

GRADUATION RECITAL PROGRAM

March 24, 2024
University Recital Hall
Jonathan Alexander, Composition

String Trio (2024)
“Valse Rêverie”

Alayna Mcneil (Violin)
Brenna LeMay (Cello)
Jonathan Alexander (Piano)

Wind Quintet (2023)
I. “Prelude”
II. “The Valley”

Brynn Norton (Flute & Piccolo)
Ryan Miller (Eb Clarinet)
Sydney Stene (Bb Clarinet)
Ashlee Dowdle (F Horn)
Ellie Shifflet (Bassoon)

Scoring for Games
I. [Interactive Music Demo] (2021)
II. [Example Composer Pitch] (2024)

Jonathan Alexander (Composition & Mixing)

Intermission

Brass Quintet
I. “Source” (2023)
II. “The Dip” (2022)
III. “Exit Strategy” (2023)

Rex Mulder (Bb Trumpet I)
Katie Tsujimoto (Bb Trumpet II)
Ty Bahl (F Horn)
Madelyn Appleton (Trombone)
Keely Evanoff (Bb & Eb Tuba)

Scoring for Animation (2021)
“Liv”

Paige McMorrow (Directing & Animation)
Jonathan Alexander (Composition)

Jazz Quartet (2024)
I. “Consolation”
II. “Pseudonym”

Cool Cats Combo:
Rayden Wong (Alto Saxophone)
Luke Povhe (Drum Set)
Jonathan Alexander (Piano)
Ian Saunders (Double Bass)



FACULTY OF
FINE ARTS

UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

PROGRAM NOTES

String Trio (2024)

... Written for Guitar, Violin, and Cello...

Wind Quintet (2023)

"The Valley" was written using derivative material from my previous work, a Brass Quintet. My goal was to continue writing in a contrapuntal style, prioritizing horizontal melodic development in hopes of further freeing myself from my bias towards vertical chord-based composing. No regard was given to key signature; however, despite the lack of key and its association with atonality, my goal was still to compose a tuneful and sing-song-ey piece, perhaps also in defiance of my previous work's dip into atonality and dissonance. The bounding arpeggiations draw much inspiration from Justin Hurwitz's work on the film "La La Land," and the opening solo and trio sprouted from my childhood recollections of watching Hayao Miyazaki's film "Kiki's Delivery Service" of which the scene overlooking the town by the shore and the scene featuring a laggardly dog are most memorable. The **prelude** was influenced by the works of Holst, especially his "Song of the Blacksmith."

Scores for Games (2021,TBD)

... Demo for non-linear, interactive music... example pitch attempting to win a composing gig...

Brass Quintet (2023)

"Brass Quintet" was written for my graduation recital at the University of Lethbridge under the influence of Silicon Valley grindset culture. It is my first multi-movement work with three movements in total. Programmatically, **"Source"** (I) begins with the indulgent optimism of a startup founder hot on the heels of securing their first angel list seed, only to thereafter be mauled and torn down by a bearish dip in morale. Nevertheless, their time spent in what has been referred to as **"The Dip"** (II) sparks an unyielding thirst for self-improvement; thus, twelve self-help books later and armed with the koanic mantra 'real artists ship,' the founder ignores all pivots and finally begins sprinting in a straight line. Now equipped with a rejuvenated sense of purpose and drive—likely fuelled by mushroom-infused decaf—the founder transcends their reality distortion field, switching from zero to one, and rides the bull to a triumphant victory per their **"Exit Strategy"** (III)."

"Liv" (2021)

"My thesis film about a ghost girl named Liv, who tries to become friends with the family that moves into the home she resides in."—Paige McMorrow (Film Creator); Composed by Jonathan Alexander; Voice talent by Dottie Carter (Liv), Sheli Baez (Mom & Josie), Ghastlydipper (Cody).

Jazz Quartet (2024)

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