

## lacEwan NEWS RELEASE

Monday, March 4, 2024

## MacEwan University's Bent River Records releasing new recordings at 2024 Artist Spotlight at Yardbird Suite

Legendary flutist Jim Walker to perform with MacEwan's Generations Big Band

**Edmonton** – MacEwan University's Bent River Records invites you to the release of two new big band recordings, *The Long View* and *Pipe Dreams*.

The Long View features new recordings by MacEwan's Generations Big Band, an ensemble of faculty, student and alumni performers under the direction of Raymond Baril, the chair of the Department of Music in the Faculty of Fine Arts and Communications. In 2022, the band recorded ten new compositions - five written by MacEwan faculty and five written by recent MacEwan alumni. The music on *The Long View* is a testament to the incredible talent working and studying at MacEwan University.

Pipe Dreams is a celebration of legendary flutist Jim Walker who is considered one of the finest players of his generation. Walker was the principal flutist of the Los Angeles Philharmonic for seven seasons and has played on the soundtracks for hundreds of movies including Titanic, Jurassic Park and Back to the Future. Pipe Dreams is a showcase of works written for him by some of the best arrangers and composers working today. Joined by MacEwan's Generations Big Band, the recording includes the premiere of Pipe Dreams, a concerto for flute and big band, composed for Walker by the dean of the Faculty of Fine Arts and Communications, Dr. Allan Gilliland. One of Canada's busiest composers, Dr. Gilliland has written music for solo instruments, orchestra, choir, brass quintet, wind ensemble, big band, film and theatre.

Media are invited to join us:

Thursday, March 28 7 p.m. Yardbird Suite 11 Tommy Banks Way, Edmonton

Tickets can be purchased in advance on the <u>Yardbird Suite Website</u>. Free admission for MacEwan students with their university ID. All proceeds go to supporting student scholarships and awards at MacEwan.





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## **About Bent River Records**

Bent River Records is an innovative and artist-focused record label at MacEwan University in Edmonton that inspires community and student engagement. It was conceived and designed with the dual purpose of providing a support network for recording artists while providing an important and rare educational and research platform for students to obtain hands-on experience in the music industry.

For more information, please contact:

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Founded in 1971, MacEwan University inspires its students with a powerful combination of academic excellence and personal learning experiences. Offering more than 90 programs including undergraduate degrees, applied degrees, diplomas, certificates, continuing education and corporate training, the university provides a transformative education in a creative, collaborative and supportive learning environment where creativity and innovation thrive. Located in Edmonton, Alberta Canada, MacEwan University offers a unique student experience that opens up diverse pathways for achievement and growth.