

Lawrence University New Music Ensemble performs Music of Kenji Bunch

Michael Clayville, director

Sunday, March 2, 2025 7:30 p.m. Harper Hall Ralph's Old Records [20']
Chi-Chi-Hotcha-Watchee Stomp
Celestial Debris
I Didn't Hear Nobody Pray
When I Grew Too Old To Dream, Dream,
Dream, One More Dream Came True
Off to the Foxes

Kenji Bunch (b. 1973)

Minnie Keene, flute Wren Whalen, clarinet Metta Mayes, viola and violin Merle Mayes, cello Ella Dorsey, piano

Summer Hours [14']
Early calm
Quick and lively
Slow, simple
With anticipation
Sunny

Erin Lesser, flute Nora Lewis, oboe Andy Hudson, clarinet Brigit Fitzgerald, bassoon Ann Ellsworth, horn Michael Mizrahi, piano

Alpha Dog [12']
Lively
Moderate
Interlude — Fast

Aukje van Eck, flute Sho Bunch, clarinet Metta Mayes, violin Ronan Connell, cello Ella Dorsey, piano

GUEST BIO

Kenji Bunch writes music that looks for commonalities between musical styles, for understandings that transcend cultural or generational barriers, and for empathic connections with his listeners. Drawing on vernacular musical traditions, an interest in highlighting historical injustices and inaccuracies, and techniques from his classical training, Bunch creates music with a unique personal vocabulary that appeals to performers, audience, and critics alike. With his work frequently performed worldwide and recorded numerous times, Bunch considers his current mission the search for and celebration of shared emotional truths about the human experience from the profound to the absurd, to help facilitate connection and healing through entertainment, vulnerability, humor, and joy. Bunch is widely recognized for performing his own groundbreaking works for viola. He currently serves as Artistic Director of the new music group Fear No Music and is deeply committed to music education in his hometown of Portland, Oregon.

LuNuMu Personnel

Minnie Keene, flute
Erin Lesser, flute*
Aukje van Eck, flute
Nora Lewis, oboe*
Sho Bunch, clarinet
Andy Hudson, clarinet*
Wren Whalen, clarinet
Brigit Fitzgerald, bassoon*
Ann Ellsworth, horn*
Metta Mayes, violin and viola
Ronan Connell, cello
Merle Mayes, cello
Ella Dorsey, piano
Michael Mizrahi, piano*

*denotes LU faculty