



# University of North Texas College of Music

Guest Artist Recital | Wednesday, September 6, 2023 | 8:00 pm | Voertman Hall

## **Martin McCain, bass trombone** **Artina McCain, piano**

Gangbusters (2006) ..... James Kazik (b. 1974)

Encuentros (2019).....Carolina Calvache (b. 1985)

Fantasy in Purple (n.d.).....Florence Price (1887–1953)  
arr. Anthony Wise

from *Three Dream Portraits* (1959).....Margaret Bonds (1913–1972)  
arr. Anthony Wise

3. I, too

Near the Cross (1869) .....William Howard Doane/Fanny Crosby  
arr. Joseph Joubert  
(1832–1915)/(1820–1915)

--Intermission--

from *Jazz Triptych* (2014) .....David F. Wilborn (b. 1961)  
II. Tango Nuevo (a walk with Ástor Piazzolla)

Romance (c. 1816) .....attri. Carl Maria von Weber (1786–1826)  
arr. Martin McCain

Pure Imagination (1971) .....Leslie Bricusse/Anthony Newley  
(1931–2021)/(1931–1999)  
arr. Marcus Wilcher

Three Preludes (1926).....George Gershwin (1898–1937)  
arr. Ralph Sauer

1. To Bill Daly (Allegro ben ritmato e deciso)
2. Blue Lullaby (Andante con moto)
3. Spanish Prelude (Agitato)

**Sixth program of the 2023–2024 season**  
**Photography and videography are prohibited**

Known for their fusion of classical, jazz and gospel programming, the **McCain Duo** (Artina and Martin) present concerts with a surprising depth of emotional contrasts. Audiences describe their performances as "breathtaking, awe-inspiring, and invigorating." Their marriage and musical collaboration create an intimate range of tone colors and imaginative storytelling.

The McCain Duo are champions of building personal connections with composers to create a larger repertoire. Their award-winning albums *Renew*, *Shades* and *Trombone Czar* feature commissioned works and were each honored with Global Music Awards.

The duo has performed throughout Asia, Europe and Canada. United States highlights include performances at the Gateways Music Festival (NY), International Trombone Festival, The Great American Brass Band Festival (KY) and most recently the Conference Artists at the Music Teachers National Association Convention. Their concerts and recordings have been broadcast on NPR's "Performance Today," CKWR Toronto, and KMFA Classical Austin.

In addition to their performing careers, the McCain Duo created professional development programming for emerging artists. Their social media video series "Elevate with the McCain Duo" reached thousands of viewers covering topics ranging from personal goal setting to auditions and expanded career options for musicians. They have presented clinics on arts entrepreneurship at Indiana University, University of Michigan, University of Southern California and others.

The McCain Duo are on the faculty at the University of Memphis Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music. Dr. Artina McCain is associate professor of piano and coordinator of the Keyboard Area and Dr. Martin McCain is an artist/teacher of trombone. For more information, please visit [www.mccainduo.com](http://www.mccainduo.com) and follow @mccainduo.

Hailed by the *New York Times* as a "virtuoso pianist," **Artina McCain** has built a formidable career as a performer, educator and speaker. As a recitalist, her credits include performances at Wigmore Hall and Barbican Centre in London, Weill Hall at Carnegie Hall and Merkin Hall in New York City and more. Other highlights include guest appearances with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, Memphis Symphony Orchestra and Fox Valley Symphony Orchestra. In 2022, she was the mistress of ceremonies for the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition.

Dedicated to promoting the works of Black and other underrepresented composers, McCain curates Underrepresented Composers Concerts for multiple arts organizations. She is an American Prize winner for her solo piano recordings of these works and won a Gold Global Music Award for her recent album project *Heritage*. In 2021, Hal Leonard published her transcriptions of *Twenty-Four Traditional African American Folk Songs*.

McCain was a featured inspirational leader in the award-winning PBS documentary series "Roadtrip Nation: Degree of Impact" in an episode exploring the real-world impact of professionals with doctoral degrees in and outside of academia.

