

GCSU Department of Music

## **Guest Artist Recital**

**You, Me, Us: A Celebration of Queer Music  
for Saxophone and Piano**

**Nick May, saxophone**

**Alex Siu Lun Li, piano**


**Thursday, Feb. 26, 2026, 7:30 P.M.**

**Max Noah Recital Hall**



## Program

Upwelling		Kevin Day (b. 1996)
I Can't Go to Florida	<i>World Premiere</i>	Alex Temple (b. 2003)
Anders als di Andern		Ingird Stölzel (b. 1971)
Love Obligation		Keaton Garrett (b. 1995)
Silence Still = Death		Nathan Froebe (b. 1983)
Little Drama Queen Talkative Twirling Mommy's Closet Jazz Hands		Rex Isenberg (b. 1987)

Please complete our concert survey  
with the QR Code.  
Thank you. 



## Upcoming Events

Follow us on [Facebook.com/GCMusicDepartment](https://www.facebook.com/GCMusicDepartment) or [music.gcsu.edu](https://music.gcsu.edu)

<b>Guest Artist and Faculty String Chamber Music</b> Tuesday, March 3, 7:30 p.m. Max Noah Recital Hall	<b>Jazz Band Concert</b> Jay Wucher, director Thursday, March 12, 7:30 p.m. Russell Auditorium	<b>Jazz at Amici's</b> GCSU Jazz Jam Session Tuesday, March 24, 7-9 p.m. Amici Café 101 W. Hancock St.
--	--	--

## Biographies

Saxophonist **NICK MAY** is recognized as “**a highly expressive, virtuosic, and fresh performer**” (David Del Tredici, Pulitzer Prize and Grammy winner) whose artistry “**knows no boundaries, neither technically nor emotionally**” (AM:plified Magazine). Since making his solo debut at eighteen with the Lincoln Symphony Orchestra, he has established an international profile with performances across the United States, Singapore, Germany, Sweden, and Denmark, including multiple solo appearances at Carnegie Hall.

May is frequently featured as a soloist with orchestras and contemporary-music ensembles, among them the La Porte County Symphony Orchestra, Arapahoe Philharmonic Orchestra, Omaha Symphony Orchestra, Tallgrass Chamber Choir, the University of Iowa Center for New Music Ensemble, and the University of Nebraska–Lincoln Orchestra and Wind Ensemble. His collaborations span many of today’s leading and emerging composers—Jennifer Higdon, Kevin Day, Rex Isenberg, Ingrid Stölzel, Spencer Arias, Stuart Beatch, and Iván Enrique Rodríguez among them—resulting in numerous premieres and a growing catalog of works written for him.

A committed chamber musician, May is a founding member of Latitude 39, a trio with violinist Diana Seitz and pianist Maya Tuylieva dedicated to programming that bridges Turkmen, Ukrainian, and Azerbaijani traditions with contemporary repertoire. Their upcoming releases on Navona Records further expand the ensemble’s presence in the global new-music landscape.

May’s critically acclaimed discography includes releases on Neuma and Albany Records, with forthcoming recordings as a featured soloist with conductor Dr. Todd Nichols and the Eastern Wind Symphony (Mark Custom Records). His debut album, *Tone Studies: The Saxophone Music of David Maslanka*, helped establish his reputation as an interpreter of major contemporary works. Additional appearances include *The Chamber Music of David von Kampen* and the University of Nebraska–Lincoln Jazz Orchestra’s *The Good Life*.

As the founder of the **I Exist Project**, May leads an innovative artistic initiative that celebrates queer life, culture, and creativity through performance, collaboration, and the commissioning of new repertoire. His album *You, Me, Us* was praised by AM:plified Magazine for its “**dialogue about visibility... music that fights, heals, and celebrates,**” affirming his role as an artist whose work blends activism with musical expression. His advocacy-driven collaborations extend to leading queer cultural institutions — including **NoDivide KC**, **LA Pride**, and upcoming work with the **Harvey Milk Foundation** — reflecting a commitment to community impact, representation, and creative partnership at a national level.

