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Symposium of Contemporary Music

Tia Patsavas
Illinois Wesleyan University

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Symposium of Contemporary Music

Feb. 5, 2014

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.— Jazz composer and trumpeter John Daversa will be the featured guest at Illinois Wesleyan's 59th Symposium of Contemporary Music.

On Thursday, Feb. 6 at 4 p.m. in Westbrook Auditorium, located on Illinois Wesleyan's campus, Daversa will present "Career and Craft: Following Your Highest Excitement." At 8 p.m. and also in Westbrook, a concert featuring original music by the internationally recognized musician will be showcased.

The Illinois Wesleyan Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Assistant Professor of Music Timothy Pitchford, will also perform. Following the concert, Sigma Alpha Iota, Illinois Wesleyan's women's music fraternity, will host a reception in the Smith Reception Room in Presser Hall. All events are free and open to the public.

The winner of multiple awards, including the Herb Alpert Award, and the National Trumpet Competition, Daversa has performed on numerous television shows, at an array of jazz festivals around the world and with celebrated musicians, such as Bob Mintzer Big Band, Dr. Dre and Michael Bublé.

In addition to being a producer and arranger, Daversa plays the electronic valve instrument, a synthesizer that is played like a trumpet. He leads the John Daversa Progressive Big Band, which has been praised as one of the "leading forces of modern jazz," and the John Daversa Small Band, which critics have described as a "powerhouse ensemble." Daversa serves as assistant professor of music and chair of the department of studio music and jazz at the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Fla., where he also conducts the award-winning Frost Concert Jazz Band.

The program will highlight: *Bare Your Soul*, *Camels*, *Don't Jive The Hitman* and *Old Timer*.

Currently directed by Fern Rosetta Sherff Professor of Music David Vayo and a part of the Illinois Wesleyan New Music Series, the Symposium of Contemporary Music has introduced the campus community to a variety of diverse composers and performers since 1952. The symposium directly involves students, faculty and attendees in the events through presentations and performances.

For additional information, contact the School of Music Office at (309) 556-3061.



Contact: Tia Patsavas '16 (309) 556-3181, univcomm@iwu.edu