Mrs. James R. Preston Memorial Chamber Music Series:
An Evening of Diamonds III

featuring

The Belhaven Piano Trio &
The Sachs Piano Duo

Tuesday, February 8, 2011
7:30 p.m.
Belhaven University Center for the Arts
Concert Hall
BELHAVEN UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC MISSION STATEMENT

The Music Department seeks to produce transformational leaders in the musical arts who will have profound influence in homes, churches, private studios, educational institutions, and on the concert stage. While developing the God-bestowed musical talents of music majors, minors, and elective students, we seek to provide an integrative understanding of the musical arts from a Christian world and life view in order to equip students to influence the world of ideas. The music major degree program is designed to prepare students for graduate study while equipping them for vocational roles in performance, church music, and education. The Belhaven University Music Department exists to multiply Christian leaders who demonstrate unquestionable excellence in the musical arts and apply timeless truths in every aspect of their artistic discipline.

The Music Department is indebted to the Preston family who gave monies to establish The Mrs. James R. Preston, Sr. Memorial Chamber Music Series. This thoughtful legacy continues to benefit our students, Belhaven College and the greater Jackson, MS community. Thank you so much!

The Music Department of Belhaven University directs you to “Arts Ablaze 2010-2011.” Read about many of the excellent performances and presentations scheduled throughout this academic year at Belhaven University by the Arts Division. Please take a complimentary copy of “Arts Ablaze 2009-2010” with you.

The Music Department would like to thank our many community partners for their support of Christian Arts Education at Belhaven University through their advertising in “Arts Ablaze 2010-2011”. It is through these and other wonderful relationships in the greater Jackson community that makes an afternoon like this possible at Belhaven. Tonight we especially thank Bo-Kays Florists. We praise God for our friends and are truly thankful for their generosity. Please mention The Arts at Belhaven University when you visit our community partners.

If you would like to receive email news-concert updates from the Belhaven University Music Department, please add your name and email address to the sign up sheet on the table in the foyer. It would be our pleasure to keep you informed regarding the recitals/concerts to be presented by the Music Department at Belhaven during Fall and Spring Semesters, 2010-2011.

Thank you to those working behind the scenes to make today’s program a success: music faculty supervisor, Dr. Christopher Shelt; student workers –door manager, Hannah Thomas; ushers, Megan van der Bijl & Ellie Honea; stage manager, Malcom LaTour; recording/sound, Roddy Merritt; lighting, Stephen Fairchld; page turner, Rebakah Saks; reception assistants, Anna Cullnane & Jocelyn Zhu.

Upcoming Events:

Thursday, February 10, 7:00pm, Concert Hall  JPS All-City Honors Band
Saturday, February 19, 7:30pm, Concert Hall  Mrs. Gena Everitt Faculty Voice Recital
Thurs.-Sat., March 3-5, 7:30pm, Blackbox Theatre  Musical Theatre: “The Light in the Piazza”
Tuesday, March 8, 7:30pm, Concert Hall  Collaborative Arts Concert
Tuesday, March 22, 7:30pm, Concert Hall  Dr. Stephen Sachs Faculty Piano Recital

Please refrain from the use of all flash photography.
Please turn off all pagers and cell phones.
There will be a reception in the foyer after the program.
Please come and greet the performers.
PROGRAM

Piano Trio in C Major, Op. 87 for Violin, Cello and Piano
Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

Allegro
Andante con moto
Scherzo: Presto
Finale: Allegro giocoso

The Belhaven Piano Trio
Mr. Song Xie, violin; Mr. Bennett Randman, cello; Dr. Stephen W. Sachs, piano

INTERMISSION

Jeux d’enfants (Children’s Games), Op. 22
Georges Bizet
(1838-1875)

I  Allegro impetuoso (1807-1742?)
II  Andante con cozytà
III  Presto obsessto

Sonata Innamorata (S.1+1) for Piano, Four Hands
P.D.Q. Bach

The Sachs Piano Duo
Mrs. Carolyn R. Sachs, primo; Dr. Stephen W. Sachs, secondo

PROGRAM NOTES
Brahms monumental Trio in C Major offers a test of endurance for audience members and performers with two sonata movements, a theme and variations and a lively scherzo. But, what beautiful music that we must endure! Written in 1882 after the piano quartets, the piano quintet, the string sextets and all three string quartets, this is mature Brahms with long arching melodies, a vast scale of expression, moments that linger and stretch, and waves of momentum that are generated by single instruments, in tandem and as the full piano trio. Virtuosic technique and a singing tone is required of all musicians with stunning technical passages ending in pianissimos, rests and/or fortissimo chords. In the slow movement, a theme and variations, Brahms shows again that he is the undisputed master of variation in composition.
Nimble, playful, mysterious and profound are wonderfully descriptive words that may be juxtaposed to offer the listener a foretaste of the final two movements.

