



**Faculty Recital**  
**Kris Allen, jazz saxophone**  
featuring  
**Avery Sharpe, bass**  
**Jen Allen, piano**  
**Conor Meehan, drums**

Mulgrew Miller (1955-2013)	<i>Wingspan</i>
Mulgrew Miller	<i>For Those Who Do</i>
Mulgrew Miller	<i>Elation</i>
Johnny Green (1908-1989) arr. Mulgrew Miller	<i>Body and Soul</i>
Marian McPartland (1918-2013)	<i>Threnody</i>
Cedar Walton (1934-2013)	<i>Hindsight</i>
Mulgrew Miller	<i>Soul- Leo</i>

**Thursday, October 17, 2013**  
**8:00 p.m.**

*Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall*  
*Williamstown, Massachusetts*

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*Please turn off cell phones.*  
*No photography or recording is permitted.*

**Upcoming Events:**

See [music.williams.edu](http://music.williams.edu) for full details and additional happenings as well as to sign up for the weekly e-newsletters.

10/18	8:00pm	<b>Williams Chamber Players</b>	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
10/20	3:00pm	Visiting Artist <b>Stefanie Chase</b> , violin	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
10/23	12:15pm	<b>MIDWEEKMUSIC</b>	Chapin Hall, stage
10/25	8:00pm	<b>Williams Jazz Ensemble</b> Family Days Concert	Chapin Hall
10/27	3:00pm	Visiting Artists <b>Freddie Bryant &amp; Subhendra Rao</b>	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
10/29	4:15pm	Master Class with Visiting Artist <b>Jonathan Biss</b> , piano	Chapin Hall
10/29	4:15pm	Master Class with Visiting Artist <b>Miriam Fried</b> , violin	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
10/30	12:15pm	<b>MIDWEEKMUSIC</b>	Chapin Hall, stage
10/30	8:00pm	Visiting Artists <b>Jonathan Biss &amp; Miriam Fried</b>	Chapin Hall
11/4	8:00pm	Visiting Artists <b>Alash Ensemble – Tuvan Throat Singers</b>	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
11/6	12:15pm	<b>MIDWEEKMUSIC in the Chapel</b>	Thompson Memorial Chapel
11/13	12:15pm	<b>MIDWEEKMUSIC</b>	Chapin Hall, stage
11/13	4:15pm	Chamber Music Master Class with <b>Momenta Quartet</b>	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
11/13	8:00pm	Visiting Artists <b>Momenta Quartet</b>	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
11/15	8:00pm	<b>Williams Concert and Chamber Choirs</b>	Thompson Memorial Chapel
11/16	8:00pm	<b>Williams Percussion Ensemble (WiPE)</b>	Chapin Hall
12/10	12:15pm	<b>MIDWEEKMUSIC</b> Tuesday	Chapin Hall, stage
12/10	4:00pm	Clarinet Choir with students of Susan Martula	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
12/10	7:00pm	Jazz Guitar Studio Recital with students of Robert Phelps	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall



Kris Allen is a Lyell B. Clay Artist in Residence in Jazz and Lecturer in Music, and is the director of the Williams Jazz Ensemble. Kris has taught at Trinity College, the Hartt School, Southern Connecticut State University, and the Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts prior to joining the Williams community. Mr. Allen has also been a senior teaching artist in the many educational programs of Litchfield Performing Arts since 2001. His recent CD, *Circle House*, is available on Truth Revolution Records ([www.truthrevolutionrecords.com](http://www.truthrevolutionrecords.com)).

A native of West Hartford, Connecticut, Kris inherited a love of music from his mother, a church organist who gave him his first lessons on a tiny xylophone. At a young age, he displayed considerable gifting as a classical pianist, but it was jazz that truly won his heart at age 14 when a friend loaned him trumpeter Lee Morgan's album *The Gigolo*. Kris began to devote most of his spare time to listening to great jazz records and practicing the alto saxophone.

Later that year, Kris would enter two venerable jazz academies: First Hall High School, known for nurturing many great jazz musicians (among them Brad Mehldau and Joel Frahm), and then the Artists Collective in Hartford, where all the arts of the African Diaspora were celebrated and taught under founder Jackie McLean. It was Mr. Allen's great fortune to come under the tutelage of the great McLean, one of the foremost alto saxophonists in jazz history. Jackie would school Mr. Allen in the finer points of blues and bebop language, composition and arranging, and would provide the encouragement and inspiration that propelled the young musician into making jazz music a vocation and lifelong pursuit.

Kris accepted a full scholarship to continue his apprenticeship with McLean at the Hartt School of Music. At Hartt he was part of a bumper crop of young musicians (affectionately dubbed "J-Mac's Dynasty") and he learned alongside and from his peers, including Jimmy Greene, Wayne Escoffery and Julius Tolentino. Also greatly influential were older musicians and recent graduates such as Abraham Burton, Mike Dirubbo and Steve Davis.

Graduation from Hartt saw Mr. Allen moving to New York (with a detour to Tokyo) and diving into a thriving performing career, as well as further study at Purchase Conservatory (SUNY) where he earned a master's of music in 2004.

Kris would go on to perform with many living legends of jazz music, including Illinois Jacquet, Gerald Wilson, Curtis Fuller, Andy Gonzales, and Curtis Fuller, as well as with modern stars such as Helen Sung, Winard Harper, Jeremy Pelt, Andy Laverne, the Mingus Dynasty, and Mario Pavone. For several years Kris co-led the innovative Panamerican Trio with percussionist Rogerio Boccato and the late bassist Charles Flores. Kris has enjoyed a long-term musical association across several projects with the Curtis Brothers and has been a member of Kendrick Oliver's New Life Jazz Orchestra for over a decade. He can also be found frequently appearing in groups led by pianists Noah Baerman, Earl Macdonald, or his wife, Jen Allen. Kris currently serves as the Artistic Director of the Hartford Jazz Society New Directions Ensemble, and he is a founding member of the collaborative Jazz Samaritan Alliance. Please visit his website ([www.allenjazz.com](http://www.allenjazz.com)) for more information about performances and other current news, or to hear and purchase music.