

GCSU Department of Music

# Sound Sculptures XVIII

*“The World Around Us”*

**David H. Johnson, director**

Thursday, April 27, 2023, 7:30 pm

Max Noah Recital Hall



## Program

Smooth Jazz		Alex Burch (b. 1999)
A Pulse of Life		Sara Carr (b. 2001)
Bad Habits		Erik Wolsten (b. 2002)
Something Nostalgic		Jacob Bosarge (b. 2003)
Metropolis		Alex Burch
How it Was: A College Chronology		Michael Marcinko (b. 1999)
	<i>piano and electronics</i> Ethan Chase, piano	
Realisations		Ellie Deener (b. 2001)
	<i>violin and electronics</i> Taylor Doyle, violin	
Monorooft		Sara Carr
	<i>violin and electronics</i> Sara Carr, violin	
A Day in the Life Remix (Oh Boy)		Gabrielle Banzon (b. 1992)

## Program Notes

### Smooth Jazz

Alex Burch

In this piece called *Smooth Jazz*, it features a lot of ambience that will make you feel immersed in the calm atmosphere of jazz. It will have sounds of rain while you listen to different types of solos such as the trumpet and tenor sax solo. This piece will also have many style changes to the music to keep it clear and connected to the atmosphere of the piece. It will start out with a string bass solo with the main tune and the tenor sax will enter followed by the trumpet with drums. This piece will be calming and relaxing to listen to and enjoy.

### Pulse of Life

Sara Carr

*A Pulse of Life* is a piece that utilizes a heartbeat recording, a practice mostly used to memorialize someone close to the end of their life so that their loved ones can continue to carry a piece of them in song. However, in this context it is being used as a base of a journey of the experience within my past four years. Instead of a signal of an end to a life, it is the heartbeat of a prelude to a new journey. This piece utilizes a recorded heartbeat of the composer, recorded violin and guitar, MIDI keyboard, synth pad and chords, and editing through Logic Pro and Pro Tools.

### Bad Habits

Erik Wolstenholme

I am a multi-instrumentalist and have been playing in bands around Milledgeville for over 1 year. For many months this included playing almost every weekend for money. I have been making music for almost 7 years now. I have recorded bands in the past and it has never gone the way I have wanted it to. Now I am in the band "Andalusia" and I present to you the song that we all collectively wrote together. From taking this class I have acquired the knowledge to mix and master and I now understand how to make music sound full and loud. I have been in music studios and have been recorded so I have seen how the process works. Now I have the knowledge to do it myself. For my creative approach I first took a recording with my phone of our keyboard players amp outputting an arpeggiating loop. I then brought that to class and started working on a demo for outlining the song. I played all instruments and used midi to layout the chord structure of the song. I then individually recorded everyone's individual parts with live takes, using SM57's on all amps, and drums. I then used EQ to level everything and used many built in effects in Logic. Once I got a good mix of the song, I bounced every single track into, and audio file then transferred them to Pro Tools. This is where I add all the final touches. This song features large synth patterns, electric guitar with chorus, lead guitar, bass, a loud rock organ, and a full drum kit. The song has many different rhythmic changes. As well as one tempo and key change. This song starts out in a very loud and scary way giving feelings of anxiety. It then becomes put together where the music feels as if it is riding on a wave, but into uncertainty. This leads into where it almost feels like a battle seen, the music feels intense yet victorious. Lastly the music calms, its feels slow and you feel relaxed. Those feelings of euphoria build into one big immense, and orchestral climax, then finally calms. Special thanks to Zeke Nichols, keyboard; Andrew Bates, bass; John McMaster, lead guitar; and Mason Wiley, drums.

### Something Nostalgic

Jacob Bosarge

When going into this composition I wanted to focus on many of the sounds that I associate with calming feelings of growing up, and the kind of mood that that feeling gives me. Blending these sounds with my modern voice in music leaves me creating a piece that feels at home but also looking ahead to what's next. Whether through quiet strings, soft drums, or classic percussion, I wanted to capture a feeling that is often hard to describe through words, but better expressed as a piece.

### Metropolis

Alex Burch

In the film called *Metropolis*, it was released on March 13, 1927, and it's about a futuristic city where a beautiful and scenery utopia exists above a bleak underworld full of mistreated workers who work for little or no pay. In this scene, I chose where enormous number of floods begins to emerge throughout the city while the workers scramble to safety. It will feature a trumpet and horn duet as the main feature in this scene. It will also feature sounds that will sound realistic to what is happening in the film. It will feature a trumpet and a horn solo with added effects to make the experience realistic in this scene. Also, I will add snare drum accompaniment to intensify the chaos and terror in this scene. Overall, the trumpet and horn duet with snare drum accompaniment will make this scene intense and chaotic as this will be exciting to listen to and enjoy.

### How it Was: A College Chronology

Michael Marcinko

I wanted this piece to be a musical representation of my experience while at Georgia College, from starting a relatively normal freshman year, being locked down due to Covid, the eventual shift back to normalcy, and everything that I learned and experienced during this time of my life. The piece itself features a variety of different sounds of radio, static, noise chatter, as well as piano and other instruments. The main melodic items of the piece come from a duet of pianos both played live and pre-done within the song. I've heavily modified the piano that plays throughout the track to contrast the clean tone played by the performer, Ethan Chase.

### Realisations

Ellie Deener

My piece, *Realisations* is an amalgamation of several different bits of inspiration going into this project for the semester. First off, I did work from the title, which came to me at the very start of my brainstorming. It is not a misspelling, however - it is meant to be a combination of the realizing that can happen, on many different levels and all at once, throughout one's life- and then the sensations that can come along with that experience. The work is meant to sort of move through the stages of processing how this can affect you.

Lately in my personal music listening and sharing recommendations, I've been particularly drawn to a sort of sonic quality which feels very ethereal and spacey. I wanted to create such a soundscape after a friend and I had many conversations and shared experiences of how this music vibe is fascinating to us. I took that and ran with it. I hope each listener is able to connect to some part of how music can reflect things about our life as we are realizing them and growing each in our own way.

Many special thanks to my live performer's willingness to collaborate and participate in this project with me!

### Moonroof


Sara Carr

*Moonroof* is a piece written for solo violin and electronics. The electronics are created from a combination of MIDI keyboards, Alchemy midi-effects processor, pre-recorded voice and instrumental effects, Pro Tools software, and Logic Pro mixing softwares. The piece encapsulates the feeling of deep anxiety progressing to the feeling of the sense of security and serenity of finding your place of peace. There are two distinct sections that represent both of these perceptions.

### A Day in the Life Remix (Oh Boy)

Gabrielle Banzon

I produced this remix at the height of COVID-19. It seemed like day after day, the news was filled with death tolls, from both the pandemic and extended impacts of the pandemic, such as lack of medicine for chronic illnesses, lack of protection for medical workers, domestic violence, hunger, discrimination, and so much more. The song Beatles' song "A Day in the Life" kept playing in my head during this. At the same time, I was learning how to use Ableton from a friend and decided a project would help me solidify what I was learning. So, I took the song that was on repeat in my head and made it into the remix you're hearing now.

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**34th Annual JazzFest**  
Special Guest: Mace Hibbard,  
saxophone  
Allied Arts & GCSU  
Saturday, April 29, 2:30-8:30 pm  
GCSU Front Lawn

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