



COLLEGE OF MUSIC

University of North Texas
College of Music

Senior Recital | Monday, April 8, 2024 | 8:00 pm | Recital Hall

Runsheng Zhao, guitar
Choigyoungjin (YJ) Shin, tenor saxophone

- *I Should Care (1944) Axel Stordahl/Paul Weston/Sammy Cahn
(1913–1963)/(1912–1996)/(1913–1993)
arr. YJ Shin
- Samba Do Avião (1963) Antônio Carlos Jobim (1927–1994)
arr. Runsheng Zhao
- Lazy Bird (1958) John Coltrane (1926–1967)
- Estranged (2024) Runsheng Zhao (b. 1994)
- Beatrice (1964) Sam Rivers (1923–2011)
arr. YJ Shin
- Prelude to a Kiss (1938) Duke Ellington (1899–1974)
- *Two Steps (2023) YJ Shin (b. 1995)

Personnel

Jonathan Orellana, trumpet* • Colin Manocchio, trombone*
Serim Kim, piano • Brendan Nie, bass • Jiayu Cao, drumset

Seven hundred fifty-ninth program of the 2023–2024 season
Photography and videography are prohibited

I Should Care—I (YJ) was influenced by the arrangement of this song from John Fedchock's *Sextet* album, which I enjoy and admire. While it's a well-known jazz standard, I wanted to appeal to the audience by adding some unique points to it.

Samba Do Avião—This piece was inspired by Eliane Elias's interpretation. In addition to Jobim's fabulous composition, Elias took the liberty to arrange the tune in multiple different keys. These key changes in the music painted a varied spectrum of hues, intriguing me (Zhao) to delve deeper into her musical world.

Lazy Bird—I (YJ) chose this song dedicated to Ben Wendel, whom I admire and whose playing style inspired me to switch to the tenor saxophone. He's known for his series 'Standards With Friends,' where he frequently shares videos of duet performances on famous tunes. Given that I needed to play in a duet setting with a guitarist, I opted for the song 'Lazy Bird,' which he performed as a duet with Lage Lund.

Estranged—I (Zhao) came across this word during a dialogue in the video game 'Control' a few years ago. And it's fascinating how I vividly recall where I first encountered it. This word seems to perfectly encapsulate my journey during my time at UNT.

Beatrice—I (YJ) consider Sam Rivers to be an underrated jazz musician, primarily because most of his albums came out mainly after the 1960s. However, upon closer listening and exploration of his music, I believe his harmonies and vocabulary were quite innovative for his time. Therefore, in tribute to him, I incorporated some arrangements inspired by his style.

Prelude to a Kiss—Duke Ellington's 'Prelude to a Kiss' is revered for its melodic beauty and harmonic sophistication. With poignant lyrics and enduring appeal, the song seamlessly blends jazz and romanticism. Its timeless allure has inspired generations of musicians to interpret this masterpiece.

Two Steps—This song was one we performed in my JCM group at school when the Strickland brothers visited. I (YJ) incorporated my Dorian and Phrygian modes about chord progression but kept the melody simple. The title comes from the excitement of winning the Two Step Lottery five times in a row back then, hence the name of the piece.