



University of North Texas
College of Music

Senior Recital | Saturday, April 12, 2025 | 6:30 p.m. | Merrill Ellis Intermedia Theater

Robert Jones, composer

Foresta (2024) Robert Jones
(b. 2003)

Brassvenue C Quintet

MacKenzie McCulloch and Robert Jones, trumpet
Isaac Fowler, horn
Thomas Spencer, trombone
Loghan Runnakko, tuba

River (2024) Robert Jones

River Quintet

Yuma Okada, flute
Haydee Norris, oboe
Jilin Zhang, clarinet
Caleb Harold, horn
Emaline Wylie, bassoon

Glass (2025) Robert Jones
Robert Jones, electronics and trumpet

*Program five hundred eighty-five of the 2024–2025 season
Photography and videography are prohibited*

Reflections (2024) Robert Jones

- I. Solitude
- II. Feathers
- III. The Soul

David McCaulley, piano
 Ris Kemp, mezzo-soprano

Florescence (2024) Robert Jones

- I. Awakening
- II. Blossoming
- III. Blooming

Florescence Quartet
 Thi Tang and Janicesta Browne, violin
 Audrey Lewis, viola
 Dawn Mansfield, cello

Program Notes

Foresta (2024)

Foresta is a work for brass quintet that was premiered in 2024 by Brassvenue C, highlighting the ensemble's artistry and bringing the piece to life for the first time. *Foresta* channels the forest's raw intensity and vibrant energy, drawing inspiration from its infinite expanse of towering trees. The piece unfolds through contrasting sections, capturing the natural world's untamed power and dynamic rhythms. Moments of unrelenting aggressiveness evoke the wild and unpredictable forces within the forest while soaring, lyrical melodies offer a glimpse into its grandeur aesthetic. Through its vivid musical imagery, *Foresta* immerses the listener in the awe-inspiring duality of chaos and serenity that defines the heart of the forest.

River (2024)

River was first performed by the Wind Quintet in 2024. This piece captures the essence of flowing water, combining serenity with moments of instability. The rich and unique palette of the wind quintet helps this piece mirror the fluidity of the river, while also reflecting its natural irregularities. The interplay between the instruments creates a graceful and subtly unstable soundscape, conveying the complexity of nature's most dynamic element.

Glass (2025)

This piece captures a sense of purity and clarity, weaving delayed pianos and lush synthesizers into a serene, ambient soundscape. The delicate interplay of these elements creates a shimmering melodic landscape, where the electro-acoustic trumpet adds depth and color with its transparent textures with the use of delay. The result is an ethereal and immersive experience, where every sound glows with translucent beauty, evoking the fragility and brilliance of glass itself. Today, *Glass* is a world premiere piece for trumpet and electronics.

Reflections (2024)

Reflections is a song cycle for mezzo-soprano and piano. These poems work together as a reflection upon life's many states and moods. The first poem written by William Wordsworth captures the serene bliss of solitude and the poet's deep appreciation for the beauty of their surroundings. Each moment of reflection unfolds through four distinct musical styles, each representing a unique facet of the experiences being observed. *Feathers* is a song that soars with the essence of hope, symbolized as a bird carried by its delicate yet resilient feathers. The serene harmonies and steady, unyielding pulse in the piano evoke the enduring strength of hope, a force that can navigate even the fiercest storms. *The Soul* - This song delves into the darker realities of life, exploring moments of sorrow and the fragile ways we cope with them. The interplay between its somber tones and a radiant, bittersweet melody captures the complexity of human emotion—the beauty that often emerges from pain. Through its hauntingly evocative contrasts, the music reflects the poignancy of life's most tender and heartbreaking experiences, reminding us of the profound beauty within even the saddest moments.

Florescence (2024)

Florescence was written in 2024 for a string quartet. This piece represents 3 movements that showcase the flower cycles and its lifespan. The first movement embodies the flower's potential to grow into something radiant and beautiful. The themes introduced here hint at the larger story, planting musical ideas with a fun ending that each movement shares. *Blossoming* is Shrouded in mystery, this movement captures the elegance and intricate detail of the blossoming stage. The gentle unfolding of melodic contours mirrors the flower's graceful emergence, eerie chords and melodies seep through the texture. *Blooming* - The final movement celebrates the flower's full expression of life—a vibrant burst of fiery colors and intense energy. Like the flowering, this stage is breathtaking yet fleeting, sometimes lasting only a day. The music reflects this urgency and intensity with bold, dynamic textures and an exhilarating pace with fast 16th notes, culminating in a powerful statement of life at its peak.