



School of Music
University of Missouri

2022-2023 Series | Student Ensemble

Hitt Street Harmony

Clara E. Smith and Paul Anderson II, conductors
McCade Gordon, collaborative pianist

Anders Harms, electric bass

Elizabeth Derner, upright bass

Zach Beran, trumpet

Guilherme Thives Santos, guitar

Breanna Derritt, saxophone

Colton Johnson, drums

December 3, 2022 | 7:00pm
Whitmore Recital Hall

Program

Got to Get You into My Life **Paul McCartney (b. 1942)**
arr. Kirby Shaw

Colton Johnson, drums | Elizabeth Derner, upright bass | Breanna Derritt, saxophone
Zach Beran, trumpet | Guilherme Thives Santos, guitar

Smile.....**Charlie Chaplin (1889-1977)**
arr. Ben Bram

Soloist: Emma Rowden

On a Clear Day **Burton Lane (1912-1997)**
Alan Jay Lerner (1918-1986)
arr. Darmon Meader

Soloists: Rachel Misner, Sam Romine, Victoria Shore, Jonathan Crader
Colton Johnson, drums | Elizabeth Derner, upright bass | Breanna Derritt, saxophone
Zach Beran, trumpet | Guilherme Thives Santos, guitar

Besame Mucho **Consuelo Velázquez (1916-2005)**
arr. Kirby Shaw

Soloist: Miranda Frankenbach

All of Me.....**Gerald Marks (1900-1997)**
Seymour Simons (1896-1949)
arr. Jay Althouse

Soloists: Lydia Kelly, Xander Piskulic

What Is This Thing Called Love?**Cole Porter (1891-1964)**
arr. by Monica Pabelonio

Words..... **Anders Edenroth (b. 1963)**

Blast Off.....**Bruno Mars (b. 1985)**
Anderson Paak (b. 1986)
arr. by McCade Gordon

Soloists: Benjamin Roker, Paul Hemingway
Colton Johnson, drums | Guilherme Thives Santos, guitar | Anders Harms, electric bass

This concert is in partial fulfillment of Clara E. Smith's Masters in conducting degree.

PROGRAM NOTES

Got to Get You into My Life

The well-known musical hit, *Got to Get You into My Life* was released by the Beatles on their 1966 album *Revolver*. This song held spots on the Billboard Hot 100's list and was covered by many musical groups including Earth Wind and Fire, and Cliff Bennett and the Rebel Rousers. The original version of this song includes brass fanfare, soul-style horns, and an upbeat, fast-moving tempo with a text that—according to lead singer Paul McCartney—is a subtle homage to the psychedelic experience.

Kirby Shaw is a popular music educator and choral composer whose arrangements are sung by musicians all around the world. Shaw has extensive experience with jazz music evident in his collaborations with the COS Vocal Jazz Ensemble, Bobby McFerrin, Al Jarreau, Jon Hendricks and others. This arrangement of *Got to Get You into My Life* maintains the instrumental nuances of the original version with the addition of the expanded vocal melody embellished with choral harmonies.

Smile

Ben Bram is a Grammy Award-winning vocal arranger, producer and engineer. He received a degree in music industry and vocal jazz from the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music. Bram has made innumerable contributions to the contemporary a cappella canon with published arrangements and serving as a co-founder for world-renowned vocal sensation Pentatonix. Film and TV credits also include projects such as the movies *Pitch Perfect* and *Pitch Perfect 2* and TV shows *The Voice*, *The Sing-Off* and *Glee*.

Smile is based on the theme song used in the 1936 film *Modern Times* by Charlie Chaplin. Originally composed by Chaplin, John Turner and Geoffrey Parsons penned the lyrics and title in 1954. Ben Bram's arrangement captures the essence of the message, that there will be a brighter future despite the present circumstances. He passes the melody throughout the voices and uses changes in meter and harmony to drive forward this message. This coupled with the lush and blooming harmonies help to bring forth a feeling of reassurance and encouragement.

On a Clear Day

On a Clear Day was composed by Burton Lane and Alan Jay Lerner for the 1965 musical, "On a Clear Day." This piece has been recorded by many popular artists including Barbara Streissand, Frank Sinatra, the Peddlers (whose version was featured in Season five of the popular television show, *Breaking Bad*) and the professional jazz ensemble, New York Voices. The piece speaks of the possibility of self-reflection and perception in a positive light.

