

THE BELHAVEN UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC  
Dr. Stephen W. Sachs, Chair

presents

*Libby Roberts*  
*Senior Composition*  
*Recital*

Saturday, March 22, 2014 • 7:30 p.m.  
Belhaven University Center for the Arts • Concert Hall

*There will be a reception after the program. Please come and greet the performer.  
Please refrain from the use of all flash and still photography during the concert.  
Please turn off all pagers and cell phones.*

## **PROGRAM**

Intonent Hodie

Libby Roberts • b. 1992

*Libby Roberts, Piano*

Meditation for Guitar and Guzheng

*Libby Roberts, Guzheng; Wil Murphy, Guitar*

String Quartet No. 1

*Alexia Valente, Violin I; Andrew Horton, Violin II;  
John Farrar, Viola; Rachel Kniseley, Violincello*

"The Fell of Dark Not Day"

*Julie Wolfe, Soprano; Libby Roberts, Piano*

Vignettes for Saxophone and Piano

- I. Allegro
- II. Largo
- III. Presto

*Michael Adkins, Saxophone; Libby Roberts, Piano*

Pastorale for Guitar

*Wil Murphy, Guitar*

The Birch Tree

*Brooke Edwards, Soprano*

Petite Minor Rhapsody

*Andrew Horton, Violin; Wil Murphy, Guitar; Libby Roberts, Piano*

Illuminarie

*Arthur Alford, Violin; Brooke Kressin, Piano*

## **PROGRAM NOTES**

**Intonent Hodie:** When asked to musically respond to a work of art in the Belhaven art department, I was captivated by a charcoal drawing by Belhaven graduate Stephen Delatte. The drawing pictures a lone chair in an empty

school room from the artist's childhood. The chair is facing away from the viewer, and points to a sunny window. The resulting musical piece is a reflection on history and memory, delving into the mystery of what must be the artist's

memories surrounding the scene. The piano improvisation and the title are taken from the old medieval chant "Intonet Hodie" (On This Day), a song pointing to the future time in which all of history shall be made perfect by the greatest Author himself.

On this day earth shall ring  
with the song children sing  
to the Lord, Christ our King,  
born on earth to save us;  
him the Father gave us.

#### **Meditation for Guitar and Guzheng:**

The Guzheng is a traditional plucked-string instrument of China, with a silky, deep resonance. When writing this piece, I was interested in the merging of different traditions: The meditation is written in contrapuntal style, showcasing a couple of folk instruments, for the use of spiritual meditating. My vision for this piece is to provide an example of prayerful, sacred music that makes use of a variety of traditions, further promoting community.

**String Quartet No. 1:** Despite the vast differences between the traditions of jazz and counterpoint, they both create ways for melodies to interact. This piece is a meditation on the reconciliation of these differences; it is part of my ongoing research and efforts to reconcile the musical "worlds" of jazz and counterpoint. It is also a reflection on time: how the future is understood by the past, the past is understood in the future, and the present is the development between past and present.

**"The Fell of Dark Not Day":** The lyrics for this song are from a poem by Gerard Manley Hopkins, written in the mid-1800s. The poet, who maintained lifelong interests in philosophy, poetry, and doctrine, became a Jesuit priest in his adult years. Although he was a sincere believer, he was quite honest in his writing about his conflicts, emotional struggles, and bouts of depression. This poem is a reflection on the sadness that comes with the human condition. He may seem to focus on the grim parts of reality, but really his poem implies a

greater reality that exists beyond the darkest feelings.

#### **Vignettes for Saxophone and Piano :**

Vignettes are short-form poems or theatrical sections that are meant to present impressionistic representations of a person, place, or theme. I wrote these pieces thinking about the structured chaos of a big city. Life in the city is full of repeated patterns such as traffic, building structures, and cultural trends. However, the diversity and visceral experience can be fun, dizzying, or even bizarre. As you listen, try to imagine specific times of day and parts of the city represented by each movement.

**Pastorale for Guitar:** A tapestry of Euro-American folk-inspired melodies.

**The Birch Tree:** This piece ponders the ways in which struggles and difficult times cultivate and nurture a spirit of growth and change. It is composed for voice and a prerecorded electronic track. The track not only follows a harmonic progression, but also contains special effects made to "resemble" the sounds of falling leaves and sweeping winds. When I created the effects, I combined imagery with sound, often drawing trees in the sound grid in order to pattern the sound effects. I also wrote the poetry, which begins by reflecting on the falling autumn leaves, lapsing into a muse about the ways in which we have our layers stripped during the refining parts of our lives.

