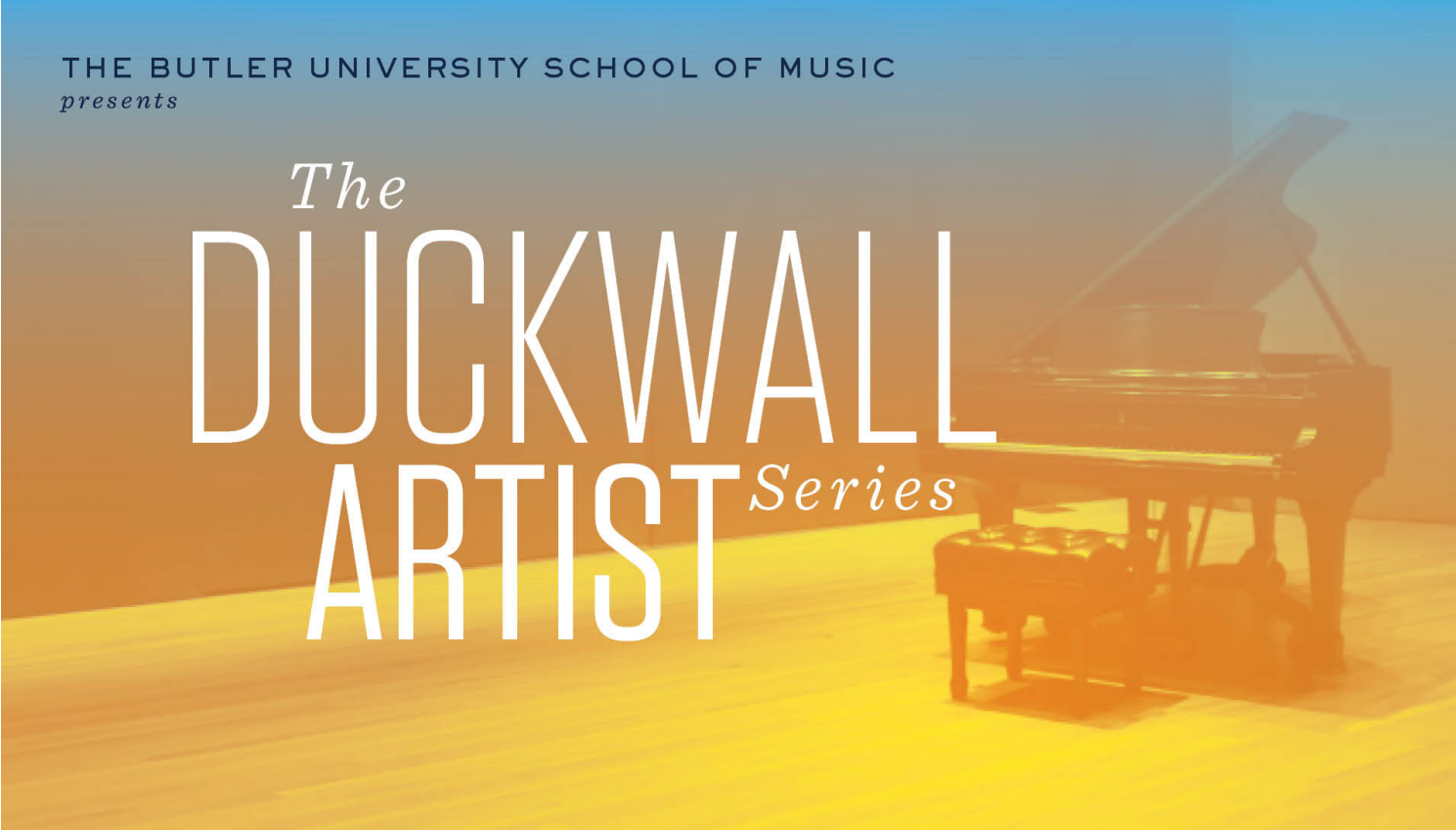


THE BUTLER UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MUSIC
presents

The DUCKWALL ARTIST *Series*



HP+

Chelsea Hughey, *drums/composer*

Charles Platz, *guitar/composer*

Sean Imboden, *tenor and soprano sax*

Steve Allee, *piano*

Jesse Wittman, *bass*

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

7:30 P.M.

