

Robert Castillo

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Statement

Robert Castillo creates with the intent to imbue individuals with positive energy so they may be inspired to help construct a more beautiful world. He leads The Sextet, a groove jazz ensemble that creates music to move to and be moved by. His writing fuses jazz harmony and structure with global groove-based rhythms. His most recent album explores jazz in the context of hip-hop, reggae, classical, afrobeat, amidst others. Unifying music from differing lineages expands one's receptiveness to new ideas, resulting in openness to others' humanity. Robert also creates visual art, including themes of his Mayan heritage and refined geometric abstraction. Robert has been practicing meditation for over seven years and shares his techniques freely. In all he does, he strives to remain present and open to the infinite possibilities present in each moment.

Education

North Central College Bachelor of Arts 2014
Major Jazz Studies Minor Environmental Studies

Recordings

2019
The Sextet - Among Friends Modern Jazz
Miki P - Swallowtail Indie Pop
2018
Calvin Arsenia - Cantalope Experimental Alternative
The Standard - Feelin' Good Vocal Jazz
Miki P - Dome of Swallows Indie Pop
2017
The Sextet - Blob Castle Modern Jazz
Leslie McLean - Joy Spring Traditional Jazz
Noah Kite - To Burn Indie Rock
2016
The Sextet - In a Natural State Modern Jazz
Ky Burt - The Moon and The Sea Bluegrass

Awards

Downbeat Student Music Award
Seven with The Standard vocal jazz ensemble since 2015
Necklace Factory Award of Excellence Burning Man 2019
Awarded to 350 of the ~80,000 participants

Notable Performances

ArtKC Awards Luncheon
The Sextet, KC Convention Center, February 2018
“Among Friends” Album Release
The Sextet, recordBar, September 2019
“Cantaloupe” Album Release
Calvin Arsenia, Gem Theater, September 2018
Burning Man
Saloon Ensemble, 2015-2019
North Central College Sesquicentennial Celebration
Alyssa Allgood Quartet, North Central College,

Bands

The Sextet modern groove jazz
Miki P & The Swallowtails experimental pop
Calvin Arsenia experimental pop
Sunu afrobeat
Lauren Krum Quartet jazz country

Art Exhibits

2019
Hobbs Gallery Open Studios Spring & Fall
InterUrban ArtHouse April & August
Mattie Rhodes August
The Bite March
Artist & Craftsman January
2018
PTs at the Crossroads December

The Day Jobs

Apple Genius Bar Technical Specialist | Apr '19 - Present
Cross Lines Community Outreach Food Pantry Coordinator | May '17 - Feb '19
AmeriCorps/Fossil Elementary K-8 Music Teacher | Sept '14 - Jul '15

Volunteering

Cross Lines Community Outreach Front Desk Volunteer
Art as Mentorship Assistant Director of Programming
Warrior's Ascent Veteran PTSD Meditation Instruction
Latino Arts Foundation Youth Visual Art Mentor

References

Clark Sommers Chicago Bassist clarksommers@gmail.com
José Faus Influential Kansas Citian qarido@yahoo.com
Anna Joy Walker Art Consultant annajoywalker@gmail.com