A sought-after educator, May has given masterclasses, performances, and residencies at major conservatories and universities including the Manhattan School of Music, the Peabody Institute, Harvard University, UC Davis, the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee, Denison University, the University of Missouri–Kansas City, and the University of Oklahoma, among numerous others. His teaching and lecturing cover performance, collaboration, entrepreneurship, and LGBTQ studies. He holds degrees from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln (B.M.) and the University of Kansas (M.M.).

Nick May is an endorsing artist for Key Leaves and Légère Reeds and performs on Yanagisawa saxophones. [www.nickmaysax.com](http://www.nickmaysax.com)

Born and raised in Hong Kong, pianist **Alex Siu Lun Li** is based in Kansas City, where he combines different music and presentation media to connect composers with audiences. Alex holds two Master's degrees from the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC), one in solo piano and one in collaborative piano. He is currently pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts (DMA) in Piano Performance at UMKC.

As a collaborative pianist, Alex frequently coaches and performs with singers and instrumentalists both in and out of conservatories settings. Recent projects include the I Exist Project with saxophonist Nick May, bringing music by LGBTQ+ composers to more than 20 universities and conservatories around the United States, including the Manhattan School of Music and Peabody Institute.

In addition to piano, Alex also plays the harpsichord and the organ. Beyond music, Alex enjoys Mathematics, sudokus, coding, crafting, designing, writing, teaching and learning languages.

## **I Exist Project**

The I Exist Project amplifies the richness and diversity of queer life, culture, and artistry by partnering with a broad spectrum of talented queer composers and performers. Our mission is to inspire the creation of innovative queer repertoire that celebrates the unique experiences and voices within our community, fostering greater understanding, connection, and visibility for all.

Current collaborators comprise of emerging and leading composers of our time, with diverse queer identities and backgrounds include: Spencer Arias, Stuart Beatch, Philip Blackburn, Kevin Day, Claire Eckstein, Darius Edwards, Nathan Froebe, Keaton Garrett, Tyler Harrison, Jennifer Higdon, Rex Isenberg, Xenia St. Charles Iris Llyllyth, Trey Makler, Zachery Meier, Nebal Maysaud, Aaryn S. Ricucci-Hill, Iván Rodriguez, Ingrid Stölzel, Zoë Wallace, Anne Q. Wang, Sebastian Zhang, and more.

In the face of recent heart-wrenching acts of targeted violence, ongoing attempts by legislatures to undermine queer rights, and the continued dehumanization endured by transgender folx, the pursuit of this project becomes even more essential. It stands as a resolute testament to the strength and unity of our community, boldly asserting that our existence will not be diminished or silenced.



## FRIENDS OF MUSIC

TO JOIN – VISIT: [HTTPS://GIVE.GCSU.EDU/G/DEPARTMENT-OF-MUSIC/](https://give.gcsu.edu/g/departments-of-music/), EMAIL: [MUSIC@GCSU.EDU](mailto:MUSIC@GCSU.EDU), OR  
WRITE A CHECK TO GCSU FOUNDATION, INC. FOR “MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS” OR “MUSIC  
DEPARTMENT” AND MAIL TO: GCSU MUSIC DEPARTMENT, CBX 66, MILLEDGEVILLE, GA 31061

### Impresario (\$5000+)

Allied Arts  
Betty C. Baugh  
Jackie Bell  
Lawrence & Susan Boss

Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Boyle  
Community Foundation  
of Central Georgia  
George & Polly Echols  
Lee Echols

Kenny Franks  
Gorzelany Family  
Elizabeth Weldon McCollum  
Family of LTG Max Noah

Mrs. Eliza G. Nesmith  
Maidana K. Nunn  
Doyle Ransom  
Tom & Sandra Rosseter

### Maestro (\$2500-4999)

Brett & Sarah Miller family

### Virtuoso (\$1000-2499)

Charlotte H. Bearden  
David & Micki Carr  
President Cathy Cox &  
Mr. Mark Dehler  
Jeffrey M. Daniel

The Episcopal Church of the  
Redeemer  
Jennifer Gorzelany  
Judith Greer  
Nancy

