

University of North Texas College of Music

Senior Recital | Wednesday, April 17, 2024 | 8:00 pm | Lab West

Taylor Hatch, guitar Tyler Kinser, bass

Something's Missing (2024)Taylor Hatch (b. 1997)
Happenings (2024)Taylor Hatch
Dancing on the Ceiling (1930)
There is No Greater Love (1936)
Everything Starts From A Dot (2024)
Cheryl (1947)

Personnel

Ben Barker, piano • Aramís Fernández, drumset • Nan Wang, vocals Marjin Meijer, violin • Ally Hawking Howe, violin Angel De Hoyos, viola • Noah Leiva, cello Something's Missing—This solo piece represents an anecdote on events I have faced throughout portions of my life - individually and musically. As an individual on the Autism Spectrum, the number of challenges in and out of living are oftentimes a result of confusion of how one person can attempt to blend in a world so large. At one point, I thought that I could never fit any mold or lace, and it led me to having feelings of much isolation throughout points of my life. The thought of aspects of human connection feeling missing is oftentimes a common thought when you're neurodivergent, but as time moves on, there is realization that there's always room for anyone to find a place. What feels missing in the moment can always be found with timing and acceptance.

Happenings—I wrote this tune with the idea of how things in life, let alone in improvisation, are all based on what happens in the moment. As this is a reflection for me as a composer, it gives me light knowing that in any scenario, it's all about happenings. The chemistry with the guitar and acoustic bass is a type of relationship that favors chemistry and balance, which is where I drew inspiration through the listening of Pat Metheny and Charlie Haden from the record *Beyond Missouri Skies*. Happenings is about chemistry, but also that there are relational experiences in improvisation that involve special connections.

Dancing on the Ceiling—This song was composed by Richard Rodgers with lyrics by Lorenz Hart. It had its original debut in the film *Evergreen* (1934) performed by Jessie Matthews. While we take our musical inspiration mainly from Chet Baker's rendition of the tune from 1958, we also try to capture elements of the virtuosic dancing from the original performance by Matthews in our improvisation.

There is No Greater Love—Aside from being a stellar piece of standard repertoire, this piece also has lyrics that hold a message of true love and dedication. We present this piece as something of a love letter from us to the music.

Everything Starts From A Dot—The title of this composition comes from a quote by the late Russian abstract painter Wassily Kandinsky, which inspired me. I have a neurological phenomenon called Synesthesia, where my perception of music is translated through a cross-wiring in the brain. With this, numbers, shapes, and specifically colors are connected with ordinary things, but music specifically has always translated as colors when I perform and compose. Kandinsky also had this ability, so this sparked inspiration for me to compose something with the gratification of abstract art and textures. With the usage of intermedia and animation, "painting" my music has been an integral part of how I create. On top of that, Kandinsky's work continues to be a bright light for me creatively when I write music, and I love the amount of abstract relation that is found when you cross its connection with life.

Cheryl—The jazz tradition is inseparable from the blues and modern jazz is similarly inseparable from the influence of Charlie Parker. We present this piece as a way of paying tribute to the jazz tradition.