

## Upcoming Events

Spotlight Series: Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra  
Wednesday, October 11 At 7:30  
Great Hall, GBPAC

Senior Recital: Ryan Hyslope, Trombone  
Thursday, October 12 At 6:00  
Davis Hall, GBPAC

In consideration of the performers and other members of the audience, please enter or leave a performance at the end of a composition. Cameras and recording equipment are **not permitted**. Please turn off all electronic devices, and be sure that all emergency contact cell phones and pagers are set to silent or vibrate. In the event of an emergency, please use the exit nearest to you. Please contact the usher staff if you need assistance.

This event is **free** to all UNI students, courtesy of the Panther Pass Program.

The University of Northern Iowa honors the ancestral stewards of the land on which our university rests. Through the work we do every day to live our mission, the University of Northern Iowa aspires for you to see a community that: honors Native and Indigenous People and culture, lives the 7th Generation Principle, does good for the people and communities we serve, and embraces stewardship of our mission and land. Please see our full stewardship statement at [president.uni.edu/stewardship-statement](http://president.uni.edu/stewardship-statement).

Performances like this are made possible through private support from patrons like you! Please consider contributing to School of Music scholarships or guest artist programs. Call 319-273-3915 or visit [www.uni.edu/music](http://www.uni.edu/music) to make



# SCHOOL OF MUSIC



# Program

## 1. What Once Was

*Setting the stage for the story to follow, What Once Was introduces the listener to the concepts of reminiscing, sorrow, and, regret, all of which are shown throughout the album.*

Dr. Erik Rohde - Narrator  
Oisin Leopold - Piano

## 2. Backyard Fantasizing

*Backyard Fantasizing depicts that first initial feeling of attraction. Picture the first time you discovered something you thought you needed. You knew you would have to make an effort to achieve it, but you didn't quite want to leave that realm of possibility. Keep on dreaming...*

Oisin Leopold - Piano  
Miles Rochford - Bass  
Jackson Schou Drums

## 3. Divine Yearning

*In Divine Yearning, we now find ourselves chasing after that which we want. However, that chase can contain many peaks and valleys, hinted at by the changing tonality. It's a quest built on desire. Embrace it!*

Luke McIlhonn - Tenor Saxophone  
Sean Kiefer - Trumpet  
Oisin Leopold - Piano  
Miles Rochford - Bass  
Jackson Schou - Drums

## 4. Our Blissful Dance

*Take a deep breath. We got what we wanted, and we couldn't be happier. Our Blissful Dance follows a vow-like musical structure allowing for the "characters" to express their ultimate state of happiness. They say that ignorance is bliss and that couldn't be more true throughout this piece. The piece shows a slight underlying conflict towards its conclusion. You know what they say about all good things...*

Johnny Hartleip - Tenor Saxophone  
Jacob Giddens - Guitar  
Oisin Leopold - Piano  
Miles Rochford - Bass  
Jackson Schou - Drums

## 5. Turbulence

*Lots to unpack here. A familiar phrygian progression! Effect pedals! Jacob f'ing Giddens!!! Turbulence is exactly what you think it is. But at the same time, what you think can vary from the next person. This piece finds our two characters at the peak of their unhappiness, thanks to their own ignorance of the troubles that the relationship was built on. It's messy. It's uncomfortable. It's real. All of a sudden, CRASH! It's all over. All we're left with is a feeling of realization of what just happened and, more importantly, what just ended.*

Johnny Hartleip - Soprano Saxophone  
Sean Kiefer - Trumpet  
Jacob Giddens - Guitar  
Oisin Leopold - Piano  
Miles Rochford - Bass  
Jackson Schou - Drums

## 6. The Pain of It All

*Utilizing a similar progression to that of the previous track, The Pain of It All explores the deep twists and turns of loss. To put it plainly, it hurts.*

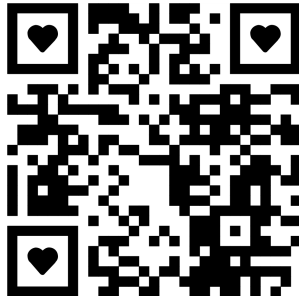
Luke McIlhon - Tenor Saxophone  
Oisín Leopold - Piano  
Miles Rochford - Bass  
Jackson Schou - Drums

## 7. See You Around

*See You Around finds the story at its end with an overarching feeling of a wounded acceptance. These events will live with you forever, but it's time to get back into the world and see what it has to offer. While serving as the grand finale to this story, this track also is a celebration of the work that my friends and I put in to making this album possible. Celebrate with us!*

Maggie Cremers - Trombone  
Oisín Leopold - Piano  
Miles Rochford - Bass  
Jackson Schou - Drums

*To Listen to What Once Was, Scan the QR Code Below!!*



## Album Liner Notes

*Over the past few years, I developed a love for albums that told stories. While older generations grew up with albums like Pink Floyd's "The Wall" and Marvin Gaye's "What's Goin' On," my albums were Kendrick Lamar's "good kid, m.A.A.d. city," Tyler, the Creator's "Igor," and J. Cole's "4 Your Eyez Only." I might be releasing my first album with influences different from those of the jazz greats, past and present. Or not. Musicians have a responsibility to embrace what is close to them rather than being directed by what is popular, respected, or "correct." Musicians should perform the music that they want to play - and write the music that they want to hear. We should always be discovering new sounds, and taking the time to listen to the albums and songs that sparked our passion for music. Among my many goals in creating this album, my biggest was to end up with music that represents me and what I love. This album is some of my favorite music of all time. So, what is it?*

*This is not an autobiography. It is not a "breakup" album. It's not just some jazz record.*

*This is What Once Was.*

*We've all experienced a feeling of attachment, based on shallow intentions, that have led us to lose what we once desired: personal aspirations, materialistic possessions, or human relationships. The story that I have created illustrates this process from the beginning stages of attraction through that weightless feeling of achievement, to the point of loss and finality.*

*I encourage you to listen all the way through in a quiet place. The album is mostly instrumental, so it's up to you to understand for yourself the cohesion of the album in your own way. I saw a vision in August, 2022. But find your own meaning. If that's a random collection of enjoyable jazz music, thanks so much for listening. If your story becomes something more significant, I'll have achieved something.*

*It was a privilege working with some of my favorite people to put this album together. You all mean so much and your talents are the greatest gift to me. If we're the only people who listen, that's still enough.*

*To my Mom, Dad, and Broski. This one's for you.*

*- Levi*