

**IOWA**

School of Music



# **GUEST ARTIST RECITAL**

**KENNETH THOMPkins, *TROMBONE***

Monday, March 23, 2026, 7:30 p.m.

Recital Hall, Voxman Music Building

# **PROGRAM**

## **SONATA IN ONE MOVEMENT**

Kevin Day (b. 1996)

## **SONG OF SEPARATION**

William Grant Still (1895-1978)

I. Idolatry

II. Poeme

III. Parted

IV. A Black Pierrot

## **RHAPSODY FOR TROMBONE AND**

## **PIANO**

Brian Raphael Nabors (b. 1991)

*INTERMISSION*

# **ROMANCE**

Ida Gotkovsky (1933-2025)

# **SONATA FOR TROMBONE AND PIANO**

Alec Wilder (1907-1980)

- I. Moderato
- II. Andante Cantabile
- III. Allegro giusto
- IV. Allegro comodo
- V. Grandioso

# ABOUT THE ARTIST

## KENNETH THOMPKINS

Kenneth Thompkins is currently the Associate Professor of Trombone at Michigan State University. He was Principal Trombone of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra from 1997 to 2024. Prior to this appointment he held positions in the Buffalo Philharmonic and The Florida Orchestra. He has also performed with the New World Symphony under the direction of Michael Tilson Thomas.

Thompkins enjoys working with young musicians and has performed masterclasses and recitals at many universities including the Curtis Institute of Music, The Juilliard School, and the Eastman School of Music. He has also been on faculty at the National Orchestral Institute, National Youth Orchestra, and Taipei Music Festival and Academy. In 2017 Thompkins recorded *Sonatas, Songs and Spirituals* featuring the music of Alec Wilder, William Grant Still and Philip Wharton. *Sonatas, Songs and Spirituals* was the winner of The American Prize in Instrumental Performance for 2018-2019. His latest recording, *Compelling Portraits*, features the compositions of

contemporary Black composers including James Lee III, Brian Nabors, Kevin Day, Maurice Draughn and Shawn Okpebholo. He has performed as a soloist with Chineke! and the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. He can also be heard on recordings with the New World Symphony, Los Angeles Philharmonic and the Detroit Symphony.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

For the most current listing of concerts, recitals, and other School of Music events, visit the events calendar.

**EVENTS CALENDAR** 