# fulcrumpoint

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# AuxIn: Connected! Caitlin Edwards, Co-curator

present

Josh Henderson's One More Night

Josh Henderson - Composer, Violin/Viola, Electric/Synth Bass Caroline Davis - Alto Sax Rick Martinez - Drum Set Brendon Randall-Myers - Electric Guitar Danielle McKnight - Vocalist

> Desdemona - String Quartet Caroline Drexler (violin) Rose Kow Xiu Yi (violin) Kayla Williams (viola) Julia Henderson (cello)

# Program

I. Winter Dance Party

II. Bambarria

III. Valenzuela

IV. Lubbock Strut

V. The Day

VI. Lace

VII. Lil' Bop

VIII. A Ballad for Rog

IX. Waystation at the Surf Part I: Welcome to the Waystation

X. Waystation at the Surf Part II: One More Night

**Welcome** to AuxIN: Connected our series where you get to meet and mingle with Chicago's creators and emerging artists. This concert curated by Caitlin Edwards features new art music by violinist/composer Josh Henderson. The Fulcrum Point AuxIN series serves both composer and community by connecting artists and audiences offering exposure to young artists while also giving them a unique venue for musical revelation, interactions, and development. Audiences connect in their post concert conversations with the artists and creators over a drink and refreshments.

Tonight we hear "One More Night" by Josh Henderson performing with vocalist Danielle McKnight and the Desdemona String Quartet. This dynamic ensemble fuses the spontaneity of Rock & Roll and Hip Hop with the sophistication and complexity of contemporary chamber music.

Please join us in May for an album release party celebrating Co-Curator Angelo Hart. On June 23rd @7:30 pm AuxIn: Connected Curator Caitlin Edwards has researched and created a program featuring works by Black women composers Betty Jackson King, Nora Holt, Micki Grant, and Irene Britton Smith.

We hope you'll visit <u>www.fulcrumpoint.org</u> to learn more about our upcoming programs celebrating Fulcrum Point's 25th anniversary season. To support our work please text fpmusic to 44321 where you'll be connected to our donation page.

We are grateful to the First Nations' Council of the Three Fires—the Odawa, Ojibwe and

Potawatomi—for their curation of this land that we share and upon which we hold this concert of sound-based time art.

Stephen Burns Founder and Artistic Director Fulcrum Point New Music Project

### About "One More Night"

As part of my 2021-22 residency at the University of Iowa, I wished to create a work that would be inspired by my home for the academic year, and in the Fall of 2021 began researching interesting happenings that have occurred in the state. Very quickly, I learned many intriguing things about my new surroundings, including the subject matter of this work: the infamous 1959 plane crash near Clear Lake, IA that took the lives of Pilot Roger Peterson, along with musicians Buddy Holly, J.P. "The Big Bopper " Richardson, and Frankie Valens. I must admit that while I had a vague recollection of this event from some pop culture references (Don Mclean's American Pie for example), I had never given much thought to it, or was aware that it occurred in Iowa.

As I delved into researching the history of the tour, crash and the folks involved, I was struck by that fact that even given the 60-year time difference, many things resonated personally as a touring musician myself; the long hours in cramped spaces, less than ideal living situations, absurd routing between cities, and exposure to the elements (in particular the cold) - but also the love of playing music for people and the indelible emotional highs that entails. I also began to contemplate just how famous the three singers were, how many lives they had already touched with their music, and the collective trauma a populace feels when they lose people they did not necessarily know personally, but felt connected to nonetheless. Collective trauma is a fascinating sensation, and one that I have no institutional knowledge to tout, but have assuredly felt the sensation of World events (and even much smaller catastrophes) having an impact on my own personal life. With the passing of certain celebrity figures, I would conjecture that the deaths of these people who communicated their art to such an extent as to enter our daily lives enter a special zone of collective consciousness, and these tragic passings almost represent a sort of personal petite mort to their many fans.