McCain's performances have been heard on Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK), Germany's WDR and television appearances including features on CSPAN for the MLK 50 Commemoration. McCain is a three-time Global Music Award winner including collaborative projects *I, Too* (Naxos), with soprano Icy Monroe, focused on African American spirituals and art songs and *Shades*, a collaboration with her husband and duo partner Martin McCain.

After not performing for 6 years while battling a performance injury, she now enjoys a prolific concert career with more than 10 years of full injury recovery. She uses her recovery to serve as an advocate of musicians' wellness—curating articles, lectures, and forums to educate teachers and students. Most recently the BBC featured her on the podcast "Sideways" telling her miraculous story of injury to recovery. McCain has written and presented on wellness and other topics in *Piano Magazine* and at multiple universities, Music Teachers National Association Conference and the National Conference of Keyboard Pedagogy.

McCain graduated *cum laude* from Southern Methodist University. She received her master of music from Cleveland Institute of Music and holds a doctoral degree from the University of Texas at Austin. She is the co-founder/director of the Memphis International Piano Festival and Competition.

In her spare time, Artina enjoys boutique shopping, traveling internationally and is an avid tea aficionado. Artina McCain is a Yamaha Artist.

A third-generation musician, **Martin McCain's** career spans an impressive range of musical genres. As an ambassador of the bass trombone, Martin maintains a versatile performance schedule as a soloist, recording artist, chamber, orchestral, jazz/commercial musician and educator. He is a four-time winner of the Global Music Award and was featured as their "Emerging Artist" in *Billboard* magazine, with performances described as "solid and masterful" (*International Trombone Association Journal*) with a "warm and beautiful" tone (*Glissando Magazine*).

McCain's performances include concerts at Carnegie Hall, Hollywood Bowl, Croatian National Theatre and others. His performances have been broadcast on CNN's "Juneteenth: A Global Celebration of Freedom," Radio Television Hong Kong and NPR's "Performance Today."

As a recording artist, Martin has released four CDs, *Renew* (2021), *Trombone Czar: The Extended Version* (2015), *Shades* (2014), and *Trombone Czar: Russian Treasures Recorded Live!* (2012). He can be heard on RCA Records, Motown Records, Atlantic Records, Summit Records and numerous film and

video game soundtracks. As a soloist, Martin has performed with the Croatian Army Wind Band, United States Army Concert Band "Pershing's Own", United States Army Brass Quintet, Laredo Philharmonic Orchestra, Kingsville Symphony Orchestra and Balcones Chamber Orchestra.

As an orchestral musician, McCain is a member of the IRIS Collective, Victoria Bach Festival Orchestra, Gateways Music Festival Orchestra and has regularly performed with the Memphis Symphony Orchestra, San Antonio Symphony, and Austin Symphony Orchestra. He has been invited to be guest bass trombone with numerous top-tier orchestras including the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra, and Utah Symphony Orchestra among others. As a chamber musician, Martin is a member of the Rodney Marsalis Philadelphia Big Brass and regularly performs with his wife, pianist Artina McCain as the McCain Duo.

As a jazz/commercial musician, McCain is the leader of the award-winning Austin based jazz trombone ensemble, JazzBonz. He has performed with the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra, Frank Sinatra Jr. Orchestra and several Broadway shows including recent tours of *Ain't Too Proud*, *Tina* and *Hello Dolly*. Martin also has collaborated with a number of legendary artists such as Earth Wind and Fire, Roberta Flack, Bel Biv DeVoe, Jon Batiste, Chaka Khan, Ne-Yo, Robert Glasper, The Roots, Lenny Williams, the Temptations and the Four Tops.

Dr. McCain previously held positions at Texas State University, Henderson State University and Huston-Tillotson University. McCain received his bachelor of music degree with a business minor at the University of Southern Mississippi, along with a master of music and doctor of musical arts degree from the University of Texas at Austin.

Martin McCain is a performing artist for S.E. Shires, Reunion Blues Gig Bags and plays on the "McCain" signature mouthpiece series manufactured by Pickett Brass. In his spare time, Martin is an avid BBQ pitmaster and sports enthusiast.

