

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

presents

Mrs. James R. Preston
Memorial Chamber Music Series:
An Evening of Diamonds II
Belhaven Trio

Mr. Kenneth Graves, Clarinet
Mr. Jesse Christeson, Cello
Dr. Stephen W. Sachs, Piano

Monday, January 18, 2016 • 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 performers.
Please refrain from the use of all flash and still photography during the concert
Please turn off all cell phones and electronics.*

PROGRAM

Trio in B-flat Major, Op. 11
Allegro con brio
Adagio
Tema Pria ch'io l'impegno

Ludwig van Beethoven • 1770 - 1827

INTERMISSION

Trio in A Minor, Op. 114
Allegro
Adagio
Andantino grazioso
Allegro

Johannes Brahms • 1833 - 1897

*Mr. Kenneth Graves, Clarinet; Mr. Jesse Christeson, Cello;
Dr. Stephen W. Sachs, Piano*

PROGRAM NOTES

Beethoven wrote this trio when he was 27 years old, inspired by his friendship with clarinetist Franz Joseph Bähr. The fast first movement opens with an energetic unison motive. The second movement adagio melody is heard first in the cello followed by the clarinet. The theme for the third movement theme and variations was suggested by Bähr. It is a playful aria for bass trio from the opera "Love at Sea or the Corsair" by Joseph Weigl. This aria achieved such popularity, it was used for theme and variations by several composers including Paganini and Hummel. Such popular songs were called "street songs", and the nickname of this trio, Gassenhauer, is the German term for a tune sung and whistled on the street. During the 9 variations following the theme statement, listen for the independent variation for piano, one for unaccompanied clarinet and cello, two in minor mode, one a march, one with long piano trills, and the ending dance. Such an early opus number invites the expectation of light, lyric, playful, and gentle writing, more Classical in character than Romantic. This expectation is fulfilled! One might not guess this was Beethoven, if one did not know this was Beethoven.

Brahms "came out of retirement" to write this opus, and it has all the expressive and musically

complex elements one associates with mature Brahms. Again, friendship with a clarinetist inspired the trio. Biographer Jan Swafford writes of Brahms' discovery of the clarinet artistry of Richard Mühlfeld:

"...and so Brahms recognized another incarnation of the kind of dark, soulful voice that had always seduced him..." Written for clarinet in A rather than B-flat, Brahms uses the entire range of the instrument, including a note lower than the standard B-flat clarinet can play. The sober and introspective first movement is in sonata form with fragmented rhythms, much arpeggiation, and long extended melodies. The second movement in D major accentuates the capabilities of the clarinet's highest and lowest registers. The cello and clarinet have tightly interwoven parts. The third movement is a folk waltz in ternary form, cheery and rhythmic. It is reminiscent of Brahms' other waltz writing, including the Liebeslieder for piano duet and optional voices. The final movement in A minor, also in sonata form, plays extensively with rhythm utilizing syncopation and canon between the players. Thick textures and the use of extreme ranges with dark, low, and expressive melodic lines brings the listener into Brahms' private world.

BIOS

Mr. Kenneth Graves, Principal Clarinet of the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra, has collaborated with leading musicians of today including Sir Neville Marriner, Leon Fleisher, James Conlon, John Williams and Leonard Slatkin. He has performed chamber music with members of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and has appeared with the Colburn Chamber Music Society. Ken has attended music festivals including the Music Academy of the West, the National Repertory Orchestra, Spoleto Festival USA, and the National Orchestral Institute. He received his Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music where he was a student of Richie Hawley and his Master of Music degree from the University of Southern California where he was a student of Yehuda Gilad. He has also attended The Colburn School in downtown Los Angeles. In addition to playing with the MSO, Ken enjoys teaching and is an adjunct clarinet professor at Mississippi College and Belhaven University. He also maintains an active private studio in the Jackson, MS area.

Mr. Jesse Christeson: A native of Daytona Beach, Florida, Mr. Christeson is excited to be serving his third year as Principal Cellist of the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra. Most recently, Mr. Christeson received a master's degree in performance from Rice University (studio of Norman Fischer), and completed his fourth consecutive summer at the prestigious Tanglewood Music Center. Since Spring of 2014, he has been a member of the Tanglewood New Fromm Quartet, specializing in the performance of contemporary music. The quartet featured as well at The Intimacy of Creativity, a new-music festival in Hong Kong, in 2014 and 2015. Mr. Christeson's other recent summer engagements include the festivals of Aspen, Brevard, and the National Orchestral Institute. He received his bachelor's from Stetson University in DeLand, FL, where he studied cello (studio of David Bjella), voice, and philosophy. Mr. Christeson serves as a substitute cellist for the Alabama Symphony and Orlando Philharmonic orchestras.

