

THE BUTLER UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MUSIC
presents

The DUCKWALL ARTIST *Series*



SONGS IN THE NIGHT

*A Celebration of African American Composers
in Classical Music*

Kim Kenny Green, *soprano*
Lewis Warren Jr., *piano*

**Saturday February 1, 2025
5:00 P.M.
Eidson-Duckwall Recital Hall**

PROGRAM

Lift Every Voice and Sing

James Weldon Johnson
To be sang as a congregational

Ride On, King Jesus

Hall Johnson

Every Time I Feel de Spirit

Hall Johnson

Wade in the Water

Lewis Warren Jr

Deep River

Harry Burleigh

He's Got The Whole World in His Hands

Margaret Bonds

Intermission

Ballade II: Dreamscapes of Autumn

Lewis Warren Jr.

Selections from *Nightsongs*

H. Leslie Adams

Prayer

Drums of Tragedy

Heart of a Woman

Sence You Went Away

If I Can Help Somebody

Alma Hazel Androzzo

Songs In The Night is a distinguished celebration through song honoring the contributions made by African American composers to the world of classical music. Historically, these remarkable composers have often been underrepresented in mainstream music circles, yet their works are imbued with profound emotion and innovation. This recital not only reflects on the outstanding achievements of these musicians but also seeks to elevate awareness and foster a deeper appreciation for their enduring impact. By bringing their compositions to the forefront, *Songs In The Night* aims to inspire a greater appreciation of the vital role these works play in enriching the cultural tapestry of music. We invite you to experience the transcendent power of their musical legacy that unites us all.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

KIM KENNY GREEN

Kim Kenny Green is a distinguished recording artist and educator whose work seamlessly integrates classical influences with her soulful gospel roots. Her dynamic vocal abilities have won her acclaim across the nation, both for her captivating performances and her respected role as a voice teacher and performance coach. Kim's artistic versatility spans across commercial and classical genres, earning her significant recognition, including being an artist considered for "Best Performance/Song" at the 67th Grammy Awards!

Kim's burgeoning career boasts impressive performances at esteemed venues like the Apollo Theater in Harlem, New York, and the "Steve Harvey Show" at ABC Studios in Chicago, Illinois. She has also performed at "The 41st Black Music & Civil Rights Movement Concert," an 4 time Emmy award-winning event hosted at the Meyerson Symphony Center in Dallas, Texas. Her career is marked by memorable performances and significant accomplishments, highlighting her influence as both a performer and educator in the music industry.

Throughout her journey, Kim Kenny Green has shared the stage with a variety of esteemed artists such as The Zac Brown Band, Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds, Ceelo, Madonna, Mandy Gonzalez from the original Hamilton cast, Common, Sandi Patty, Angela Brown, among others.

Her dedication to education is one of Kim's most profound passions. Her academic journey began at Marian University, where she pursued a bachelor's degree in vocal performance, supported by a full-tuition music scholarship. After completing her degree, she embarked on a career in music education as a choral director. Under her guidance, the ensembles she led gained regional recognition, achieving milestones such as winning "WHTR13 Indy's Got Talent," reaching the finals of the televised "Circle of Lights," earning ISSMA gold awards in solo and ensemble competitions, and receiving nominations for Outstanding High School Choir Director from the Indiana Music Educators Association.

After more than a decade of influential teaching, Green sought to expand her impact in music education by moving into arts administration and starting her own community initiative. This led to the creation of Indy Urban Youth, an organization through which she has supported the careers of numerous educators and teaching artists, developed innovative arts programs, and secured essential funding to enhance the visibility of students in rural and inner-city schools. In line with her commitment to educational excellence, she furthered her academic pursuits by earning a Master's degree from Butler University. This accomplishment reinforced her expertise and dedication to empowering the next generation of young artists while reconnecting with her original passion for performance.

Kim Kenny Green continues to be actively involved in diverse areas of the arts, including advocacy, entrepreneurship, and administration. Through her company, Kim Kenny., she offers her expertise as a vocal coach, clinician, music producer and urban arts program specialist. Her multifaceted roles allow her to make a substantial impact on the national arts landscape, skillfully integrating creativity with strategic insight and professional guidance.

LEWIS WARREN JR.

Lewis Warren, Jr. is an award-winning pianist, arranger, composer, and improviser based in Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas. His musical versatility and powerful ability to connect with audiences have been hallmarks of his career. Lewis has won competitions, recorded albums, and performed in televised broadcasts since the age of 8. Lewis has performed his own piano arrangements in several televised broadcasts, including NBC's America's Got Talent in 2008, NASCAR's 2009 Samsung 500 and 2019 O'Reilly 500 races at the Texas Motor Speedway, and has given three TEDx Talks.

He has also performed with several orchestras, including the Dallas Symphony Orchestra under Maestro Jaap Van Zweden, the Wichita Falls Symphony Orchestra, the Irving Symphony Orchestra and the New York Session Symphony Orchestra. Additional concert and recital engagements include performances at the Cancun Convention Center, the Longwood Towers in Boston, and the Van Cliburn Foundation's 50th Anniversary Gala Celebration. He most recently was invited by the Chopin Foundation. of the U.S. to perform concerts for the Chopin for All Series in Miami, Florida.

Lewis has competed and won several competitions, including the Chopin Society of Houston's International Chopin Youth Competition, the Dallas Symphony Orchestra Lynn Harrell Concerto Competition, the Piano Arts North American Piano Competition, the Memphis International Piano Competition, and most recently winning first prize in the MTNA Young Artists division as well as the Ebony Award. He also was a semi-finalist in the Nina Simone piano competition.

As a composer and arranger, Lewis has written works for piano, voice, and ensembles. Most recently, he composed "Ballade III: Insurrection of Spring" in completion of his post grad studies at Southern Methodist University. He had the Honor of composing "Ballade II" for pianist, Victor Rosenbaum's farewell concert at New England Conservatory's Jordan Hall. He arranged the Negro spiritual "I've Been Buked" for the NEC Black Student Union's commemoration of Coretta Scott King and "Let My Words Be Few" for Boston University's a cappella ensemble "Mustard Seed." Lewis's two albums, "Shine on Us" and "A Christmas Album", feature additional original compositions and arrangements.

Lewis resides in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, overseeing his own private studio where he teaches piano lessons to students of all ages from beginner to advanced. He works as a pianist for The Cliburn Foundation's educational program, "Cliburn in the Classroom", and also works as the Worship Music Director at Northwood Church in Keller, TX. He obtained his Bachelor's degree from the New England Conservatory of Music under Victor Rosenbaum, his Masters' Degree from the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music under Awadagin Pratt, and his Performer's Diploma at Southern Methodist University's Meadows School of the Arts under Dr. Carol Leone.

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