

# Ryan Kimbrell

## Saxophonist, Music Director, Producer

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### Education

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2018 Post-Graduate Fellowship – Berklee College of Music–Valencia

2017 Master of Music – Contemporary Performance (Production), Berklee College of Music–Valencia

2016 Bachelor of Music – Music Performance (Jazz Studies), University of Wisconsin–Madison

### Principle Teachers/Mentors

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Perico Sambeat, Saxophone and Improvisation, Berklee Valencia, psambeat@berklee.edu

Leslie Thimmig, Saxophone and Jazz Improvisation, UW-Madison, lthimmig@wisc.edu

Richard Davis, Jazz Improvisation and Leadership, UW-Madison, rdavis1@wisc.edu

Johannes Wallman, Jazz Arranging, Composition, and Improvisation, UW-Madison, wallmann@wisc.edu

### Performing/Directing/Arranging Experience

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#### **Berklee Valencia Pop Groove Ensemble, 2018**

- Horn section work with fresh arrangements of pop hits from the 60's to today (e.g. Bill Withers, Michael Jackson, Kelly Price)

#### **Berklee Valencia Fusion Ensemble, 2017**

- Rehearsed and performed with notable Bass Player Gary Willis (Tribal Tech)
- Improvisation Experience in non-jazz fusion styles
- Experience interacting in a small group avant-garde electroacoustic setting

#### **Berklee Valencia Groove Ensemble, 2016**

- Experience performing Funk, R&B, Soul, and Neo-Soul styles from the 1960's to today
- Experience with difficult contemporary groove music (e.g. Hiatus Kaiyote, Moonchild, Snarky Puppy)

#### **UW Jazz Orchestra, 2013-2016**

- Experience as both Baritone Saxophone player (2 years), and also Lead Alto Saxophone (1 year)
- Repertoire consists mainly of Contemporary Big Band works (e.g. Thad Jones, Bob Brookmeyer, Maria Schneider, Gordon Goodwin), and Afro-Cuban Big Band works (e.g. Afro-Cuban Allstars)

- Improvisation experience
- Performed/Rehearsed with many guest artists including: Brian Lynch, Sharón Clark, Ingrid Jensen, Juan de Marcos González, Mitch Butler, John Fedchock, Chris Washburne, and Bob Sheppard

#### **UW Black Music Ensemble, 2013-2016**

- Creating reinventions of well-known songs, as well as bringing lesser-known songs to light in order to promote the performance of music of black artists and the amplification of black voices in a predominantly white institution.
- Experience playing Alto and Baritone Saxophone, Voice, and Keyboards/Piano.
- Improvisation Experience
- Experience as a bandleader, and in organizing groups of musicians
- Arranging experience

#### **UW Contemporary Jazz Ensemble, 2016, Alto Saxophone**

- Improvisation experience within a contemporary harmonic setting
- Experience interacting in a small group setting

#### **UW Blue Note Ensemble, 2014, Alto Saxophone**

- Close study of two specific artists: Freddie Hubbard and Donald Byrd
- Repertoire ranging from traditional swing to funk
- Improvisation experience
- Experience interacting in a small group

#### **UW Latin Jazz Ensemble, 2015, Baritone Saxophone Substitute on Multiple Performances**

- Sight reading experience
- Experience as a substitute in an unfamiliar group.
- Experience in Afro-Cuban music

#### **The MadHatters Men's A Cappella, 2013-2016**

- Music Director (2014-2015), included organizing and running rehearsals, directing studio recording sessions, arranging music, auditioning new members, and running sound checks.
- Arranged and Transcribed more than 20 individual songs, medleys, and mash-ups across many genres including Pop, Funk, R&B, Soul, Jazz, Rock, Hip-Hop, and Country.
- Performed for thousands of people at venues of many sizes including the half-time show at a professional football game.
- Led workshops at high schools around the Midwest in reference to A Cappella arranging, music theory, rehearsal technique, and performance technique.

#### **InterMission Theatre, 2013-2015**

- Arranged over 20 popular Musical Theater pieces for 10-piece band and a chorus of singers to put on a cabaret fundraising performance each year (3 total Cabarets)

- Directed and conducted the cabaret, played Alto Saxophone in the pit, and sung solos.
- Lead some choir rehearsals and individual soloist rehearsal sessions, as well as pit orchestra rehearsals.

### **Badger Game Network, 2013**

- Composed and Arranged music for projects led by game developers
- Lead a committee of musicians with an array of backgrounds within the larger interdisciplinary team
- Student Organization won Wisconsin Idea prize for interdisciplinary collaboration

### **Other Relevant Musical Competencies/Courses**

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- 3 semesters of Recording technique study at Berklee
- 2 semesters of Electronic music production and Sound Design in Ableton Live Suite at Berklee
- 5 semesters of Music Theory and Analysis including counterpoint study, Analysis in Classical period, Romantic period, impressionist period, Serial and twelve-tone study, contemporary tonal work, and jazz theory from standards to modern work at Wisconsin-Madison
- Composition course in serial and twelve-tone study at Wisconsin-Madison
- Semester long course with Juan de Marcos González in Afro-Cuban Music from its roots to its present day hip-hop fusion.
- Independent study course specializing in popular music performance in the instrumentation of the Hornheads Horn Ensemble (Baritone Saxophone)
- Arrangement of Captain Marvel (Chick Corea) performed by UW Composers Septet (Fall 2015)
- Arrangement of Just Around the Corner (Herbie Hancock) performed by UW Jazz Orchestra (Spring 2016)