Eidson-Duckwall Recital Hall

PROGRAM

Pure Imagination

Leslie Bricusse (1931-2021)
Anthony Newley (1931 -1999)
arr. Chelsea Hughey (b. 1991)

Pilgrim Bell

Charles Platz (b. 1992)

Doom Gloom/Canary Song

Charles Platz

Velvet Dragonflies

Chelsea Hughey

The Gate

Chelsea Hughey

Monk's Dream

Thelonious Monk (1917-1982)

Peace, Now!

Charles Platz

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

HP+

HP+ is Indianapolis's newest jazz super-group, led by visionary bandleaders Hughey and Platz. This powerhouse quintet brings together some of the finest talent the Midwest has to offer, channeling the spirit of politically charged and boundary-pushing jazz. Their sound draws from the fiery legacies of Charles Mingus and Ornette Coleman, while embracing the modern urgency of artists like Brian Blade & the Fellowship Band.

Unapologetic in their writing and themes, HP+ crafts music that is as thought-provoking as it is electrifying. Pieces like *Peace, Now!* juxtapose playful melodies in 5/8 with sharp, jarring interjections, while *Pilgrim Bell* drives forward with a groove that is equal parts hopeful and relentless. *Long Road Home* navigates the experiences and feelings found while searching for the "right" path forward on any journey. With passion, energy, and a clear sense of purpose, HP+ creates music that challenges, uplifts, and leaves audiences deeply moved.

Collaboration for the group began in the winter of 2024, but bandleaders Hughey and Platz met in 2020 at a local jam session called "The Shed." Quickly they recognized like minds and shared the stage often. Over time, they intentionally assembled the group you see today. HP+ is excited to release their debut album *Pilgrim Bell* later this year.

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, New Jersey, 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.

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, 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 fall 2023, Chelsea joined the faculty of Butler University’s Jordan College of the Arts as Adjunct Instructor of Drum Set.

CHARLES PLATZ

Charles began playing rock music, in rock bands, as many guitar players do, and was self-taught for 10 years. It wasn’t until his twenties that he became interested in jazz and the more technical and theoretical side of music. His first self-released jazz album is titled “Quiet” and can be found on all streaming services. Outside of playing and writing, Charles is an accomplished teacher. He is an adjunct professor of jazz guitar at the University of Indianapolis and maintains a private studio of students. He lives and works in Indianapolis.

SEAN IMBODEN

Sean Imboden is an American saxophonist and composer. Sean toured internationally for many years with various Broadway productions, and as a featured soloist with Blast II. He has performed on The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon, the Radio City Music Hall Orchestra, the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, Aretha Franklin, The Temptations, Barry Manilow, Johnny Mathis, Idina Menzel, and Slide Hampton.

Sean currently leads three distinct groups, each with a unique sound which feature his original compositions: a trio, a sextet, and a large ensemble. He is also a member of Tucker Brothers, Indy Saxophone Quartet, Hickey-Shanafelt Collective, and Butler Generations Ensemble. Sean teaches at Butler University, Ball State University, and online through his Virtual Studio.

STEVE ALLEE

Allee attended Ben Davis High School in Indianapolis, Indiana. He was in a band during the early 1970s called the Baron Von Ohlen Quartet which released an album of the same name. By age 19, Allee was touring with the Buddy Rich Orchestra. Allee's big band album, Downtown Blues, was nominated for a Grammy Award, and featured bassist John Clayton and drummer John Von Ohlen. Allee's first national solo record achieved a position of 14 on the Gavin national radio poll. Allee has worked with Slide Hampton, James Moody, Rufus Reid, Bob Mintzer, Randy Brecker, Phil Woods, Curtis Fuller, Jeff Hamilton, Tim Hagans, John Riley, Ira Sullivan, Ed Thigpen, Eddie Vinson, Milt Hinton, and Bobby Shew.

He received a commission to write a four-movement work for the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra for the 100th anniversary of the Indianapolis Museum of Art, and composed the score for the film “New York in the Fifties,” based

on a book of the same name by Dan Wakefield. The score was performed live at the Montreux Jazz Festival in Switzerland. Allee composed the soundtrack for “Something to Cheer About,” the film about the 1954-55 Crispus Attucks basketball team, starring Oscar Robertson. Allee has written music for television shows, including Chicago Hope, Friends, NYPD Blue, Mad About You, Martha Stewart Show, Nash Bridges, Touched by an Angel, and Dharma and Greg. He is the music director for the nationally syndicated radio show The Bob and Tom Show.

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.

Scan the QR code to support the Butler University School of Music!



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.



The Butler University School of Music is proud to acknowledge
Meridian Piano Movers
as a corporate sponsor of our programs.

