



COLLEGE OF MUSIC

University of North Texas
College of Music

Senior Recital | Saturday, March 25, 2023 | 6:30 pm | Recital Hall

Ronald Bonitatibus, composer

Observations

Time Spent (2023)Ronald Bonitatibus (b. 2001)
Anna Ferrari, Bb clarinet

It Takes Four (2022)Ronald Bonitatibus
PYXIS Saxophone Quartet
Ronald Bonitatibus, soprano • Max Windsor, alto
Devon Isaac, tenor • Beige Cowell, baritone

Cantus (2021)Ronald Bonitatibus
fixed media

Vague Variations (2022)Ronald Bonitatibus
PYXIS Saxophone Quartet
Ronald Bonitatibus, soprano • Max Windsor, alto
Devon Isaac, tenor • Beige Cowell, baritone

Improvisation I for Alto Saxophone (2022)Ronald Bonitatibus
Luke Vanek, alto saxophone

In the Stars (2023)Ronald Bonitatibus
PYXIS Saxophone Quartet
Ronald Bonitatibus, soprano • Max Windsor, alto
Devon Isaac, tenor • Beige Cowell, baritone

Undulations (2020).....Ronald Bonitatibus
Ella Curb, violin • Devon Isaac, violin
Shanya Chynwat, viola • Colin Stokes, cello

Observations (2023)Ronald Bonitatibus
PYXIS Saxophone Quartet
Ronald Bonitatibus, soprano • Max Windsor, alto
Devon Isaac, tenor • Beige Cowell, baritone

Time Spent—*Time Spent* is about reflection; a solitary voice considers the meaning of its experience. The theme is slowly embellished and transformed, representing a wandering, anxious mind as the voice fights to simplify its perceptions.

It Takes Four—*It Takes Four* was composed for my friend and teacher Christa Heimann over the 2021–22 winter. Presenting a theme that transforms as each voice imposes its own personality, this piece takes four to tango.

Cantus—*Cantus* explores entropy and order; many voices harmonically and timbrally converge upon and diverge from a single point. *Cantus* is about distractions, conflict and the prevailing force of harmony.

Vague Variations—Composed for the PYXIS Quartet, *Vague Variations* transforms a group of melodic fragments through widely varied styles and textures.

Improvisation I for Alto Saxophone—This work is a study in split octaves, multiphonics, and half fingerings. Heavily inspired by the colors and forms of Ryo Noda's works for solo saxophone, *Improvisation I for Alto Saxophone* is a combination of two of my transcribed improvisations reflecting on my listenings, practice and performance of his work. While technically simple, the piece requires intense control of voicing and dynamics.

In the Stars—*In the Stars* is a ballad dedicated to the other members of the PYXIS Saxophone Quartet as well as our instructor Yafei Lin and department head Dr. Eric Nestler for their constant support in our ventures. An homage to our experiences, friendship, and growth as musicians, *In the Stars* represents what I wish I could put into words about my time working with this quartet.

Undulations—Originally composed in Spring 2020, *Undulations* was never premiered due to "logistic complications" that semester. This piece has a guided open form combining text and semi-traditional notation, with optional repeats of each section. With elements of deep listening and indeterminate harmony, *Undulations* is a sort of choose-your-own-adventure piece for the performers that necessitates active observation and decision making by each player.

Observations—*Observations* is a chaconne with less traditional form and metric elements. This piece travels through a variety of soundscapes, grooves, and textures in settings of a theme. *Observations* also contains references to themes, textures, grooves, and other elements from other pieces in tonight's set, so listen carefully to see how many you can catch!