



University of North Texas College of Music

Senior Recital | Thursday, October 24, 2024 | 6:30 p.m.
Paul Voertman Concert Hall

Adam P'Simer, Composition

Frosted Skies Adam P'Simer
(2024) (b. 2002)

Brody Fritchman, soprano saxophone
Curtiss Mims, alto saxophone
Sethan Flekins, tenor saxophone
Jackson Cutter, baritone saxophone

Texas Autumns - Nocturnes for Piano Adam P'Simer
(2023) (b. 2002)

- I. Grazed Pastures
- II. Midnight Fields
- III. Moonlit Clouds

Noah Salem, piano

Georgian Hills Adam P'Simer
(2023) (b. 2002)

- I. The Hills
- II. The People
- III. The Suns

Yuma Okada, violin
Monica Lamberg, violin
Sam Yi, viola
Ethan Akira, violoncello

**Program one hundred and three of the 2024–2025 season
Photography and videography are prohibited**

Program Notes

Frosted Skies

"*Frosted Skies*", composed in 2024 for saxophone quartet, captures the essence of a cold winter night, evoking both the stillness and solitude of the season. The piece explores the contrast between the warmth of family gatherings indoors and the eerie calm of the frigid, quiet landscape outside. The music opens with a cold, atmospheric introduction, symbolizing the vast, still winter sky. As the piece progresses, listeners are drawn into the contrasting warmth of home and family, only to be reminded of the unsettling quiet and isolation of the night. This tension between comfort and coldness weaves throughout the composition. A quotation from Debussy's "*Nuages*" introduces the work, suggesting dark, winter clouds. The main section employs evolving modal textures, while tremolo techniques create a dark and unsettling atmosphere as the piece moves toward its conclusion. The closing coda, a fifth above the opening theme, completes the journey, returning to the icy stillness of the beginning.

Texas Autumns - Nocturnes for Piano

"*Texas Autumns*", composed in 2023 for piano, offers a series of musical impressions of the rural Texas landscape during the fall. Each of the three movements captures a different aspect of North Texas' wide-open fields at various times of day. The first movement reflects the pastures at dusk, grounded in a pentatonic scale with one altered note in the descending line, symbolizing a subtle shift in the horizon. The second movement shifts to the fields at midnight, using sparse, modal textures and the *una corda* pedal to create a muted, quiet sound that reflects the stillness of the night. The final movement looks skyward, focusing on the moon and clouds as they transform the sky into a beautiful, dynamic landscape. Musically, it employs descending themes to symbolize moving clouds and is the most rhythmically challenging of the three, bringing the piece to a contemplative yet intricate close.

Georgian Hills

"*Georgian Hills*", composed in 2023 for string quartet, is a musical impression of the scenic beauty and rich cultural heritage of North Georgia. The piece seeks to capture both the natural landscape and the spirit of its people, with a reference to the folk song "*Down By The Riverside*" woven into its fabric. The work is divided into three movements. The first movement portrays the rolling hills and majestic mountains, while the second focuses on the people and the cultural history of the region. This movement features two distinct themes that begin separately but gradually intertwine, symbolizing the connection between tradition and progress. The final movement, inspired by the sky at

sunset, brings the piece to a close. A repeated descending pattern mirrors the setting sun, and as the light fades behind the trees and hills, a pizzicato section introduces the closing theme, evoking a peaceful yet vivid conclusion. Across all three movements, shifting pentatonic scales create a fluid, evolving musical landscape that reflects the ever-changing beauty of North Georgia.