Adithya Vaidhyan Thesis Recital
Virtual Apprenticeship through the Lens of the Branford Marsalis Quartet’s Crazy People Music

Featured Musicians:
Adithya Vaidhyan ‘24: tenor and soprano saxophones
Avery Allen ‘27: piano
Jon Fischer: drums
Will Royce ‘24: upright bass
Program:
Spartacus  Branford Marsalis  (1960-present)
Nightwing  Adithya Vaidhyan  (2002-present)
Wolverine  Branford Marsalis  (1960-present)
Mr. Symple  Adithya Vaidhyan  (2002-present)
Rose Petals  Keith Jarrett  (1945-present)
0.00437  Adithya Vaidhyan  (2002-present)
The Ballad of Chet Kincaid  Quincy Jones  (1933-present)

Bio:
10 years into his musical journey, Adithya aims to break musical and cultural boundaries, cultivating a deeper meaning behind his sound. Kris Allen, Mike Kolodny, and Devesh Chandra provide inspiration and mentorship at the highest level at Williams College.

In addition to playing in many ensembles at Williams (jazz ensembles, Zambezi Marimba Band, Vive Latin American music ensemble, for the occasional presidential event, and house party bands), Adithya also plays gigs regularly in the Berkshires with guitarist Michael Junkins and Wingspan, a group made up of Williams alumni. The Adithya Vaidhyan Quartet annually makes a pilgrimage to the Sharp 9 Gallery in Durham and can be found at jam sessions in and around the Triangle.

Adithya is also grateful to be associated with the Litchfield Jazz Camp for the past 3 years. While working at this fabled jazz camp, Adithya has had the opportunity to work with the likes of Dave Ballou, Paul Bollenback, Don Braden, Jimmy Greene, Andrew Hadro, Russ Johnson, Cailey O'Doherty, and Albert Rivera.

Thursday, April 11, 2024
5:00 p.m.
Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Williamstown, Massachusetts

Please turn off cell phones.
No photography or recording is permitted.
Program Notes:
The inspiration and source material for this thesis and recital is the paradigmatic album by the 1991 Branford Marsalis Quartet: *Crazy People Music*. The first track on the album, “Spartacus,” recalls the energy and creativity of the Wynton Marsalis quintet (who themselves were following in the footsteps of Miles Davis’s second great quintet of the 60s). “Wolverine” is a tribute to Ornette Coleman, whose strides in the avant-garde realm were revolutionary. “Rose Petals” is inspired by the work of Keith Jarrett while he was playing in Europe and recording with the ECM record label. Finally, “The Ballad of Chet Kincaid” is a reinterpretation of Quincy Jones’s “Hikky Burr” from “The Bill Cosby Show.” In addition to these compositions and arrangements from the album, the three compositions from Adithya are intended to substitute three of the tunes from the album not included. “Nightwing” serves as a compositional parallel to Robert Hurst’s “The Dark Knight,” where both tunes take loose inspiration from compositions of the late great Wayne Shorter while still embodying the mysterious, eclectic sound of the Branford Marsalis Quartet. “Mr. Symple” borrows melodic material from Trane’s composition “Ms. Syms” and a harmonic reworking of the blues akin to that of the Marsalis tribute to John Coltrane from *Crazy People Music*: “Mr. Steepe.” Finally, 0.0437 takes the humor, energy, and looseness of Marsalis’s composition “Random Abstract(Diddle-It)” and uses the “burnout” structure of this piece as a model for more open improvisational expression.
2024 Student Recitals

Adithya Vaidhyan '24
saxophone  Thu Apr 11 @ 5 PM
Senior Thesis Recital

Richard O’Donnell '27
violin  Tue Apr 16 @ 6 PM

Jesse Cohen-Greenberg '24
piano  Sun Apr 21 @ 4:30 PM

Robin Wang '24
piano/viola  Tue Apr 23 @ 4:30 PM

Audrey Shadle '24
violin  Tue Apr 23 @ 7:30 PM

Leah Rosenman '24
mezzo-soprano  Wed Apr 24 @ 4:30 PM

Karthik Subbiah '24
santoor  Fri May 3 @ 12:15 PM

Sara Stebbins '24
soprano  Sat May 4 @ 1:30 PM

Lea Obermüller '24
soprano  Sat May 4 @ 4:30 PM

Casey Monteiro '24
soprano  Sun May 5 @ 12 noon

Paul Kim '24
piano/trumpet  Tue May 7 @ 7:30 PM

Peter Miles '24
baritone  Thu May 9 @ 7:30 PM

Sarah McGinn '24
soprano  Fri May 10 @ 4:30 PM

Edmond Laird Raylor '24
tenor  Sat May 11 @ 2 PM

Molly Arts '24
soprano  Sat May 11 @ 7:30 PM

Tasan Smith-Gandy '24
cello/piano  Sun May 12 @ 4:30 PM

Petra Hinds '24
mezzo-soprano  Sun May 12 @ 7:30 PM

Leo Marburg '24
baritone/piano  Tue May 14 @ 2 PM

Gwyn Chicoat '24
tuba  Tue May 14 @ 4:30 PM

All recitals will be held in Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall