one movement, the theme is first stated in the piano, followed by a series of developments to including a virtuosic cadenza, a fugue, and ends with some of the extended range that Rascher promoted as a saxophonist. Unfortunately, Glazunov passed away before being able to listen to the full performance of his work.

The Iberia Suite (2014)

Ed Calle is an accomplished instrumentalist and composer from Caracas, Venezuela. Calle is currently the Professor of Music Business and Production at Miami Dade College.

The Iberia Suite was written for a saxophone quartet and depicts the rich culture of Spain. The first movement depicts the rumba, a popular ballroom dance with high energy and rhythm. The second movement lets both the players and listeners take a rest, or "*siesta*," after the intense first movement. The final movement takes listeners to the city of Pamplona, Spain, where *encierro* (or "running of the bulls") takes place. Still dance-like, this movement ends in a whirring flourish of chromatic and scalar figures split among the parts.

This recital is given in partial fulfillment of the requirements for a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education. Ken Nguyen is a student of Mr. Allen Cordingley.

The use of recording equipment or taking photographs is prohibited. Please silence all electronic devices including watches, pagers, and phones.