NEC’s Department of Jazz Studies
presents

Sara Serpa
Guest Artist-in-Residence

Intimate Strangers

with
guest artists
André Matos, guitar and Dov Manski, piano

Wednesday, October 4, 2023
8:00 p.m.
Brown Hall
PROGRAM

All compositions by Sara Serpa

Excerpts from *Intimate Strangers:*

*Lokoja-Okenne*

*The Poet*

*How do you know where to go?*

*Lejam*

*The Poet*

*In due course*

*I dream you leaving*

*I must become a tree*

Monique Van Willingh, spoken word
Elizabeth Embser, Aviana Gedler,
Ariel Vera, Yifan Yue, Yifei Zhou,
Sara Serpa, voice
Jake Walters, piano
Nico Daglio-Fine, electronics
Caleb Montague, projection assistant

*Intermission*
A native from Lisboa, Portuguese Sara Serpa explores the use of the voice as an instrument. Serpa has been working in the field of jazz, improvised and experimental music, since moving to New York in 2008. Literature, film, visual arts, nature and history inspire Serpa in the creative process and development of her music. Described by the New York Times as “a singer of silvery poise and cosmopolitan outlook,” and by the JazzTimes magazine as “a master of wordless landscapes,” Serpa started her recording and performing career with jazz luminaries such as Grammy-nominated pianist, Danilo Perez, Guggenheim and MacArthur Fellow pianist, Ran Blake, and Greg Osby.

Her ethereal music draws from a broad variety of inspirations including literature, film, visual arts as well as history and nature. As a leader, she has produced and released ten albums, the latest being Intimate Strangers (2021) and Recognition (2020).
Serpa was voted 2020 NPR Jazz Vocalist, Rising Star-Female Vocalist 2019 by the Downbeat Magazine Critics Poll, and teaches at The New School and New Jersey City University. Currently Serpa is Artist-In-Residence at Park Avenue Armory, in New York and a recipient of New York City Women’s Fund 2020, Chamber Music America New Jazz Works Grant 2019, New Music USA 2019 Grant, 2021 USArtists Grant from Mid-Atlantic Foundation for the Arts, and 2021 Herb Alpert/Ragdale Prize in Composition.

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Food and drink are not allowed in the concert hall, and photography and audio or video recording are prohibited. Assistive listening devices are available for all Jordan Hall concerts; contact the head usher or house manager on duty or inquire at the Coat Room. Latecomers will be seated at the discretion of management.

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