

Jonathon C. Neal is an artist-educator devoted to the advancement of Black American Music and creative improvisation. A graduate of Howard University and Tennessee State University (TSU), he has taught at TSU where he served as Adjunct Professor of Trumpet and Grambling State University where he served as Upper Brass Instructor, Director of Jazz Ensembles, and instructed courses in improvisation, harmony, and ear training. He is currently pursuing the Doctor of Musical Arts in Jazz & Contemporary Improvisation at the University of Michigan–Ann Arbor, where his research explores consciousness in performance, noetic musicology, and the role of Black spirituality in the improvising traditions.