

THE BELHAVEN UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Dr. Stephen W. Sachs, Chair

presents

*Student Composers*  
*Concert XVII*

Tuesday, November 29, 2016 • 7:30 p.m.  
Belhaven University • 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 pagers and cell phones.*

## PROGRAM

Prayer and Wonder (Free improvisation)

Planting Seeds (Improvisation with Cue Cards)

This music grows out of verbal “seeds” provided by the audience. In addition, each performer contributes to the shape of the work using hand cues, which the “prompter” uses to direct the ensemble. Some of the cues used tonight are borrowed from John Zorn’s game-piece *Cobra*, while others were designed and developed by the Composers Forum in recent years.

Advent: Flocks by Night Dr. Andrew Mark Sauerwein • b. 1963

This improvisational piece comprises a sequence of eleven groups of notes, a set of performance instructions, and the expressive prompt supplied by the title.

*Members of the Belhaven Composers Forum:  
B. Joanna Ayers, Cajon and Rainstick; Stephanie Bonham, Flute;  
Rebekah Johnson, Toy Piano and Banana; Rachael McCartney, Piano;  
Seth Shelton, Cello; James Stewart, Electric Guitar*

## INTERMISSION

Beauty in the Broken Seth Shelton • b. 1995

Contributing Artists: Christy Robeson, Kayla Gray  
*Lindsey DeShetler, Kendall Jackson, William Mullen, and Brianne Nix, Dancers  
Seth Shelton, Cello*

This dance-music piece is a prayerful outpouring of emotion to the Lord that expresses the anguish of living in a broken world. The work comprises three sections. The first section builds tension, depicting turbulent anguish punctuated by breaths. Tension begins to ease in the second section, expressing a sense of hope. The third section lightens, closing with a faint clear sound speaking of hope and the promise of renewal. Through the power of the Word, the weak support and love one another in ways surpassing their own capabilities. Colossians 3.16, “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.”

Her Escape B. Joanna Ayers • b. 1995

*B. Joanna Ayers, Voice and Piano  
Rebekah Miller, Cello*

A life of shame and hopelessness often leaves the heart feeling dark, isolated. By the Father’s love, the believer finds life in the Son—the Light of all mankind, an Escape. “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”

*Tear stained eyes, in the palm of her hand a dark secret she holds and she’s losing her grip.  
No way out, one-way in... He found the key and to her He held out His hand.  
And He said to her, “Prepare for today, for today you will never be the same.”*

[Chorus:] “Come with me, come today. I will set you free, I will be your escape. Come now, come away. I will set you free, I will be your escape.”

She is lost in her thoughts and no one knows what she hides in her heart  
So she fakes her smiles and her waves everyday just to hide the pain.  
And He says to her, “Don’t cry because from now on tonight I will always be by your side.”

[Chorus]

See the tears, see the pain in her eyes? She won’t give up tonight.  
He will hold her and He told her that tonight is the end of her fight.

[Chorus]

He will be my escape.

## Past the Mohorovicic Discontinuity

James Stewart • b. 1997

*Rebekah Johnson, Piano*

The Mohorovicic Discontinuity is the imaginary line between the crust and mantle of the earth, at which seismic waves change frequency. To date, no one has drilled past this line. The piece evokes an exploratory dig past the Discontinuity. The crossing of the line is marked by violent chords and a change of meter. What follows portrays the discovery of the newly opened world that lies within the earth.

## Lament

Rachael McCartney • b. 1993

*Stephanie Bonham, Alto Saxophone*

*Lament* explores grief, giving musical expression to some of the different emotions which occur during the grieving process. It takes time to heal from loss and the process cannot be forced to a conclusion. Indeed, very often there is no conclusion, but only an undulation from one emotion to another. *Lament* was originally conceived for violin, and the alto saxophone allows for a more strenuous expression.