**Petite Minor Rhapsody:** Mischief, sophistication, and a bit of impish glee!

**Illuminarie:** Memories are important, but often unpleasant to sort through. However, the past illuminates the present, which will illuminate the future in time. This piece speaks to the difficulty in reconciling the past with the present, and the ways in which it is hard to make sense of the details. Despite the complexity of life, our stories become more understandable when we look to the past. The

opening theme of this piece is a melancholy reminiscence that undergoes thoughtful

development of the piece and resolves with a more complete realization.

## 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 would like to thank our many community partners for their support of Christian Arts Education at Belhaven University through their advertising in "Arts Ablaze 2013-2014." It is through these and other wonderful relationships in the greater Jackson community that makes many of our concerts possible at Belhaven. 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.

For a complete listing of Music Department scheduled spring semester programs, please visit our website at <http://www.belhaven.edu/music/recitals.htm>. A complete listing of major Belhaven University arts events may be found at <http://www.belhaven.edu/arts/schedule.htm>.

*Thank you to those working behind the scenes to make today's program a success: music faculty supervisor, Dr. Andrew Sauerwein; Student workers –house manager, Ellie Wise; ushers, Anna Watson, Miranda Kunk ; stage manager, Thorburn M; stage hand, Rachael McCartney, Lydia Jones; recording/sound, Grace Anna Randall; lighting, Thad; videographer & photography, Grace Anna Randall; reception assistant, Anne Hilleke.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, March 27, 7:30pm, Concert Hall  
Friday, March 28, 7:30pm, Concert Hall  
Saturday, March 29, 3:00pm, Concert Hall  
Saturday, March 29, 7:30pm, Concert Hall  
Monday, March 31, 7:30pm, Concert Hall  
Thursday, April 3, 7:30pm, Concert Hall  
Saturday, April 5, 3pm, Concert Hall

Ms. Amy Houghton Faculty Guitar Recital  
Belhaven Strings & Orchestra Concert  
All-State Strings Concert  
Brooke Kressin Junior Piano Recital  
Mrs. Gena Everitt Faculty Voice Recital  
Mr. Owen Rockwell Faculty Percussion Recital  
Instrumental Arts Concert

## DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC, FACULTY AND STAFF

Dr. Stephen Sachs, pianist, chair • Dr. Paxton Girtmon, director of bands, woodwind specialist • Sylvia Hong, Artist-in-Residence • Dr. Andrew Sauerwein, composer, theorist • Dr. Christopher Shelt, coordinator of vocal activities, director of choral ensembles, Singing Christmas Tree director • Song Xie, violinist, director of string ensembles • Nancy Bateman, cello adjunct • Tracy Bedgood, low brass adjunct • Dennis Bonds, jazz guitar adjunct • Richard Brown, string bass adjunct • Sybil Cheesman, flute adjunct • Dr. Dennis Cranford, music theory adjunct • Sarah Elias, piano adjunct, theory adjunct • Tyler Kemp, staff accompanist • Carol Durham, organ adjunct • Gena Everitt,

vocal adjunct • Dr. Rebecca Geihlsler, vocal adjunct • Christina Hrivnak, vocal adjunct • Kenneth Graves, clarinet adjunct • Amy Houghton, classical guitar adjunct, director of guitar ensembles • Owen Rockwell, percussion adjunct, director of percussion ensembles • Amanda Mangrum, harp adjunct • Randy Mapes, double reed adjunct • Carolyn Sachs, piano adjunct • Margaret Sprow, music ministries adjunct • Lloyd Turner, trumpet adjunct • Valerie Tate, administrative assistant

## **DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC, MUSIC MAJORS**

Michael Adkins • Alcinia Armstrong • Daniel Bravo • Skyler Bready • Jimmy Brown • Charlton Bruce • Thomas Kyle Carter • Jessica Charitos • Clay Coward • Andrew Craig • Stephen Craig • Brooke Edwards • John Farrar • Levi Scott Foreman • Rebecca Franklin • Rachel Gari • Dorothy Claire Glover • Byron Hammond • Joshua Harton • Eric Hartzog • Daniel Hicks • Anne Hilleke • Andrew Horton • Lydia Jones • Temperance Jones • Joy Kenyon • Brooke Kressin • Miranda Kunk • Cierra Lee • Rachael McCartney • Joseph McCullough • Thorburn McGee • Lydia Moore • William Murphy • Daniel Nasif • Justin Nipper • Victor Piantanida • Grace Anna Randall • Elisabeth Roberts • Morgan Robertson • Tianna Rogers • Charity Ross • Kaitlin Rowan • Alexandra Sahli • Michael Shofner • Brandon Smith • Cory Smith • Alesia Sterling • Alexia Valente • Megan van der Bijl • Elizabeth Walczak • Rachel Walczak • Anna Watson • Hannah Wilson • Ellen Wise • Julie Wolfe • Jocelyn Zhu

## **DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC, DECEMBER 2013 GRADUATES**

Maggie McLinden