Bizet wrote this duet (his last and finest piano work) for two women, Marguerite and Fanny, in the autumn of 1871. We know nothing of them or the first performance, but Bizet’s publisher encouraged the addition of two movements, Nos. 7 and 8 in 1872, and had Bizet arrange five movements for orchestra in 1873. George’s early death at age 36 prevented more piano works from entering the standard repertoire. The twelve colorful pieces describe children’s activities, although most of the pieces are too advanced to be played by young pianists. Many of the games are familiar, and still played. No. 5 is the badminton birdie, No. 8 is a four-corners-five-players swap and No. 11 is recognized as “playing house”.

Peter Schickele parodies musicology in “discovering” lost compositions of the fictional composer P.D.Q. Bach. This work supposedly commissioned by Casanova, and had its first performance in modern times in 1987 at Carnegie Hall in NYC. The first movement creates discontent as the duet couple cannot play together. The second movement is written for the purposes of seducing the prima player, and the third movement is a race to finish the piece. The classical elements that make Mozart’s duets so charming and flirtatious are exaggerated and mutilated to the absurd by Schickele, and make the seemingly proper duet a raucous comedy.

GUEST ARTIST BIO

Bennett Randman, Principal Cellist of the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra (MSO), is on the permanent faculty at the Maud Powell Summer Music Festival in Peru, IL. He began studies at age eight, and earned degrees at the University of Tennessee and Duquesne University. Mr. Randman has studied with noted cellists Nathaniel Rosen and Leslie Parnas. Prior to coming to Mississippi, he was Assistant Principal Cellist with the Charlotte Symphony, Principal Cellist with the Charlotte Chamber Orchestra, and cellist with the Seattle Symphony and the Northwest Chamber Orchestra. His solo performances include multiple appearances with the MSO, the Metropolitan Chamber Orchestra of Jackson, MS and appearances with the Meridian Symphony Orchestra and the 1989 Mississippi Showcase Concert. He is listed in the eleventh and twelfth editions of International Who’s Who in Music.

BELHAVEN UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC FACULTY AND STAFF

Dr. Stephen Sachs, pianist, chair; Dr. Paxton Girtmon, director of bands, woodwind specialist; Dr. Andrew Sauerwein, composer, theorist; Dr. Christopher Shelt, coordinator of vocal activities, director of choral ensembles, Song Xie, violinist, director of string ensembles; Nancy Bateman, cello adjunct; Dennis Bonds, jazz guitar adjunct; Richard Brown, string bass adjunct; Melvin Champ, assistant band director adjunct; Sybil Cheesman, flute adjunct; Dr. Dennis Cranford, music theory adjunct; Mark Davis, low brass adjunct; Ken Graves, clarinet adjunct; Carol Durham, organ adjunct; Gena Everitt, vocal adjunct; Dr. Rebecca Geihsler, vocal adjunct; Reca Girtmon, drill team instructor adjunct; Kenneth Graves, clarinet adjunct; Anne Gray, vocal adjunct; Amy Houghton, classical guitar adjunct, director of guitar ensembles; Paul Heindl, percussion adjunct, director of percussion ensembles; Andrew Lewis, piano adjunct, Randy Mapes, double reed adjunct; Anne Katherine Ragsdale, piano adjunct, Elizabeth Richardson, vocal adjunct; Carolyn Sachs, piano adjunct, Singing Christmas Tree director; Nicole Harwell, staff accompanist; Lloyd Turner, trumpet adjunct; Valarie Tate, administrative assistant

BELHAVEN UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC, OUR MUSIC MAJORS!


BELHAVEN UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC, OUR DECEMBER 2010 GRADUATES!

Micheal Hall, Ann Howard, Victoria Senete, Victoria Swilley