## I Wish

Rachael McCartney

### I. Empty, Old

*Rebekah Miller, Cello*

The suite introduced with this piece explores the imagery and emotions of wishing. We do not have to be taught how to wish: it seems instinctive, developing in childhood and continuing throughout our lives. We may wish in a state of joyful anticipation, anxiety, or regret. We may speak a wish or make it tangible by means of a wishing well, dandelions, a shooting star, the candles on a birthday cake, or possibly a genie. Perhaps we may wish internally, hardly conscious of the deep dissatisfaction driving our desire. *Empty, Old* is a wish for things to have been different—but the past is static and no such wish can be satisfied.

## St. Vitus’ Dance

James Stewart

### III. Wake

*Hannah van der Bijl, Piano*

The third of four movements for piano, this piece depicts the frantic distress of waking up after rest to a seemingly impossible mountain of work and responsibilities that must be completed quickly. In the music, rapid bursts of excited motives portray thoughts about the consequences of not finishing what must be done. As the piece goes on, these manic moments act as the points of remembering even more things that must be done, adding to the snowball.

## 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 2016-2017." 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, Dr. Paxton Girtmon; student workers –Lighting, Jordan Locke; Sound, LaDeshia Lonie; Videographer, Tripp Stewart; Photographer, Rebekah Miller; House manager, Beth Walczak; Stage manager, Silvanus Johnson; Stage hands, Daniel Jones & Savannah Lamb; Ushers, Miracle Gee & Hannah Wilson; Reception Hosts, Qichao Cen & Brandon Smith.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday-Saturday, December 2-3, 7:30pm, Belhaven Bowl	Singing Christmas Tree
Friday, December 16, 5pm, Concert Hall	Daniel Bravo Senior Percussion Recital

## DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC, FACULTY AND STAFF

Dr. Stephen Sachs, dean of fine arts, music chair, pianist • Dr. Paxton Girtmon, director of bands, woodwind specialist • Dr. Andrew Sauerwein, composer, theorist • Song Xie, violinist, director of string ensembles • Adam Almeter, low brass adjunct • 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 • Dr. Rebecca Geihlsler, vocal and music history specialty instructor • Kenneth Graves, clarinet adjunct • Christina Hrivnak, vocal adjunct • Richard Hudson, french horn adjunct • Margaret Ingram, jazz piano adjunct • Amanda Mangrum, harp adjunct • Randy Mapes, double reed adjunct • Dr. Tanja Miric, classical guitar adjunct • Christopher Phillips, vocal/choral & worship arts specialty instructor, director of choral ensembles & Singing Christmas Tree • Dr. Owen Rockwell, percussion specialty instructor, director of percussion ensembles • Carolyn Sachs, piano adjunct • Elizabeth Taylor, viola adjunct • Lloyd Turner, trumpet adjunct • Sarah Anne Waters, vocal adjunct  
Grace Anna Lane, administrative assistant

## DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC, MUSIC MAJORS

Timber Alexander • Joanna Ayers • Lauren Barger • Rachael Boxill • Bailey Bradshaw • Daniel Bravo • James Burton • Gabriella Castro • Qichao Cen • Stephen Craig • Deon Crawford • Roland Dixon • Miracle Gee • Dorothy Claire Glover • Byron Hammond • Kierra Haynes • Tracy Hilaire • Anne Hilleke • Khalil Johnson • Rebekah Johnson • Silvanus Johnson • Madeline Jolley • Daniel Jones • Lenard Jones • Zakary Joyner • Deborah Kim • Miranda Kunk • Savannah Lamb • Dameion Lee • Jordan Locke • LaDeshia Lonie • Rachael McCartney • Rebekah Miller • Justin Nipper • Charity Ross • Jessica Schmidt • Taylor Scrivner • Seth Shelton • Susan Smallwood • Brandon Smith • Tripp Stewart • Ebony Sutton • Mariah Taylor • Hannah van der Bijl • Elizabeth Walczak • Mandy Williams • Hannah Wilson

