



School of

Music

College of Arts and Sciences

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

presents

## *Jason Kochis' Senior Recital*

*Jason Kochis, Trombone*

*Dr. Yoon-Wha Roh*

*April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023*

*7:30 p.m.*

*Bryan Hall Theater*

[music.wsu.edu](http://music.wsu.edu)



[@WSUPullmanMusic](https://www.instagram.com/WSUPullmanMusic)

**Step Out .....**

## *Program*

<i>Ballade (1944)</i>	<b>Eugene Bozza (1905-1991)</b>
<i>Blue Wolf (1999)</i>	<b>Brad Edwards (b.1963)</b>
<i>Song of Survival (2021)</i>	<b>Susan Mutter (b.1962)</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <i>Meyer</i></li><li>2. <i>Diagnosis – Prayer</i></li><li>3. <i>Surgery</i></li><li>4. <i>Thiotepa</i></li><li>5. <i>Coming Home!</i></li></ol>	

This recital was only possible with the support of my beloved family, the trombone studio, every single one of my incredible friends and colleagues, all of the lovely brass faculty at WSU, my life coach Dr. A.J. Miller, Dr. Roh, who despite being the busiest person in the School of Music, took time out of her day to be my accompanist, my close friend and confidante, Josh Mattison, Shaun Sorenson and his team, and of course the wonderful Dr. Sarah Miller, to whom I am eternally grateful to!

Eugen Bozza's *Ballade* is a work from the Paris Conservatory. It was written as an educational aid for the trombone students at the school and accentuates legato playing, range development, and articulations! While Bozza did not intend the piece to be programmatic, I try to tell a personal story through my performance: one of any social engagement! The piece begins quite relaxing as I prepare for an outing. As it builds and builds, I get more and more antsy as the time approaches. The piece ends with a melody that evokes dancing, and it turns out that everything was fine and I was anxious for no reason. I get home, put away all my things, and my triumphant ending signals me falling into bed! Good night!

*Blue Wolf* by Brad Edwards is programmatic in title, and in my performance, I intend to portray the story of a lone wolf, kicked out of his pack due to an illness. Contrary to popular fiction, a lone wolf is a doomed creature. He will die and cannot support himself. This piece is the story of his first hunt after leaving his pack. The opening theme is what I call the "Loneliness theme", where he stalks his unwilling home looking for his first hunt. He roams in solitude until he finally finds a smell, a young doe, also on her own. He follows the doe, and eventually initiates a chase. He succeeds in killing his quarry, her scream echoes throughout the forest, but he feels unfulfilled. It is the first time in his entire life he's eaten alone. The loneliness theme comes back on our uncertain end, reminding us that the wolf is doomed.

*Song of Survival* is incredibly programmatic as the composer tells the story of Meyer Mixdorf, a real-life child diagnosed with a type of brain cancer in 2020. This piece follows Meyer and his family's journey. The opening portrays Meyer before his diagnosis and ends as he starts to show signs of his illness. Movement two is Meyer's diagnosis and ends with his father praying for his health. The third movement is "Surgery" from the perspective of Meyer's father in the waiting room, and movement four, "Thiotepa," is named after one of Meyer's many chemotherapy drugs. "Coming Home" is Meyer's release from the hospital! It is as if Meyer's family's prayers have been answered, but with cancer, you never know if it will come back. The piano ends with an uncertain tonality, implying the continued anxiety and testing that Meyer and his family will face. I was inspired to perform this piece because of my own experience with my dad's colon cancer diagnosis.

**... and become Engaged in the Arts at WSU!**