

# Advanced Jazz Ensemble

**2018–2019 Season**  
**184th Concert**

Tuesday 4 December 2018  
Dalton Center Recital Hall  
7:30 p.m.

**ANDREW RATHBUN, Director**  
**Joseph Buzzelli, Violin**  
**Harmony Kelly, Violin**  
**Kennedy Dixon, Viola**  
**Maura Phelps, Cello**  
**Eddie Codrington, Saxophone**  
**Grayson K Nye, Piano/Keyboards**  
**Nicholas Olynciw, Piano/Keyboards**  
**Matthew Epperson, Bass**  
**Ethan Bouwsma, Drums**

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**Andrew Rathbun**

*Rogue-ish (The Bandit)*  
*Chapter Black*  
*St. Ali's Flight*  
*Conversations in an Empty House*  
*The Momentary and the Eternal*  
*A Heavy Door*  
*Branch of Sin*  
*Another Aspect*

Western Michigan University's award-winning Advanced Jazz Ensemble is directed by Andrew Rathbun. The 7–10 member group is made up of the premiere students from WMU's jazz studies area. The ensemble's repertoire of originals and arrangements is composed exclusively by ensemble members. The AJE has received Outstanding Small Ensemble awards from the Notre Dame, Elmhurst and Detroit International Jazz Festivals. The ensemble has performed in Illinois, Indiana, throughout Michigan and was featured by the Marshall Music Company at the 2006 Michigan Music Conference, as well as the 2007 International Association of Jazz Educators in New York City, with guest artists Stefon Harris, Fred Hersch, and Billy Hart. They have also performed at the Monterey NextGen Jazz Festival in 2012 and 2013, with guest Donny McCaslin, and their recent CD, *Songsmith Collective* (BluJazz Records), received 4.5 stars in DownBeat magazine. Grammy award winner Luciana Souza said this about this collection of poetry settings composed by the members of the ensemble: "The work done by these young musicians reflect their curiosity, which jazz is about – the unanswered question, the constant searching." The group has been active in collaborative projects lately, including a joint examination of our changing environment with members of the Frostic School of Art in "Climate Changes" where video projection, photo-malleable sculpture and contemporary jazz intersect. *METRICS* is a 40 minute ballet in collaboration with dancers from the College of Fine Arts, released on DVD and Blu-Ray last year. This five movement piece examines how improvised movement and contemporary jazz improvisation can function in concert. Other projects include collaborations with Miguel Zenon, Edward Simon, Frank Carlberg, and music industry clinics with Two for the Show Media/Chris DiGirolamo.

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