

Zach Elliott and Jordan Somers

Composition Recital

March 28, 2025

8:00pm

Kirmser Recital Hall, Kansas State University

PROGRAM

Through the Misted ValeZach Elliott

Jacob Daley, trombone
Zach Elliott, trombone
Jared Eck, trombone

DreamlandZach Elliott

Jacob Daley, trombone
Zach Elliott, trombone
Jared Eck, trombone

Flint StormsJordan Somers

I. Droplets
II. Ominous

Kansas State University Saxophone Quartet

Mason Ringer, soprano saxophone
Diego Umaña Conejo, alto saxophone
Jordan Somers, tenor saxophone
Craig Brinkman, baritone saxophone

Program continues below

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Dancing Pines Zach Elliott

Melissa Fierro, flute
Natalie Myers, oboe
Gabriella Phillips, clarinet
Kela Schnelle, bassoon

Castle Theme Jordan Somers

Brett Wyckoff, trumpet
Kendan Powers, trumpet
Logan Herring, trombone

Turning Tides Zach Elliott

Wabash City Brass Quintet

Brett Wyckoff, trumpet
Kendan Powers, trumpet
Josie Anderson, horn
Logan Herring, trombone
Issac Allmon, tuba

Alma Snarky Puppy
Arranged by Jordan Somers

Mason Ringer, alto saxophone
Jordan Somers, tenor saxophone
Chris Gutierrez, baritone saxophone
Kendan Powers, trumpet
Aidan Torkelson, trombone
Lilly Christ, keyboard
Sebastian Ybarra, guitar
Rawlan Crave, bass
Jasper Vallad, drum set
Devon Autry, percussion

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PROGRAM NOTES

Through the Misted Vale

Based on fantasy adventure music, *Through the Misted Vale* portrays the start of a journey, introduced by an upbeat melody that leads to a misted valley, played in a slightly darker fashion. The piece ends with a recap of the first melody in a brighter key.

Dreamland

Dreamland came from a desire to write music that wasn't so upbeat and high energy. It's a slower, lyrical piece that portrays the flow of a calm dream- one that picks up slightly near the middle, and eventually calms down near the end to finish off as a peaceful, happy dream.

Flint Storms

Flint Storms is a multi-movement piece composed for saxophone quartet. The piece was inspired by the drastic weather changes of the Midwest, and the versatility of the saxophone family allows for a wide range of colors, dynamics, and techniques to accompany this piece. This composition includes advanced techniques for the saxophone that are utilized to emulate specific sounds such as wind, rain, and even sirens.

Program notes continue below

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Dancing Pines

This song is based on pine trees in the wind. The shorter notes portray pine needles along with flowing connected lines that portray pine trees swaying or “dancing” in the wind.

Castle Theme

Castle Theme is a march-style composition for a brass trio. This was one of my earlier compositions, and the writing was inspired by Gustav Holst and his methods of using harmony to expand on simple ideas. *Castle Theme* explores the colors of F Minor and its surrounding modes.

Turning Tides

Turning Tides begins as a dark ominous piece based around a small phrase first introduced by the tuba, then passed around the ensemble mixing with lines give the piece its more menacing sound. Later a dramatic key change “turns” the theme into a happier more triumphant theme that plays out until the end of the piece.

Alma

This arrangement of the funk tune by Snarky Puppy includes a percussion feature performed by Devon Autry. The remaining instrumentation is a typical rhythm section and brass band, complete with saxophones, trumpet, and trombone. This piece, along with many funk and jazz tunes, is known for its syncopated rhythms and extended harmonies.