

I/O FEST – SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 2023, 4:30 PM
THE CLARK AUDITORIUM
Presented by the Williams College Department of Music
Duration: approx. 90 minutes

Screening to be followed by a discussion and Q&A with FULL MANTIS director Jake Meginsky; composer/percussionist/Bennington College faculty member Michael Wimberly; and Head of Public Programs at the Clark, Will Schmenner.

MILFORD GRAVES FULL MANTIS
A FEATURE FILM

MILFORD GRAVES FULL MANTIS is the first ever feature-length portrait of renowned percussionist Milford Graves (1941-2021), exploring his kaleidoscopic creativity and relentless curiosity.

Graves began performing internationally in 1964, both as a soloist and in ensembles with such legends as Albert Ayler, Giuseppi Logan, and Sonny Sharrock. He was a founding pioneer of avant-garde jazz, and he remains one of the most influential figures in the evolution of the form.

The film draws the viewer through the artist's lush garden and ornate home, into the martial arts dojo in his backyard and the laboratory in his basement—all of this just blocks from where he grew up in the housing projects of South Jamaica, Queens.

Graves tells stories of discovery, struggle and survival, ruminates on the essence of 'swing,' activates electronic stethoscopes in his basement lab to process the sound of his heart, and travels to Japan where he performs at a school for children with autism, igniting the student body into an ecstatic display of spontaneous collective energy.

Oscillating from present to past and weaving intimate glimpses of the artist's complex cosmology with blistering performances from around the globe, MILFORD GRAVES FULL MANTIS is cinema full of fluidity, polyrhythm and intensity, embodying the essence of Graves' music itself.

Jake Meginsky / Director
Neil Young / Co-Director
Milford Graves / Music and Words
Jake Meginsky, Neil Young / Editing
Neil Young / Cinematography
Jake Meginsky / Producer
Neil Young, Gabe Chicoine,
George Myers / Co-producers

Neil Young, Jake Meginsky,
Marcus DeMaio / Camera
Jake Meginsky / Sound Design
Milford Graves / Animations
Ernst Karel / Re-Recording Mix
Jeffrey Weaver / Titles
Evan Schwenterly / Color Correction
Modulus / Post Finishing Facility

ABOUT I/O FEST

I/O Fest, the Williams College Department of Music's annual immersion in the music of today, is a multi-day exploration of adventurous music featuring new voices, fresh perspectives, and creative modes of musical expression. Performances, talks, and workshops are held in the '62 Center for Theatre & Dance, the Williams College Museum of Art, and The Clark Art Institute, with a special interest in unconventional spaces and modes of performance. Featuring renowned guest artists and performances by the I/O Ensemble, faculty, and students, I/O Fest seeks to present innovative and visceral programs that invite listeners to experience music in new ways.

2023 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS (All events are free, no reservation required, unless otherwise noted)

FRIDAY 1/13

12:00-4:00 PM | I/O Day at WCMA

7:30 PM | '62 Center

I/O Ensemble

SATURDAY 1/14

4:30 PM | The Clark

MILFORD GRAVES FULL MANTIS: film screening

8:00 PM | '62 Center

New Music Williams presents *Penelope*, a song cycle by Sarah Kirkland Snider

Featuring Sara Stebbins '24

SUNDAY 1/15

1:00 PM | The Clark

I/Out Loud Family Concert, featuring GEORGE

4:00 PM | The Clark*

Genre-crossing jazz and new music ensemble GEORGE, featuring composer/percussionist John Hollenbeck

*Reserve your seat at Clarkart.edu

I/O FEST STAFF

Matthew Gold, Artistic Director; Sara Stebbins '24, Student Director; Jeffrey Miller, Stage and Orchestra Manager, Williams College Department of Music; Jonathan Myers, Concert and Event Coordinator, Williams College Department of Music; Arianna Suarez '25, Sound Engineer; Julianna Bruce '25, Sound Engineer

Acknowledgements

Ed Gollin, Music Dept. Chair; Nathaniel Wiessner, '62 Center Operations Manager; John Burrow, Sound and Media Manager; Daniel O'Connell, Production Technician; Corissa L. Bryant, Patron and Visiting Artist Services Manager; Ileana Perez Velázquez, Zachary Wadsworth, Composition Faculty; Will Schmenner, Clark Art Institute; Jeff Bentley, Piano Technician; Daniel Czernecki, Recording Engineer