

FORBES CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

**JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY®**

School of Music

*presents*

**Sam Suggs, *double bass***

**Oliver Scott, *piano***

Wednesday, January 25, 2023

7 pm

Recital Hall



## Program

No Solo (2020) for contrabass and hocketing piano	Samuel Adams (b. 1985)
Recitative and Aria " <i>Dido's Lament</i> "	Henry Purcell (1659-1695)
Minuets from Cello Suite no. 2	J.S. Bach (1685-1750)
On the Nature of Daylight	Max Richter (b. 1966)
La Isla Mágica (2012) for contrabass and electronics	Angélica Negrón (b. 1981)

## Brief Pause

Lenticular	Sam Suggs (b. 1990)
Aria	Alfred Desenclos (1912-1971)
Maiden Voyage	Herbie Hancock (b. 1940)
Softly, as in a Morning Sunrise	Sigmund Romberg (1889-1951)

## Program Notes

**La Isla Mágica** (The Magic Island) is a piece for double bass and electronics which explores possible connections between two islands that are close to my heart: Puerto Rico and Bali. The piece focuses on the joy of exploration and discovery with the intent of transporting the listener to a new hybrid imaginary island where the present moment is the only thing that matters. The pre-recorded electronics seek to evoke a custom gamelan orchestra with domestic found sounds (pencils, calculators, crystal glasses, harmonicas, light bulb covers, toys, among others) while the solo double bass part is inspired by the syncopated nature of Latin rhythms. Through layering of these ideas and fragmented development of these hybrid melodic and rhythmic patterns, I intend to convey a sense of adventure that invites the listener to be immersed in the moment without necessarily having to evoke a specific time. — Note from the composer

Patrons are reminded to turn off all pagers, cell phones, personal computers, and any other electronic devices.

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## Biographies

**Sam Suggs** is the first solo bassist in 36 years to join the Concert Artists Guild roster, and was recently recognized with an award for Extraordinary Creativity at the 2017 Bradetich Foundation International Double Bass Competition. A paradigm-shifting bassist-composer, Sam was named 'New Artist of the Month' (October 2015) by Musical America after winning 1st place at the 2015 International Society of Bassists Solo Competition while performing many original works.

As a collaborative bassist, he has performed at the Mostly Mozart Festival, Chamber Music Northwest, Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, and with the Ulysses and Argus Quartets, PUBLIQuartet, Founders, Frisson Ensemble (composer-in-residence), and his contemporary jazz trio Triplepoint.

A native of Buffalo, NY, Sam received his doctorate from the Yale School of Music spends his time between the Northeast and the Shenandoah Valley performing with various chamber, crossover, and contemporary groups, giving recitals and masterclasses, and teaching full-time as Assistant Professor of Bass at James Madison University, as well as at Yellow Barn, the Heifetz Institute, Peabody Bass Works, and the Sewanee Music Center.

**Oliver Scott** is a jazz pianist, educator, arranger, and composer. Originally from Maine, and receiving his bachelor's degree in Music Education and Jazz Studies at Ithaca College, he recently graduated with his Master's degree in Jazz Studies from the Eastman School of Music. At Eastman Oliver taught jazz piano classes and private lessons, received the Ray Wright Prize, was a member of the Eastman Jazz Ensemble, and performed with bassist John Clayton. He is a member of the Generations Trio, featuring drummer Rich Thompson. Arranging credits include small group writing, works for the Eastman Studio Orchestra, Ithaca College Jazz Band, Choir, and Wind Ensemble, and was commissioned in 2020 by Ithaca College to arrange Amazing Grace for a school-wide virtual performance. Having performed throughout the states as well as internationally, Oliver is known for his collaborative skills, musicianship, and technical proficiency. Outside of jazz, he is experienced in classical and gospel genres, and has recording experience as a leader and side-man. Mentors include Gary Versace, Mike Titlebaum, Nick Weiser, and Greg Evans.