

THE BUTLER UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MUSIC
presents

The
DUCKWALL
ARTIST *Series*



COVERT ENSEMBLE

Kateřina Pavlíková and Dave Camwell,
saxophones
Tingting Yao, piano

Friday January 24, 2025
7:30 P.M.
Eidson-Duckwall Recital Hall

PROGRAM

Foxy Music

Phippe Geiss (b. 1959)

The Perfect Storm

Chris Evan Hass (b. 1993)

- I. The Calm Before
- II. Taken By
- III. The Eye Of
- IV. Ride Out

The Sky Between Us

Jenni Brandon (b. 1977)

- I. Sun and Moon
- II. Sweets and Snow
- III. Life and Love

Aquarius

Martin Hybler (b. 1977)

- I. Allegro
- II. Andante
- III. Presto

Hailed for their "impassioned and virtuosic performances," Covert Ensemble is the name of Dave Camwell and Kateřina Pavlíková's musical partnership that began in early 2021 and has resulted in more than 25 exceptional and unique arrangements of popular classical music from J.S. Bach to contemporary composers such as Max Richter. DC & KP also produce music that deliberately blurs the line between the classical, rock, and pop worlds. Their ethos is centered upon musical virtuosity and beguiling visuals.

The ensemble has toured the Czech Republic, Canada, and the USA, and recently led international consortiums by composers Jenni Brandon and Martin Hybler, and recorded Hybler's Aquarius double concerto with the Pensacola Symphony Orchestra. The group was recently named the second prize winners of the American Prize in Chamber Music Performance in October, 2024, and the national finalists for the Ernst Bacon Memorial Award for the Performance of American Music in December, 2024.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

DAVE CAMWELL

Saxophonist Dr. Dave Camwell has received wide acclaim for his technique, expression, and performance in classical and jazz styles. He was a featured soloist in both styles in evening concerts at the 2012 and 2023 North American Saxophone Alliance biennial conferences.

Recently, he has collaborated extensively with Czech saxophonist Kateřina Pavlíková on a series of new works for their group, Covert Ensemble. These arrangements focus on creating virtuosic and compelling music for two saxes. The group was recently named the second prize winners of the American Prize in Chamber Music Performance in October, 2024, and the national finalists for the Ernst Bacon Memorial Award for the Performance of American Music in December, 2024.

Camwell is Director of Jazz Studies and Professor of Music at Troy University in Alabama. Dr. Camwell is a Yamaha, D'Addario, Beechler, and Key Leaves Performing Artist with over thirty publications available through Jeanne, Dorn, and UNC Jazz Press.

His extensive discography covers a wide repertoire and range of styles and includes releases on the Parma, Innova, Enharmonic, Centaur, Teal Creek, and Mark labels. His latest release, "Second Wind" (Navona, 2019), features a wide range of works for saxophone with a variety of accompaniment, with works from the Baroque to the Contemporary.

He has been a member of a variety of commissioning projects, as well as personally leading consortiums that have resulted in new works by Marc Mellits, Jenni Brandon, Robert W. Smith, Martin Hybler, and David Deboor Canfield.

KATEŘINA PAVLÍKOVÁ

Czech saxophonist Kateřina Pavlíková is highly regarded for her captivating musicianship and wide-ranging repertoire. She has often been featured as a soloist with leading Czech and North American orchestras, wind ensembles, and a wide variety of chamber ensembles. She is particularly well-known for her many performances that feature the distinctly beautiful baritone saxophone as a virtuosic solo instrument.

Kateřina Pavlíková is a founding member of Covert Ensemble, a group that features herself and noted American saxophonist Dave Camwell, centered upon an ethos of musical virtuosity and beguiling visuals. Together, they have recorded, published, and performed many new editions of virtuosic classical works to great acclaim, as well as producing music that alternates between the classical, jazz, and pop worlds. Covert Ensemble has also led several international consortiums, resulting in new music by composers Martin Hybler, Jenni Brandon, and Robert W. Smith.

Since 1999, Kateřina Pavlíková has been a member of the Bohemia Saxophone Quartet, a leading Czech saxophone ensemble. With this group, she has performed at numerous prestigious music festivals and appeared in radio and television broadcasts. In 2019, she founded the Tilia Trio, a women's saxophone trio known for virtuosity, tonal sophistication, and perfect musical interplay. This ensemble regularly performs at music festivals and concerts both in the Czech Republic and abroad.

In addition to her recordings with Covert Ensemble and the BSQ, Kateřina has released a solo album, "Dive," with music for baritone saxophone and electronics by Danish composer Wayne Siegel and an album by the Tilia Trio with her arrangements of music by Bach, Dvořák, and Milhaud.

An important part of her musical work is the interpretation of contemporary music. Kateřina's collaborations with Czech and foreign composers have resulted in several new compositions for baritone saxophone, all dedicated to her. Additionally, she has personally contributed to the enrichment of saxophone repertoire with her transcriptions of famous classical and modern compositions for various ensembles. As an avid proponent of musical technology, her repertoire also consists of compositions for saxophone and electronics.

In addition to her performance work, Kateřina Pavlíková is also intensively involved in teaching. She teaches saxophone at the Conservatory in České Budějovice and at the Elementary Music and Art School in Volary, CZ. Her

students have enjoyed considerable success in many national and international competitions for solo and chamber music. She has also led seminars and masterclasses in the Czech Republic and abroad, including Canada, USA, France, Slovenia, Slovakia, Norway, Latvia, Ukraine, and more.

TINGTING YAO

Chinese-American pianist Tingting Yao is an avid collaborative pianist and chamber musician, currently serving as the Staff Pianist at Sam Houston State University in Texas. Yao has performed throughout the United States, United Kingdom, Australia, and China.

Often performing and recording with the Covert Ensemble (with saxophonists Dave Camwell and Katerina Pavlikova), this group has produced more than 25 unique arrangements of popular classical music from J.S. Bach to contemporary composers such as Mix Richter. In March 2023, the ensemble premiered a new piece, "The Sky Between Us," by American composer Jenni Brandon at the North American Saxophone Alliance Biennial Conference. In March 2022, the ensemble also toured Alabama and Florida, and recorded with the Pensacola Symphony Orchestra for a new double concerto by Czech composer Martin Hybler.

Yao holds an Advanced Postgraduate Diploma (APD) in Collaborative Piano, a Master of Music degree in Piano Accompaniment (with Distinction) from the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire (UK), a Master of Music degree from the University of Melbourne (Australia), and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Tongji University, China.

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We gather here at Butler University on the traditional homelands of Indigenous peoples who were forcibly removed from this place. These peoples include the Myaamiaki (Miami), Lenape (Delaware), Bodewadmi (Potawatomi), Saawanwa (Shawnee), Kiikaapoi (Kickapoo), and Peouaroua (Peoria) peoples. We honor with gratitude the land itself and the indigenous peoples past and present who have stewarded it throughout the generations. This acknowledgement calls us to commit to hearing and engaging Indigenous voices and perspectives and to being better stewards of the land we inhabit. It also calls us to action. Learn more by scanning the QR code for additional information.



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