

UC San Diego | Division of Arts and Humanities | Department of Music



DAVID BORGO
Suite of Uncommon Sorrows

Conrad Prebys Music Center - Experimental Theater
STREAMING LIVE: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

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Kuebiko

a state of moral exhaustion inspired by acts of horror in the news, which forces you to revise your image of what can happen in this world

Chrysalism

an amniotic-like tranquility, similar to how one feels while wrapped in a blanket sitting inside on the couch while a storm rages outside.

Kenopsia

the eerie, forlorn atmosphere of a place that's usually bustling with people but is now abandoned and quiet

Paro

the feeling that no matter what you do it will always be inadequate

The Village Covidiot

an inversion of Eric Dolphy's "Out To Lunch," dedicated to you know who.

Occhiolism

the awareness of the limitations of your own perspective

One Step Forward Two Steps Back

the feeling that although progress is being made, it produces a reaction that is somehow greater than equal and opposite

Zenosyne

the sense that time keeps going faster

Gugulethu

a township outside of Cape Town, South Africa, its name is a contraction of igugu lethu, which is Xhosa for "our pride" (for Winston Mankunku Ngozi)

David Borgo - *Suite of Uncommon Sorrows*

The *Suite of Uncommon Sorrows* is an eleven-part suite of original music composed in response to the tumultuous events of 2020, including the devastating COVID-19 pandemic, the growing Black Lives Matter movement, and the debilitating polarization of U.S. politics that made it impossible to address either of these adequately.

Each movement explores a different “uncommon sorrow,” such as *kuebiko* (a state of moral exhaustion inspired by acts of horror in the news, which forces you to revise your image of what can happen in this world), *kenopsia* (the eerie, forlorn atmosphere of a place that’s usually bustling with people but is now abandoned and quiet), *chrysalism* (an amniotic-like tranquility while a storm rages outside), *zenosyne* (the sense that time keeps going faster), and *pâro* (the feeling that no matter what you do it will always be inadequate).

David Borgo - tenor and soprano saxophones

Asher Tobin Chodos - piano

Mackenzie Leighton - acoustic and electric bass

Mark Ferber - drum set

with special guest:

Peter Sprague - electric guitar



DAVID BORGO

Saxophonist David Borgo is a composer, ethnomusicologist, and Professor of Music at UC San Diego. David has toured extensively, including performances in Europe, Asia, Africa, and North, Central, and South America, and he has released twelve CDs and one DVD of original music on a variety of record labels (Cadence Jazz, Resurgent Music, pfMentum, OA2 Records, Circumvention Music). David has been fortunate to study with and/or perform alongside many of the greatest jazz musicians, including Herbie Hancock, David Liebman, Billy Higgins, Kenny Burrell, Gerald Wilson, Harold Land, David Baker, Snooky Young, George Lewis, Evan Parker, Sam Rivers, John Tchicai, Anthony Davis, and Mark Dresser. In addition to jazz and improvised music, David performs electro-acoustic improvisation with KaiBorg and intricate polyrhythmic music with Kronomorfic.

Department of Music, Production:

Andrew Munsey, Recording Engineer

Sherry An, Marketing and Promotions Coordinator

Jessica Flores, Production Manager

Jeremy Olson, Audio Engineer, Theatrical Production Specialist

David Espiritu, Video Technician, Production Coordinator

Matthew Wilson, Lighting Technician, Technical Director, Mandeville Auditorium



MARK FERBER

Drummer Mark Ferber can be heard on nearly 200 recordings. Ongoing projects include ECM recording artist Ralph Alessi's 'This Against That', the Marc Copland trio, the Brad Shepik Organ Trio, and his twin brother, Alan Ferber's Grammy nominated big band and nonet. Past work includes tours and recordings with Lee Konitz, Gary Peacock, Jonathan Kreisberg, John O'Gallagher, Don Byron, Fred Hersch, Tony Malaby, Anna Webber, Mark Helias, Pete McCann, Matt Pavolka, Michael Attias and Billy Childs, among others.



PETER SPRAGUE

Guitarist Peter Sprague studied with Pat Metheny and has played with Chick Corea, Hubert Laws, Larry Coryell, David Benoit, and Sergio Mendes. Peter has produced or played on over 190 recordings and has published numerous music books, including transcriptions of the music of Chick Corea. Peter performed a number of times at Jazz at Lincoln Center in New York City, toured in Europe and Japan with vocalist Dianne Reeves, and composed and performed a guitar concerto with the San Diego Symphony.



ASHER TOBIN CHODOS

Pianist Asher Tobin Chodos is a former fellow of the Dave Brubeck Institute, where he studied with Dave Brubeck, Christian McBride, Mark Levine and Joe Gilman. He was named a fellow of the the Asian Cultural Council, served as artist-in-residence at the Byrdcliffe Guild and the UCROSS foundation, and was the recipient of a Fulbright award in Music Composition. In 2019, Tobin earned a Ph.D. in music from UC San Diego, writing the first musicological dissertation about Spotify and automated music recommendation (supported by a "Frontiers of Innovation" grant). In 2020, he was composer-in-residence at the Breckenridge Music Festival.



MACKENZIE LEIGHTON

Bassist Mackenzie Leighton has worked with jazz legends Donald Brown and Geoffrey Keezer, tango master Raul Jaurena, and Grammy winning bluesman Sugar Blue. Mack is a first-call bass player in the Southern California music scene, and a regular with local heroes Peter Sprague and Gilbert Castellanos. He teaches as a lecturer at California State University San Marcos.