**"One More Night"** explores many elements inspired by the music and history of the perished trio, some obvious, and some that require a little digging, but with the enduring throughline of what could be if these young men had not passed so tragically young - and macrocosmically the collective thought of what could be if all of us had just a little more time on this plane. Structurally, the 9-movement

work is bookended by an introduction to set the world of the "Winter Dance Party Tour", and an existential conclusion movement to portray the passing on to Worlds beyond this one. In between, there are three movements inspired by thematic elements from the biggest hits of the three singers coupled with three movements based on personal reflections of each of the artists and an additional tribute to the pilot Roger, and globally to all of the people behind the scenes performing less publicly acknowledged, but critical work to make art happen around the world. Amidst the endless joys and sadnessess that define our existence, over the course of this performance we delve into this isolated, yet impactful tragedy, with hopes of connecting with the universal mystery of passing onto the next realm and the sisyphean task of achieving that **"One More Night."** 

Josh Henderson, February 26th, 2022

### Bios

The One More Night Band is a special collaborative performance project that brings together a diverse group of artistic powerhouses who in their own rights are faculty members at various colleges and universities, have been profiled by the New York Times and other publications, and are recipients of numerous awards and honors in their field. To learn more about the illustrious band members, please continue to explore below.

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### AuxIn: Connected! Co-curator Caitlin Edwards:

Caitlin Edwards is a multi-genre violinist, arranger, recording artist, and teacher based in Chicago. She began her musical journey at age eight within a non-profit organization in her hometown of Birmingham, Alabama. She later attended the University of Louisville (BM) and DePaul University (MM). Caitlin is a classically trained violinist, but she's inspired by gospel, jazz, hip-hop, and neo-soul. She released her debut album, "Exhale," in 2021 and her sophomore album "Mere Mortals" released in October 2023. She composes original music and intentionally performs the works of Black composers to help ensure that these composers and their compositions are remembered

and spotlighted for aspiring young BIPOC musicians and the world as a whole.

Recognition for Caitlin's versatile career continues to propel her work. She is a 2023 Advocate for the Arts awardee (Grant Park Music Festival), 2023 Sphinx MPower Artist Grant recipient, a 2022 Esteemed Artist Award recipient from the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events, and a 2021 3Arts/Walder Foundation Awardee. Caitlin was also a recipient of the Rising Star Award from the Gateways Music Festival and is a co-curator with the Fulcrum Point New Music Project and a former fellow with the Chicago Sinfonietta. In addition, she has received Grammy certificates for recordings on Disney's "The Lion King" with the Re-Collective Orchestra and for albums by John Legend and PJ Morton.

Caitlin is a proud member of D-Composed, Ensemble Dal Niente, and Sphinx Virtuosi. Newly appointed to the Board of Directors of the Chicago Federation of Musicians Local 10-208, Caitlin is proud to amplify the voices of and serve the vibrant community of musicians within Chicago.



### **DESDEMONA - STRING QUARTET**

Desdemona is a New York City-based ensemble devoted to creating unique and inventive performances of repertoire spanning from the Renaissance to world premieres. They have been described by the New Yorker as an "excellent young quartet," OperaWire as "fantastic," and by the Wall Street Journal as "behind a scrim." Fusing the conservatory training of Juilliard-educated members with immersion in the New York experimental scene, Desdemona is known for expanding the sonic possibilities of traditional instrumentation with vocalization, improvisation, and mixed media

Desdemona has appeared at venues including the Ukrainian Contemporary Music Festival, Spectrum, Areté Gallery, 1 Rivington, Elebash Hall at the CUNY Graduate Center, Princeton University's

Unruly Sounds Festival, Savannah Philharmonic's Larsen Spotlight Series, the Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, and numerous home gatherings through Groupmuse. As 2021 fellows of the Banff Centre's Evolution: Quartet program, they were recently presented by Gotham Early Music Scene at the Church of the Transfiguration. In 2020 the quartet premiered "Magdalene", an opera by 14 composers for soprano, quartet, and harp as part of PROTOTYPE Festival. Desdemona regularly performs on the Live Oak Concert Series, in Savannah, Georgia, bringing classical and new music to a broader audience in venues from art galleries to kayak shops.