Darmon Meader is a distinguished jazz vocalist, instrumentalist, arranger and is the founder, director and tenor for the New York Voices jazz ensemble. His arrangement is no easy-task for vocalists and instrumentalists, due to constant switching between swung meters of three and four, vocal and instrumental improvisation and close, fast-moving harmonies. Dissonant chords and syncopated rhythms may contradict the clarity in self-reflection that is purveyed in the text.

Bésame Mucho

Recognized as one of the most recorded and covered songs in Spanish of all time, *Bésame Mucho* was written by Mexican composer and songwriter Consuelo Velázquez. When she wrote both the music and lyrics while still a teenager, Velzquez had never kissed anyone before and imagined what it must feel like. The title can be directly translated as "kiss me a lot" with English lyrics written by Sunny Skylar. It is important to note the English lyrics are not a direct translation. Despite this, the song has remained one of the most popular songs

of the 20th century and received widespread appeal in both English and Spanish markets.

Kirby Shaw's name has become almost synonymous with Pop and Jazz choral music arrangements in the 21st century with nearly 3000 choral compositions/arrangements in print. This *Bésame Mucho* follows the song's original Bolero genre in style. It is written in a laid back bossa nova tempo with tight harmonies and scatting that sits the piece and a more Jazz centered style. This particular performance will include a sampling of both the English and Spanish text that help to convey feelings of love, longing and devotion present in this song.

All of Me

Not to be confused with the platinum single by John Legend, *All of Me* is a jazz standard written in 1931 by Gerald Marks and Seymour Simons. One of the most recorded songs of all time, there have been renditions dating back to its year of conception. As the story goes, in 1931 Vaudeville star Belle Baker had just lost her husband. During a performance she was struck by the personal sense of loss conveyed in the lyrics and broke down weeping. The national press picked up the story and before long the song was a hit.

This arrangement by Jay Althouse includes tight jazz harmonies, scat singing and solos. It begins right away with a bassline and swinging melody that sets the mood. Althouse preserves the original melody and text but also incorporates moments for expression through slight rhythmic variations, scat and solo sections. The use of harmony between the piano and voices creates a welcome blend of remembrance and anticipation.

What Is This Thing Called Love?

The Cole Porter classic, *What is This Thing Called Love*, is well-known for its romantic lyrics and quiet, sensitive melodic writing. The lyrics speak of the unexpected arrival of love and its ability to make fools out of the wise. Written in 1929 for the musical, "Wake Up and Dream" this piece has become a standard in the jazz community.

Monica Pabelonio is a well-renowned and highly successful vocal jazz artist. She received a Masters in jazz performance from the New England Conservatory and has produced a jazz album entitled, *Sea Journey*. Her acapella arrangement of this piece is filled with vocal textures ranging from rich harmonies to exposed, unison singing. This arrangement calls for a great sensitivity to rubato, textual deliverance and harmonic balance.

Words

Words is an unaccompanied piece that discusses the power and uses of words that are often taken for granted. The piece begins with a rhythmic, spoken section that plays with the sounds of consonants and vowels. This leads into the rich melody that is accompanied by tight, dissonant harmonies in the lower voices. Vocal slides, syllabic singing, and unpredictable rhythms make this piece exciting and allows for the important meaning of the text to be conveyed.

Anders Edenroth is the founder and composer for the Swedish acapella quintet, The Real Group. This ensemble focuses on unconventional vocal techniques, textures and refined unaccompanied singing. Edenroth says, "Art is more than a pretty painting. It is a mirror that reflects what is happening around us, and it is the toolbox we need to reconstruct the world." The lyrics within this piece emulate his belief that music and speech have the power to change the world.

Blast Off

The album, *An Evening with Silk Sonic* was released in 2021 by popular pop artists Bruno Mars and

Anderson Paak. *Blast Off* is the final song on the album. Beginning with an arpeggiated, grandiose scale in the keys, the piece settles into the smooth melody of the tenor solo over continuous, suspended chords in the accompanying voices. The lyrics of this piece serve as the album's farewell to its listeners and gives the illusion that the singers are "blasting off" on the good vibrations elicited by the R&B, funk style of music.

Personnel

Soprano

Megan S. Lyon
Victoria Shore
Lydia Kelly
Maggie Bunch
Amy McKinsey

Alto

Rachel Misner
Miranda Frankenbach
Chloe Schellman
Emma Rowden

Tenor

Paul Hemingway
Benjamin Roker
Xander Piskulic

Bass

Carrick O'Blenness
McCade Gordon
Jonathan Crader
Sam Romine