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4-30-2023

## Senior Recital: Christian McLaughlin, Trumpet; Valen Pao, Piano; April 30, 2023

Christian McLaughlin Trumpet

Valen Pao Piano

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### Recommended Citation

McLaughlin, Christian Trumpet and Pao, Valen Piano, "Senior Recital: Christian McLaughlin, Trumpet; Valen Pao, Piano; April 30, 2023" (2023). *School of Music Programs*. 5903.  
<https://ir.library.illinoisstate.edu/somp/5903>

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piece *Deference for Darkness* is a track from *Halo 3 ODS* that plays after a crash landing in an escape pod. As the player you are separated from your team and left to explore an abandoned and destroyed city not knowing whether your squad has made the crash landing alive. This piece is meant to convey a sense of isolation and sorrow with extended harmonies and a lush, beautiful melody in F minor.

**Sonata for Trumpet and Piano (1955)**

Eric Ewazen  
(born 1954)

Originally written as a commission for the International Trumpet Guild, the Ewazen Trumpet Sonata has become a unique standard in the trumpet repertoire. Eric Ewazen is known as a composer who went against the grain of classical music training slightly, and often composed with melodies that emulate a “folk” sound. This was often criticized for not keeping up to par with modern methods and demands. This sonata is a great representation of the usage of modal and folk-like melodies that Ewazen is known for. The piece was premiered by trumpet soloist Chris Gekker who is known to have a beautiful and full sound. The lyrical, agile, and technical demands of this piece are challenging to many trumpet players and end in climactic, syncopated ideas that are demonstrative of any trumpet player’s skill.

**Illinois State University  
Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts  
School of Music**

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**Senior Recital**  
**Christian McLaughlin, *Trumpet***  
**Valen Pao, *Piano***

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**This recital is in partial fulfillment of the  
graduation requirements for the degree,  
Bachelor of Music in Performance.**

**Kemp Recital Hall  
April 30, 2023  
Sunday Afternoon  
1:30 p.m.**

**This is the one hundred and eighty-sixth program of the 2022-2023 season.**

