The EWU Department of Music presents

Senior Recital

Maya Jones, Composition

Saturday, May 12, 2018
5:00 p.m.
Music Building Recital Hall

Presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements for
Bachelor of Arts
with Music Composition Emphasis

Studio of Dr. Jonathan Middleton
Program

Discovery
Rebecca Savinski, trombone
Carl Christensen, vibraphone

Welcome to Mayaqua
Richard Shockley, flute
Daylyn Hoxie, clarinet
Noel Jabagat, steel drum
Jonathan Williams, marimba
Maya Jones, ukulele
Wyatt Wireman, bass
Carl Christensen, percussion
Gavin Davis, percussion
Alleya Kolar, percussion

Woodwind Sketches
Day 52
Day 14
Day 47
Day 29
Day 42

EWU Saxophone Quartet

Fern’s Corner Suite
Dawn

Noel Jabagat, violin I
Philip Pintor, violin II
Timothy Rooney, viola
Tim Gales, cello
Nathan Sumerlin, bass

Tea

Erica Pollard, flute
Robert Vierschilling, guitar
Perilous Pumpkin Parade
Matt Henson, alto saxophone
Justin Weeks, alto saxophone
Maya Jones, tenor saxophone
Joshua Murray, tenor saxophone
Nick Walsh, baritone saxophone
Jay Jones, trumpet
Nathan James, trumpet
Mattias Tyni, trumpet
John M. Ruediger, trombone
Jennifer Mae Baird, trombone
Billy Taylor, trombone
Ben Price, tuba
Gavin Davis, drums

Direly Dwelling
Justin Weeks, soprano saxophone
Jay Jones, trumpet
Rebecca Savinski, trombone
Carl Christensen, vibraphone
Jonathan Williams, marimba
Nathan Sumerlin, bass
Gavin Davis, drums

Wake of Thought

EWU Symphonic Choir
Carolyn Jess, piano
Maya Jones, conducting

Rediscovery
Rebecca Savinski, trombone

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Special thanks to Dr. Middleton, Dr. Goodwin, Kristina Ploeger and the EWU Symphonic Choir, Steve Friel and the EWU Saxophone Quartet, Colleen Hegney, and all the musicians for preparing these compositions. I would also like to thank family and friends for your support and encouragement.
Discovery
This piece began as an assignment to work from an extramusical technique. From this foundation, I used a fictional world I have been developing called Mayaqua. This begins with a fanfare idea looking up and down two mountain peaks, then around two bays according to how the coast was mapped to the keyboard of the piano. The middle section was inspired by a lagoon on the island that is inside a cave full of crystals. This piece represents my first work in the composition program.

Welcome to Mayaqua
The goal of this work was to create a welcoming introduction to my world. The instrumentation reflects the tropical and lively atmosphere of the main square, central neighborhood, shopping areas, and boardwalk. Instead of starting with a melody, the foundation of this piece was a chord progression and playful rhythm that inspired a thematic melody for the central area of Mayaqua. The melody has a counterpoint that develops and has variations in multiple instruments to reflect the many events and activities in this realm.

Woodwind Sketches
These short works were from a composition project last summer to compose every day for 60 days. The collection of works was made up of varying instrumentation and sizes of groups. I then took on the challenge to arrange five of these works for saxophone quartet. Many of the rhythms and articulations chosen for the arrangements are derived from the original compositions and this shaped the pieces stylistically.

Fern’s Corner Suite
The first movement of this suite is inspired by the morning sunlight on a cafe in Mayaqua called Fern’s Corner. The piece starts with melodic ideas that reflect the rising sun and develops into the gentle hustle of getting ready for the day and then relaxes back into the warm sunrise. Originally for piano and viola duet, this work was arranged for string quintet to allow the timbre of similar instruments to melt together with ease.

For the second movement, I imagined the cafe at tea time. To create this atmosphere, I focused on a contrapuntal texture between instruments with soft and mellow timbres.

Perilous Pumpkin Parade
The goal for this work was to convert protein data into music. The tool for this process came from Dr. Middleton’s musical algorithms program. I chose a protein found in pumpkins for a piece to be played in a parade connecting Mayaqua’s underworld to the overworld. This parade is sponsored by a pub in the underworld called the Perilous Pumpkin and introduces darker motifs to the overworld in a playful brass band context.

Direly Dwelling
This piece evolved from the imagery of entering Mayaqua’s underworld area with the transition into an eerie and dark ambiance. The development explores a swing feel that carries through the return of the first section.

Wake of Thought
The goal of this piece was to create a composition based on gaze tracking from an image. The process involved converting gaze tracking information to music. For the gaze tracking phase, I used freeware that tracks eye motion when shown a random image. Then in the conversion phase, the data of the locations and durations of the tracked gaze are paired with pitches and note durations. I worked with only five pitches generated from the image and wrote a narrative to bring words to the project. From the narrative came a poem that was then used as lyrics for a choral composition. This process is innovative in that by recording my perspective of an image, I was able to shape a musical composition using multiple sources of information gathered from that image.

Rediscovery
This represents a reworking of the piece Discovery as a way to come full circle with my compositions here at Eastern. Rediscovery is for trombone and choir, adapted from the earlier piece called Discovery for trombone and vibraphone.