Taking advantage of the string quartet's chameleonic nature, Desdemona collaborates with a wide range of talents in NYC and beyond, including percussionist Adam Holmes, harpist Sonia Bize, mezzo-soprano Mikki Sodergren, and the Classical Saxophone Project. They have worked closely with living composers including Anthony R. Green, Finola Merivale, Peter Kramer, David Bird, Robinson McClellan, and Kinds of Kings collective, whose six string quartets they gave the New York premiere.

As educators, they have given masterclasses at the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities, Garrison School for the Arts in Savannah, and will workshop new pieces of the students at the Kaufman Center in spring of 2020. All of Desdemona's members maintain private studios in New York and are passionate about instilling creativity in musicians of all ages.

Desdemona is Adrianne Munden-Dixon (violin), Caroline Drexler (violin), Carrie Frey (viola), and Julia Henderson (cello).

Desdemona is a recipient of a 2021 Chamber Music America Ensemble Forward grant, made possible with generous support from the New York Community Trust, and a City Artist Corps grant from New York Foundation for the Arts and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs.



### **CAROLINE DAVIS - ALTO SAX**

Mobile since her birth in Singapore, composer, saxophonist, and artivist Caroline Davis's music covers a wide range of styles, owed to her shifting environment as a child. As a leader, she has released six albums: Live Work & Play (2012), Doors: Chicago Storylines (2015), Heart Tonic (2018), Alula (2019), Anthems (2019), and Portals (2021). She won Downbeat's Critic's Poll Rising Star Alto-Saxophonist (2018) and was listed in Downbeat's Readers Poll (2021). Her work has garnered much praise from NPR, The New York Times, The Wire, DownBeat, JazzTimes, and many international publications.

Davis is active as both a side-person and a leader in a diverse set of music communities (jazz, improvised music, modern classical, R&B, folk). Davis has worked with Lee Konitz, Angelica Sanchez, The Femme Jam, Matt Mitchell, Terry Riley, Miles Okazaki, and Billy Kaye, to name a few. Her collaborations include My Tree (with Ben Hoffmann) and Persona (with Rob Clearfield).

Awards and recognitions over the years have placed Caroline in various mentorship communities: IAJE's Sisters in Jazz (2006), the Kennedy Center's Betty Carter Jazz Ahead Program (2011), and Jen Shyu/Sara Serpa's Mutual Mentorship Program (2020). Davis was the recipient of CMA's Performance Plus Grant (2021), NYFA's City Artist Corps Grant (2021), Jerome Hill Artist Fellowship (2019-2020); and she has participated in several residency programs, including fellow-in-residence at The Jazz Gallery (2022) and composer-in-residence at MacDowell (2019). Her compositional practice integrates music with the cognitive sciences, anatomical structures, and the brain, influenced by her Ph.D in Music Cognition. Davis is an advocate for social justice in the realm of gender (Jazz & Gender at The New School and This Is a Movement) as well as in the abolitionist movement (Justice for Keith Lamar).

As an educator, Caroline brings her unique knowledge of music and psychology to her teaching. She has been on the faculty at Litchfield Jazz Camp for 15 years, Stanford Jazz Institute for 6 years, and an educator at The New School, Northwestern University, Harvard University, DePaul University, Columbia College, University of Texas at Arlington, and Jazz at Lincoln Center.



