

University of Missouri

November 2nd
Sinquefeld Music Center 130

2:00pm and 3:30pm

Concert Jazz Band

Live Recording

Dr. Sam Griffith, director

featuring

Roger Wilder, Piano

Program:

Tomorrow's Day (2018)

Refugee Suite (2024)

- 1) Sea
- 2) Land
- 3) Home
- 4) Chaos
- 5) Wonder

A Tale of Two Cities (2022)

All Compositions Composed and Arranged By Sam Griffith

Personnel

Saxophones:

Caleb Hays
George Szabo
John Doss
Emma Spalding
Trinity Kimbrough

Trumpets:

Jesse Hamilton
Andrew Friesen
Katy Miller
Maddy Haugsven
Patrick Ferguson

Trombones:

Reade Snelling
Andrew Jaggi
Antonio Flores
Reece Hinton

Guitar:

Will Thives

Bass:

Luke Reaume

Drums:

Greyson Smallen
Beckett Mitchell

Audience Directions:

Today's program will be recorded twice, once at 2:00pm and 3:30pm. We hope to use these recordings in some capacity, including possibly turning them into a CD/LP recording. For us to have the best recordings possible – we do need applause and energy from the audience. However, **we ask that you do not applaud during the song.** I will ask for applause at the end of each work and acknowledge all of the soloists. **We will also need 2-4 seconds of silence after each piece before you applaud.**

Finally, to avoid distraction, interference and the possibility of any sound, please turn your cell phones onto Airplane mode (or turn them off.)

Program Notes:

Tomorrow's Day was written in 2018 in honor of Onyekachi "Drew" Okoye. Drew was a talented multi-instrumentalist and student at Santa Clara University during my brief tenure there as an instructor. Drew performed in almost every music group at SCU including playing tuba in their Orchestra, singing in their choirs and playing trombone in the Jazz Band. Drew passed away in 2018 after being involved in a car crash on Interstate 5 in California. *Tomorrow's Day* attempts to capture the joy and spirit of working with Drew.

In 2009, I began working on a large-scale Jazz work entitled *The Refugee Suite*. This suite focused on the process, difficult decisions, emotions and journey one must make when they decide to pursue a new life. Each movement of this suite is written with a different theme in mind. *Sea*, the first movement, reflects on the difficulty and exhausting nature of traveling to an unknown place. The second movement, *Land*, attempts to capture the excitement of arriving somewhere for the first time. *Home*, balances the feelings of leaving one home with finding a new one. The fourth movement, *Chaos*, is about those first moments of exploration in a new place – not knowing where you are, where you are going, or what will happen next. *The Refugee Suite* closes with *Wonder*, a celebration of all that is new and different.

A Tale Of Two Cities was composed in 2022 inspired by the Jazz traditions from St. Louis and Kansas City. Utilizing bebop-inspired chords for the A sections, and the blues-form for the bridge, this work merges several jazz styles heard and inspired by iconic Missouri musicians.