William & Becky Humphrey  
Margaret S. Judkins  
Stan & Marilyn McMahan  
Mary Elizabeth Phillips

Family of Fielding Whipple  
J. Noland & Leah White  
Jim Willoughby  
Patricia P. Zimmermann

### Artist (\$500-999)

Melanie L. DeVore  
Frances B. Florencourt:  
IMO Gertrude Treanor  
Jennifer & William Flory

Keith & Simin Hall  
Sherry & Robert Henry  
David H. Johnson  
Jenny & Larry Moore

Newnan FUMC  
Don & Sheryl Parker  
Douglas & Kyle Rick  
Luis Samper

Stephen M. Stewart  
Cliff & Gina Towner  
Walker United Methodist Church

### Patron (\$250-499)

Weronica Ankarörn  
Walter M. Bowman Jr.  
Suzanne P. Courtney  
Dr. & Mrs. Jim Craig, Jr.  
Ana Edwards: IMO  
Dimples Kelly Edwards

James & Tricia Etheridge  
Barbara Funke  
Nancy E. Jay  
Jane & Joe Mangum  
Milledgeville Baldwin County  
Doris Moody

Diane Myers  
Kay Newman  
Darla Pyke  
Kenneth & Diane Saladin:  
IMO Clyde Tipton  
Sara A. Simcox

Kristine F. Smith  
Harriett L. Whipple  
George & Rhonda P. Wood

### Sustainer (\$100-249)

Paul Accettura  
Roger & Carol Austin Family  
Gayle Christensen Avant  
Peggy Bartolotta  
Joanne C. Battle  
Cynthia C. Beal  
Rosemary Begemann  
Sue Bennett  
Karen Berman: IHO  
Dr. Bradley Sowell  
Marcia Brelsford

Janice T. Callaway  
Shirley G. Day  
Larry & Sharon Edwards  
Robert Erst  
Jane & Joe Flaherty  
Thom & Heather Galloway  
Lamar & Ruth Garrard  
Gerald & Elaine Grady  
Michael & Sylvia Graham  
James & Lupe S. Guyton  
Bryan Emmon Hall

Jimmy Hemphill  
Steve & Lynne Jordan  
Christopher A. Karow  
David & Laura Leach  
Ellen Markwalter  
Lori & Albert McGalliard  
Richard & Arlene Mueller  
Dianna Odum  
Ricky & Chris O'Steen  
Joy & Barry Pendry:  
IMO Rostam Radamez Hall

Kate & Roy Phillips  
John W. Shoemaker  
Dan Smith: IMO  
Rostam Radamez Hall  
Irene M. Staik  
Robert Tanner  
Craig M. & Sharon Turner  
Katie G. Whipple  
Virginia Wilkerson  
Robin & Susan Wright

### Friend (\$25-99)

Owen Anderson  
Harlan Archer  
Mark G. Bailey  
Barb Bateman  
Chip & Nancy Bell  
Amanda Blackwell  
Lisa & Dan Chase  
Bernice J. Cooper  
Doyle Davidson  
Anresa M. Davis  
Dana Dolan

Denise Elam  
Claire & Stephen Faison  
Gladys T. Gates  
Jonathan & Julie Harwell  
Torence Holmes  
Barbara Houze  
Catherine M. Howell  
Evan R. Karanovich  
Youngmi Kim  
Gary Lawrence  
Sandra Lessl

Susan B. Lewis  
Roxanne & Paul Marcellino  
Patricia and Richard McCoy  
Shawn McDowell  
Lynn McEachin  
Dr. & Mrs. Alfred J. Mead  
Richard & Wanda Millians  
Renee & William Mosley  
Musica Vocale  
Aubrey E. Myers  
Kayla R. Otim

Paul Rawls  
Amanda Respass  
Karen & Mike Schmidt  
Betty B. and Rod Shearouse  
James R. Smith  
Karen & Ricky Spivey  
Elizabeth Strawn  
Jan B. Taylor  
Amedeo & Monica Tritto  
Anna E. Whiteside  
Susan Wucher