### JOSH HENDERSON -COMPOSER, VIOLIN/VIOLA, ELECTRIC/SYNTH BASS

JOSH HENDERSON is enjoying a multi-faceted career as a cross-genre violinist, violist, and composer. As a classical soloist, he has performed with the Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra, China Performing Arts Broadcasting Troupe, Starling Chamber Orchestra, Accent X Festival Orchestra, Colour of Music Festival Orchestra, Bard Conductors Festival Orchestra, Colour of Music Virtuosi, Palaver Strings, Urban Playground Chamber Orchestra, Harlem Chamber Players, Contemporaneous, New-Gen Orchestra of Curacao, Ensemble Du Monde, the CCM Showcase Orchestra and in

venues such as Carnegie Hall, The Kennedy Center, Hamburg's Elbphilharmonie, and The Forbidden City Concert Hall of Beijing.

Carving out a reputation in Jazz, Rock, Hip-Hop, and Country-Fiddle for his dynamic performances, he has served as music director for the Emmy award-winning Damien Escobar (of Nuttin' But Stringz), and in this role has performed at a number of events across the globe including a performance at the 2013 Hip-Hop Inaugural Ball hosted by Russell Simmons and honoring Barack Obama. Other band-leader positions include serving as music director to pop singer Zahra Universe on her South Korean tour, and to the spoken word artist LikWUid Stylez. A sought after freelance musician in New York City, Josh has performed, recorded, and collaborated with popular artists such as Chris Brown, Michael Bublé, Bilal, Solange, The Sugar Hill Gang, David Byrne, Sufjan Stevens, Courtney Love, Anne Hathaway, Amanda Palmer, Paul McCartney, Mirah, Amine, Angel Olsen, Jherek Bischoff, and members of bands such as "Beirut", "Deer Hoof", "Blue Oyster Cult", and "The Eagles".

As a composer, he has written for films and had several chamber works performed, including a Carnegie Hall premier of his "A Bird Fell Today" by Duo Anova. Larger works include a full length Ballet for Caliince Dance company, "Marie: Embroidering Survival", which was premiered at Alvin Ailey Dance Theater in 2012, the 2014 the premier of his viola concerto by the Chelsea Symphony, and the 2017 premiere of his co-written Triple Concerto for Warp Trio and Urban Playground Chamber Orchestra. Recent Upcoming highlights include a new concerto grosso premier and tour for the ensemble, Palaver Strings and a new commission for the Cavani Quartet and orchestra in 2021. Josh has recently been been named the winner of the 2022 Tribeca New Music National Composers Competition for his piece, Veni: A Dystopian Cowgirl Fantasy

for violin and fixed electronics.

A founding member of the cross-genre ensemble, Warp Trio, he has led the group on hundreds of concerts and University residencies throughout the United States, as well as on international tours throughout The United Kingdom, Spain, Switzerland, Holland, Germany, and the Caribbean. Highlights of recent seasons include, headlining performances at The LEM Festival for Experimental Music in Barcelona, the Omaha Under the Radar Festival, the 2020 MASA Jazz Festival in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, and being one of the honored recipients of a New York Foundation for the Arts Grant.

Josh studied at the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music with Prof. Kurt Sassmannshaus, and at New York University with Prof. Naoko Tanaka. Festival studies include the Aspen Music Festival and School, Bang on a Can, Great Wall Music Festival, and Lucerne Festival Academy. He has served on the faculty at the University of Iowa (Grant Woods Visiting Professor), and currently is on the artist faculty at NYU, and The Longy School of Music in Cambridge. Additional teaching posts have included The Montserrat Summer Music Festival, and the contemporary music for youth program, "Face the Music".



### **RICK MARTINEZ - DRUM SET**

New York City Drummer, Percussionist, and Composer, RICK MARTINEZ is enjoying a diverse career fusing together and performing countless different genres and styles. Having studied classical Percussion in his youth at Baltimore's prestigious Peabody Conservatory, he has performed as principal timpanist with the Peabody Youth Sinfonietta, percussion and timpanist at Tanglewood music festival and has also performed in the Berklee World Percussion Festival among others.

