



University of North Texas
College of Music

Senior Recital | Thursday, March 27, 2025 | 8:00 p.m. | Lab West

Aidan Gould, jazz bass
Junha Kori Park, jazz saxophone
Isaiah Nygard, piano
Diego Salazar, drumset

Confessions to My Unborn Daughter (2011) Ambrose Akinmusire
(b. 1982)

Aidan Schwarz, saxophone
Johnny Orellana, trumpet

Celia (1950)Earl Rudolph "Bud" Powell
(1924–1966)

Autumn Serenade (1945) Peter De Rose (1896–1953),
Sammy Gallop (1915–1971)
arr. Junha Kori Park
Elijah Thiessen, voice

Sierra Madre (Sangre de Cristo) (2024)..... Aidan Gould
(b. 2002)

Old Folks (1938) Willard Robison (1894–1968),
Dedette Lee Hill (1900–1950)

Blues Blood (2024)..... Immanuel Wilkins
(b. 1997)

Program four hundred eighty-one of the 2024–2025 season
Photography and videography are prohibited

Program Notes

Confessions to my Unborn Daughter:

This song is the first track to Ambrose Akinmusire's debut Blue Note album *When The Heart Emerges Glistening*. As this song is the intro to one of the most prolific careers in contemporary music, we wanted our recital to reflect the same energy by introducing this song as the opener of our set. We arranged this song for 3 horns, with Johnny Orellana on trumpet playing the role of Ambrose, and Aidan Schwarz playing the role of Walter Smith III. This song in particular moved me at a relatively young age (around 18 or 19), because the musicians in this band illustrate a beautiful musical portrait with the same musical values as I: playing with as much spirit and intent as possible. Therefore, we felt that this song would be a great opener, setting a mood of seriousness for the rest of our recital.

- Kori

Celia:

This is the famous jazz standard written by the great jazz pianist: Bud Powell, who's many accomplishments in his relatively short life paved the way for all musicians, pianists and non-pianists alike. For me, there is a certain beauty within the compositional aspects of this tune. Much of Bud's writing is filled with emotional expression, whether it comes from the humor of Monk or the melancholy of Bird, etc. For our arrangement, we decided to take inspiration from the *Gerald Clayton Happening: Live at the Village Vanguard* recording, by giving the rhythm section more of an active role throughout the tune, and drawing from the "vibe" of that version.

- Kori

Autumn Serenade:

This song, and the album that this arrangement is based off of; *John Coltrane and Johnny Hartman* have a very special place in my heart. I always refer to John Coltrane and Johnny Hartman as a "desert island record". This is because I have always appreciated the beauty of Trane in this record. For me there is so much sadness in his voice, which is interesting because all these songs are about falling deeply in love, and the beauty of love; there is almost a stark contrast between the lyrics and Trane's playing. John Coltrane and the Classic Quartet is one of our favorite groups and Trane is my biggest inspiration, so I decided to arrange this song in a way that would celebrate both beauty and spirit. This song features Eli Thiessen. :)

- Kori

Sierra Madre (Sangre de Cristo):

Growing up in Colorado, the outdoors has always played an important role in my life and I often spend time exploring many beautiful regions of the state. One of my favorite places is the Sangre de Cristo mountain range, a location filled with unmistakable beauty and deep history. The inspiration for my composition "*Sierra Madre (Sangre de Cristo)*" draws from these characteristics and aims to reflect them throughout the piece. Additionally, the composition encourages audiences to recognize the significance of wild places, such as the Sangre de Cristos, which hold rich history and culture.

- Aidan

Old Folks:

Old Folks, is a Great American Songbook composition which has grown to become one of my favorite ballads. The tune has stood the test of time, with older recordings from Charlie Parker to modern versions from Mulgrew Miller and many more in-between. That being said, this duo version pulls inspiration from many different eras of music, but emphasizes the blues, which Kori and I love to play.

- Aidan

Blues Blood:

Immanuel Wilkins' *Blues Blood* was an easy song choice to close our senior recital, as it lies within a genre of music which Kori and I have bonded over through the last several years. This being a contemporary genre which is hard to put into words, but tells a story through emotion reflected in the music while pushing traditional boundaries. Artists such as Immanuel Wilkins and compositions like *Blues Blood* have played a large role in our musical journeys and inspired Kori and I to strive towards a deeper level of artistry. We found *Blues Blood* acted as the perfect song choice to represent our love for this music, as it travels through several distinctly different sections of music and features everyone in the quartet.

- Aidan