

THE BUTLER UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MUSIC  
*presents*

# *The* DUCKWALL ARTIST *Series*



## **FORMOSA WHISPERING** *Chun-Hao Ku, saxophone*

**Monday, February 24, 2025**  
**7:30 P.M.**  
**Eidson-Duckwall Recital Hall**

## PROGRAM

### *Spell for solo alto saxophone*

Yuan-Chen Li

### *Après la mort pour saxophone baritone et électronique*

Tsu-Yao Yang

### *Engram for saxophones, electronics, and video*

Chi-Yen Huang

**Formosa Whispering** is a special project presenting contemporary saxophone works by Taiwanese composers. Since 2019, the project has collaborated with dozens of Taiwanese composers, premiering many of their works worldwide. The project was initiated by Taiwanese saxophonist Chun-Hao Ku, who is deeply interested in both Western and Eastern cultures. The project's programming often explores how language, traditional culture, and social education influence musical composition, especially for the saxophone, as it is one of the wind instruments closest in timbre to the human voice.

## ABOUT THE ARTIST

### CHUN-HAO KU

Saxophonist, artistic director, translator, concert producer...

Born in 1981, Taipei, Taiwan, Chun-Hao Ku is one of the leading concert saxophonists in Taiwan. Chun-Hao Ku has completed his music studies with a Bachelor's degree of Fine Arts at Tunghai University, a DEM (Diplôme d'Études Musicales) at Conservatoire de Cergy-Pontoise, under the class of Jean-Yves Fourmeau, and the Prix de Perfectionnement de Saxophone at Conservatoire de Puteaux, under the class of Alexandre Souillart in Paris. In 2016-2018, Ku earned a Certificate of Performance on Saxophone at MUK (Musik und Kunst Privatuniversität der Stadt Wien) under the class of Lars Mlekusch.

Passionate in all music styles, Ku has studied with French cellist François Poly on early music interpretation and instrumental arrangement. In addition, Ku also performs new music and premieres commissioned works in many projects. In order to extend the field of artistic vision, Ku has participated in several theatrical projects since 2017. Ku has been appointed as the saxophonist and executive producer of Innovation Series in 2017/2018, which was directed by NTCH, Taiwan. Saxophonist and executive producer in 2019 of the Tainan International Art Festival, Ku is the only Taiwanese musician who has been invited to participate in the SoundDrama Studio workshop in 2019, Moscow, directed by Vladimir Pankov and Artyom Kim.

Borderless on saxophone playing, Ku often works with NTSO on saxophone orchestral repertoires, as well as solo and chamber repertoires; Ku always attempts to challenge the limit of finding more possibilities on this modern

instrument. Looking for the authentic qualities in interpreting all different music styles and languages of western and eastern cultures, Ku is an experienced performer of chamber music, solo, electronics, music theatre, etc.

An active participant in many international events, Ku has given recitals and conferences at the WSC (World Saxophone Congress), SSS (Singapore Saxophone Symposium), Académie internationale de saxophone Bretagne, Sibelius Academy, Helsinki, Bangkok, Hong-Kong, etc.

Ku is the organizer of i-Saxo international Saxfest, and is the Artistic Director of Ensemble SonusGlaneur. Saxophonist of ISCM-TW since 2022, Ku is one of the ISCM-TW committee members. For more information, visit [www.chunhaoku.com](http://www.chunhaoku.com)

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#### **JCA LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT**

We gather here at Butler University on the traditional homelands of Indigenous peoples who were forcibly removed from this place. These peoples include the Myaamiaki (Miami), Lenape (Delaware), Bodewadmi (Potawatomi), Saawanwa (Shawnee), Kiikaapoi (Kickapoo), and Peouaroua (Peoria) peoples. We honor with gratitude the land itself and the indigenous peoples past and present who have stewarded it throughout the generations. This acknowledgement calls us to commit to hearing and engaging Indigenous voices and perspectives and to being better stewards of the land we inhabit. It also calls us to action. Learn more by scanning the QR code for additional information.



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