

THE BUTLER UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MUSIC
presents

The
DUCKWALL
ARTIST *Series*



KENT HICKEY QUINTET

with

Kent Hickey, *trumpet*
Sean Imboden, *tenor sax*
Charles Platz, *guitar*
Jesse Wittman, *bass*
Chelsea Hughey, *drums*

**Tuesday, October 7, 2025
7:30 P.M.**

Eidson-Duckwall Recital Hall

PROGRAM

Tour De Force

Dizzy Gillespie (1917-1993)

Falling Grace

Steve Swallow (b. 1940)

New Blues

Kent Hickey (b. 1996)

Pure Imagination

Anthony Newley (1931-1999)

Tattoo Girl

Kent Hickey

Spring is Here

Richard Rodgers (1902-1979)

Two-Step

Kent Hickey

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

KENT HICKEY

Kent Hickey is an in-demand trumpet player and educator based in Indianapolis, IN. He received his undergraduate degree in jazz studies from Butler University and his master's degree from the esteemed Indiana University Jacobs School of Music under the tutelage of John Raymond. Locally, Kent has played alongside some of the jazz scene's best, including Sean Imboden, Rob Dixon, Nick Tucker, Joel Tucker, and Kenny Phelps, among others. The trumpeter currently leads two of his own projects, the Hickey-Shanafelt Collective and the Kent Hickey Trio. Previously, Kent worked as a trumpeter aboard Royal Caribbean cruise ships in the Summers of 2018 and 2019.

The Hickey-Shanafelt Collective is an Indianapolis-based jazz nonet that highlights composers and arrangers within the ensemble with a goal of sharing this music with the community. The Collective released their debut album, "illuminate," in October of 2022. The Kent Hickey Trio performs Kent's original compositions and lesser-known jazz standards. The group draws inspiration from groups led by Avishai Cohen, Mike Rodriguez, John Swana, and Tim Hagans. Kent's groups have performed at venues like the Chatterbox, Merriman's Playhouse, Blockhouse Bar, Fulton Street Collective (Chicago), Blu Jazz+ (Akron), and the world-famous Jazz Kitchen.

In addition to performing, Kent is also a passionate educator who strives to share his love of music with the next generation. He maintains a private studio of about 30 trumpet students at various schools in the Indianapolis area and is also the outreach liaison for the Butler Youth Jazz Program, a branch of the Butler Community Arts School. Kent is also Adjunct Professor of Jazz Trumpet at both Butler University and the University of Indianapolis, where he teaches applied lessons and jazz combo.

SEAN IMBODEN

Sean Imboden is an American saxophonist and composer whose music pioneers forward-thinking, original compositions, and presents cutting-edge live performances. Sean has performed and recorded with GRAMMY-winning artists and jazz luminaries, including Slide Hampton, Sean Jones, Mike Rodriguez, Emmet Cohen, Steve Allee, Kenny Phelps, John Raymond, and Valery Ponomarev (of Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers). A long-time member of Indianapolis-based quartet Tucker Brothers, Sean plays on the band's four critically-acclaimed albums. An active sideman, Sean has appeared on The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon and with the Radio City Music Hall Orchestra, the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, the Buselli-Wallarab Jazz Orchestra, Aretha Franklin, The Temptations, Barry Manilow, Johnny Mathis, and Idina Menzel. Sean toured internationally for many years with various Broadway productions, and as a featured soloist with Blast II. Sean has taught at the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University, and is currently on the faculty at Butler University and Ball State University. Sean works with students around the world through his online Virtual Studio.

Sean's flagship group, the Sean Imboden Large Ensemble, is a 17-piece modern jazz big band comprised of many of the best musicians of central Indiana. Consistently presenting innovative new music along with unique arrangements of standards, this group features top-tier soloists and a fresh approach to the traditional big band instrumentation.

CHARLES PLATZ

Charles Platz is an in-demand Indianapolis-based guitarist. He studied jazz and classical guitar performance at Ball State University and currently teaches guitar at the University of Indianapolis. He lives in Irvington with his partner and two children, where he composes and maintains a private teaching studio.

JESSE WITTMAN

Jesse Wittman is a bassist, composer, educator, and recording artist based in Indianapolis, Indiana. He holds a degree in Jazz Studies from Indiana University, where he studied with David Baker and Bruce Bransby. He also holds a master's degree in Composition from Butler University, where he studied with James Aikman and Michael Schelle. He currently teaches jazz bass at Butler University, and has had the pleasure of working with great musicians around the country such as Nicole Henry, Marvin Hamlisch, Steve Houton, Anne Hampton Callaway, and trombonist Steve Davis.

CHELSEA HUGHEY

Chelsea Hughey is a jazz drummer, percussionist, and educator. An Indianapolis native, she attended Butler University and received a BA degree in Music focusing on classical percussion and jazz studies. Chelsea relocated to Jersey City, NJ, and attended New Jersey City University where she completed her MM degree in Jazz Performance. She studied with master drummer and composer Tim Horner, vibraphonist Mark Sherman, and Broadway drummers Paul Pizzuti and Jared Schonig. Chelsea also earned her MBA in Music Business through Southern New Hampshire University and the Berklee School of Music.

Throughout her freelance jazz career, Chelsea has shared the stage with Indianapolis jazz legends Steve Allee, Rob

Dixon, Frank Glover, and Frank Smith. She has also performed with notable NYC-based jazz musicians Walt Weiskopf, Bob Malach, Dave Douglas, Steve Davis, Steve Wilson, Jimmy Greene, Charles McPherson, and Bobby Sanabria.

Chelsea is active in the Indianapolis jazz scene, appearing frequently at the Chatterbox Jazz Club and The Jazz Kitchen with various local jazz musicians including Frank Glover, Monika Herzig, Peter Lerner, The Cohen-Rutkowski Project, and the Gary Walters Trio, among others. She currently shares the role of percussionist for Beef and Boards Dinner Theater which includes performances of shows “An American in Paris,” “Beauty and the Beast,” “Grumpy Old Men,” and “White Christmas” this season. Furthering her diverse experience and background, Chelsea has also performed with the Danville Symphony Orchestra and the White River Wind Symphony.

As an educator, Chelsea has had the opportunity to work with middle and high school-aged students since 2010 in and around Indianapolis as well as throughout northern New Jersey. Currently, Chelsea teaches privately at Ben Davis High School, Roncalli High School, Zionsville High School, and Sycamore School. She has appeared as a guest artist for the Butler Youth Jazz Program and as a mentor for Jazz Girls Day at Noblesville High School. In the fall of 2023, Chelsea joined the faculty of Butler University’s Jordan College of the Arts as Adjunct Professor of Drum Set.

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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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