Dr. Stephen W. Sachs is Professor of Piano and Music Chair at Belhaven, a post he has been privileged to hold since August, 2004. Dr. Sachs performs with the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra both as soloist and as a member of the Symphony. He also performs regularly as piano soloist, duo-pianist and chamber musician. Dr. Sachs and his wife Carolyn lead the music ministry at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Jackson, MS.

For more information on the Belhaven faculty, please visit the Belhaven website at <http://www.belhaven.edu/music/faculty.htm>

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 2015-2016." 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 fall 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, Mr. Song Xie; student workers –house manager, Kimber Yates ; ushers, LaDeshia Lonie & Lauren Barger; stage manager, Silvanus Johnson; stage hands, Billy Overton & Taylor Scrivner; recording / sound, Anne Hilleke; lighting, Zakary Joyner; photographer, Katherine Crivello; video, Rebekah Miller; page turner, Susan Smallwood ; reception hosts, Miracle Gee & Jessica Schmidt.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday-Saturday, February 5-6, 7:30pm, 9:30am, 11:30am	A Little Opera For Children: The Frog Prince
Tuesday, February 16, 7:00pm, First Presbyterian Church	30 th Annual AGO Organ-Choral Festival
Saturday, February 20, 7:30pm, Concert Hall	Sauerwein Faculty Composition Concert
Tuesday, February 23, 7:30pm, Concert Hall	Sachs Solo/Duo Piano Recital
Tuesday, March 1, 7:30pm, Concert Hall	Shelt Faculty Voice Recital
Thursday, March 3, 7:30pm, Concert Hall	Best of Belhaven II

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 and Singing Christmas Tree • Song Xie, violinist, director of string ensembles • Nancy Bateman, cello adjunct • Dennis Bonds, jazz guitar adjunct • Richard Brown, string bass adjunct • Sybil Cheesman, flute adjunct • Carol Durham, organ adjunct • Sarah Elias, piano and music theory adjunct • Doug Eltzroth, worship arts adjunct • Gena Everitt, vocal adjunct • Dr. Rebecca Geihlsler, vocal and music history adjunct • Kenneth Graves, clarinet adjunct • Christina Hrivnak, vocal adjunct • Andrew Lewis, jazz and music theory adjunct • Amanda Mangrum, harp adjunct • Randy Mapes, double reed adjunct • Dr. Marlynn Martin, music education adjunct • Dr. Tanja Miric, classical guitar adjunct • Christopher Phillips, vocal/choral & worship arts adjunct • Dr. Owen Rockwell, percussion adjunct, director of percussion ensembles • Carolyn Sachs, piano adjunct • Dr. Carla Stovall, low brass adjunct • Elizabeth Taylor, viola adjunct • Lloyd Turner, trumpet adjunct • Grace Anna Lane, administrative assistant

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC, MUSIC MAJORS

Joanna Ayers • Lauren Barger • Daniel Bravo • James Burton • Gabriella Castro • Jessica Charitos • Qichao Chen • Isiah Collins • Stephen Craig • Katherine Crivello • Roland Dixon • Triland Eltzroth • Rachel Gari • Miracle Gee • Dorothy Claire Glover • Elisabeth Hall • Byron Hammond • Tracy Hilaire • Anne Hilleke • Rebekah Johnson • Silvanus Johnson • Madeline Jolley • Zakary Joyner • Miranda Kunk • Jordan Locke • LaDeshia Lonie • Rachael McCartney • Rebekah Miller • William Murphy • Justin Nipper • Billy Overton • Victor Piantanida • Constance Prince • Brandon Randle • Charity Ross • Jessica Schmidt • Taylor Scrivner • Seth Shelton • Susan Smallwood • Brandon Smith • Tripp Stewart • Ebony Sutton • Mariah Taylor • Alexia Valente • Hannah van der Bijl • Elizabeth Walczak • Evan Walley • Mandy Williams • Hannah Wilson • Julie Wolfe • Kimber Yates • Jessica Ziegelbauer

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC, DECEMBER 2015 GRADUATES

Lydia Jones • Alexandra Sahli

