



## Inclusive Composers Concert

### **Troubled Water**

*Margaret Bonds (1913-1972)*

**Performer:** *Benjamin Tufte*

Margaret Bonds was the first African-American woman to perform as a concerto soloist with a major American symphony orchestra. Many of her compositions were unable to be published during her lifetime on account of her sex and race. *Troubled Water* was published as a stand alone piece during her lifetime, but now exists as a part of her 'Spiritual Suite'. The piece is a setting of the spiritual 'Wade in the Water'.



### **Rain Tree Sketch II: In Memoriam of Olivier Messiaen**

*Tōru Takemitsu (1930-199)*

**Performer:** *Benjamin Tufte*

Tōru Takemitsu was one of the first Japanese composers to achieve international recognition, blending traditional Japanese methods and aesthetics with those of Western classical music. His *Rain Tree Sketches* represent an aural realization of traditional east Asian painting and its use of blank space for expressive effect as understood in the aesthetic concepts of 'ma' and 'yohaku no bi'.



## **The Gathering**

*Geri Allen (1957–2017)*

### **Performers:**

*Annabella Brotherston, trumpet*

*Drew Tilbrooke, saxophone*

*Nate Smith, trombone*

*Pan Borui, baritone saxophone*

*Jackson Grace, piano*

*Adlee Demientieff, bass*

*Dylan Moore, drums*



Geri Allen (1957–2017) was a groundbreaking American jazz pianist, composer, and educator. Renowned for her highly expressive, avant-garde, and mainstream stylings, she composed over 20 albums and was the first woman to win the Danish Jazzpar Prize. She was also known for her work in jazz education, serving as the director of Jazz Studies at the University of Pittsburgh until 2017.

## **Take A Break**

*Annabella Brotherston (b. 2003)*

### **Performers:**

*Annabella Brotherston, trumpet*

*Drew Tilbrooke, saxophone*

*Jackson Grace, piano*

*Adlee Demientieff, bass*

*Dylan Moore, drums*

Annabella Brotherston is pursuing dual degrees in Jazz and Commercial Music and Computer Science at the University of Denver, with a minor in Mental Health and Wellness. She is passionate about composition and programming music by women composers, and her academic interests explore the intersection of music, psychology, and technology.

Her work in user experience design and accessibility centers on developing tools that support musicians' practice routines and help students better manage focus, anxiety, and time. She is also interested in exploring counseling through her studies in psychology and mental health.

Annabella has performed at events including the Essentially Ellington Jazz Competition and the Five Points Jazz Festival, and at venues such as Boettcher Hall, Frederick P. Rose Hall, Alice Tully Hall, Dazzle, Nocturne, Nissi's, and the Roots Music Project. She performed for many years with the Denver Young Artists Orchestra, participated in the Rafael Méndez Brass Institute, and has toured with groups including Colorado Brass.

In addition to her performance work, Annabella has conducted research at the University of Denver's Ritchie School of Engineering and Computer Science. She studies jazz improvisation with Gabriel Mervine and Adam Gang, and composition and arranging with Donna Wickham, and performs in the Lamont Jazz Orchestra under the direction of Remy Le Boeuf.