He has performed genres ranging from classical to jazz and heavy metal throughout the United States, Asia, Europe, and The Caribbean.

Rick holds a degree in jazz performance from New York University, and has had the privilege of studying with jazz greats as well as pillars in classical percussion including Tony Moreno, Wayne Krantz, Mike Richmond, Dave, Pietro, Tim Genis, Jonathan Haas, John Hadfield, Martin Wind and Dafnis Prieto. Rick is endorsed by Anchor Drums.



### **BRENDON RANDALL-MYERS -ELECTRIC GUITAR**

Brendon Randall-Myers is a Brooklyn-based composer and guitarist working at various intersections of rock, experimental, theater, and classical music. His work has received support from the Jerome Foundation, New Music USA, New York State Council for the Arts, Chamber Music America, and the Foundation for Contemporary Arts, and been performed by the Bang on a Can All-Stars, the Chicago and Omaha Symphonies, Dither, and Friction Quartet. Brendon co-leads math rock band Marateck and multimedia avant-rock ensemble Invisible Anatomy, is a member of the Glenn Branca Ensemble, and performs regularly with

avant-electric guitar quartet Dither. He has performed in clubs, concert halls, and basements around the world, including the Barbican Theatre (London), the Kennedy Center (Washington, D.C.), and the Forbidden City Concert Hall (Beijing).



### **DANIELLE MCKNIGHT**

Plucky and optimistic, Danielle McKnight is a versatile and dynamic performer. Most recently, she was seen aboard the Disney Dream portraying Rafiki and other timeless characters. Danielle is currently based in New York City.

Danielle started her own business as a freelance voice actor, vocalist, and audio engineer. Her voice can be heard in advertisements, audiobooks, video games, songs, and more! Her work can be found on Audible, Apple Music, IMDB, and Spotify.

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Created in 1998 by Stephen Burns, **Fulcrum Point New Music Project** pushes the boundaries of the musical experience globally by: supporting new compositions, creating and performing new music experiences, and educating audiences to imagine the possibilities of music. Its programs are influenced by popular culture, literature, film, dance, jazz, Latin and world music. Through multi-disciplinary programs, Fulcrum Point encourages audiences to make cross-cultural connections between new music, art, and technology, gaining greater insight into today's diverse world.

Conductor, composer and trumpeter **Stephen Burns** is the Founder and Artistic Director of the Fulcrum Point New Music Project in Chicago. He has been acclaimed on four continents for his virtuosity and interpretative depth in recitals, orchestral appearances, chamber music, and multi-media performances. He has worked closely with composers John Corigliano, Osvaldo Golijov, Gunther Schuller, Jacob TV, and La Monte Young. Native to Wellesley, Massachusetts, Mr. Burns studied under Carmine Caruso, Armando Ghitalla, Arnold Jacobs, Vincent Penzarella, Gerard Schwarz, Pierre Thibaud, William Vacchiano, and Roger Voisin at the Tanglewood Music Center, the Juilliard School, and postgraduate work in Paris. He won the Young Concert Artists International Auditions, Avery Fisher Career Grant, the NEA Recital Grant, the Naumburg Award, the Charles Colin Award, the Meier Arts Achievement Award, and the Maurice André Concours International de Paris. A certified teacher in The Art of Practicing and Performing Beyond Fear, Mr. Burns is on faculty at DePaul University's School of Music and The Bienen School of Music at Northwestern University, as well as a Visiting Lecturer with Amici della Musica in Florence, Italy. CDs at Naxos, MHS, Dorian, Delos, Essay, Kleos, & Innova. Stephen Burns is a Yamaha Performing Artist.

### **Fulcrum Point New Music Project Board of Directors**

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To support Fulcrum Point artists, visit <u>www.fulcrumpoint.org/support</u> or text **FPMUSIC** to **44321** on your phone.

### Fulcrum Point New Music Project staff

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