

## Nicholas May Biography

Heralded as "a musician of the highest caliber, emerging saxophonist, clarinetist, and composer/arranger Nicholas May has been recognized as an outstanding musician from a young age, picking up the saxophone at the age of 10 and soon was performing with honor groups. A native of Lincoln, Nebraska he has won or been a finalist in numerous state, national, and international competitions.

As a soloist Nicholas and "saxophonist capable of broad swaths of color, rich depths of contrast, and generous apportionment of the musical canvas", he maintains a regular touring schedule, appearing recurrently as a guest artist and recitalist for national and international audiences. His debut album *Tone Studies*, the Saxophone Music of David Maslanka is labeled under Albany Records and features the works of Maslanka for Alto Saxophone and Piano with pianist Ellen Sommer (pieces include Maslanka's Sonata and Tone Studies). Additionally, he is currently preparing material for his second commercial recording: featuring the violin Partitas of J.S. Bach. He is also featured on the UNL Jazz Orchestra's album *The Good Life* (2017). Nicholas will be a featured artist at the Bach Festival in Leipzig, Germany in 2019--performing his arrangement of Bach's D minor partita for violin.

Nicholas is a member and founder of the T.C.B.S.Q., the Heartland Duo, and the Sanders-May Duo, all of which have performed and premiered works by: Nicholas May, Larkin Sanders, David von Kampen, Daniel Baldwin, J.S. Bach, Aldemaro Romero, Phil Woods, Glazunov, etc...across the continental United States. Additionally, he is the principal clarinetist in the New Empire Orchestra, an ensemble that focuses on large-scale works of the symphonic, choral, and operatic genres.

In the spring of 2017, Nicholas was a featured soloist with the Arapahoe Philharmonic Orchestra as winner of the T. Gordon Parks Concerto Competition. He has appeared as a guest artist and soloist with the Classical Saxophone Project, Omaha Symphony Orchestra, Lincoln Symphony Orchestra and UNL Wind Ensemble, and performs frequently in regional theatre productions as a woodwind artist.

Performances include concerts and master classes with: Javier Oviedo, Gregor Hübner, Luciano Supervielle, Ryan Kilgore, Chris Vaciala, Alan Ferber, Anthony Wilson, Jun Ho Pak, the Boston Brass, John Ellis, George Stone, the Chiara String Quartet, Harry Allen, Fabrice Moretti, Dave Pietro, Doc Severson, and Jamey Aebersold.

Nicholas is an Adjunct Instructor at Kansas Wesleyan University in Salina, Kansas and MidPlains Community College in McCook, Nebraska where he teaches applied clarinet and saxophone lessons. He received his M.M. from the University of Kansas, and his B.M. from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He has studied privately with clarinetist, Dr. Robert Walzel, saxophonists Harvey Pittel and Matt Otto, and Rebecca Fischer, former violinist of the Chiara String Quartet.

Nicholas is a Silverstein Works Pro Team Artist