

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

presents

Daniel W. Johnston
Senior Composition
Recital

Saturday, May 7, 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 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. 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 the Fall Semester, 2011.

Thank you to those working behind the scenes to make today's program a success: music faculty supervisor, Dr. Andrew Sauerwein; student workers – Karen Johnston, door manager; Arthur Alford & B.J. Johnston, ushers; Abigail Johnston, stage manager; Abigail Johnston & Erin Desmond, stagehands; Skyler Bready, recording/sound/lighting/ PowerPoint; Ryan Johnston, video recording; Karen & Abigail Johnston, receptionists; Erin Desmond, page turner.

There will be a reception after the program. Please come and greet the performers.

Please refrain from the use of all flash photography.

Please turn off all pagers and cell phones.

PROGRAM

Songs for Guitar & Voice/Piano & Voice

Sadly Daniel W. Johnston (b. 1989)
A man found in unfaithfulness, sits alone in an empty school library. After having just been confronted by his wife and children, he sits at a forgotten desk and furiously scratches out his thoughts on a single piece of lined paper. He beats his brow and chokes back hot tears in between stanzas. He completes his writing and slowly begins to read back the words.

Dreams from a Foxhole Daniel W. Johnston
Deep underground, a fox curls its tail around itself in a small warm burrow and dreams. This composition represents a turning point in my musical life. It evokes a settling, a mellowing, or a losing of past tensions and frustrations. It is a love song between me and my wife and my music. As you listen, notice the repetition of pairs and the use of odd imagery that is used to evoke the strange dreamlike state of the characters.

Ailuj Trats Daniel W. Johnston
This song is about the frustrations that can accompany the deep need for love and relational affirmation.

Death Daniel W. Johnston
“Death” is a poem from *Best Loved Poems of the American People*, attributed to a poet identified simply as Beatrice. It speaks of a great depth, a mature understanding of God. It is one piece of a series of poems that I have set to music. I have found them a rich source of understanding about God and His people. This is part of a larger collection of works entitled *Modern Hymns*.

Abigail Johnston, soprano; Daniel W. Johnston, voice & guitar

The Wheat and the Tares Daniel W. Johnston
From *The Sermons of Martin Luther*, Vol. II, Page 104: “...of the good seed says again, they should not uproot it, that is, they should have patience, and suffer such blasphemy, and commend all to God; for although the tares hinder the wheat, yet they make it the more beautiful to behold, compared with the tares, as St. Paul also says in 1 Cor. 2:19.”

Daniel W. Johnston, voice & guitar

Songs for Piano & Voice

Mellow Daniel W. Johnston
This song is a self reflection that addresses the anxiety and then rebirth of self that is inevitable as we grow older (or mellower).

Shadows Shift Daniel W. Johnston
I wrote this piece, in response to another piano piece similarly named “Shifting Shadows” by American composer Nancy Vande Vate (1930). Vate has been a composer of orchestral, chamber, vocal, and keyboard works and is the founder of the International League of Women Composers. I began responding to her piece as a simple study of working with multiple time signatures in a single piece. Over time, it has grown a great deal from its original solo piano beginnings.

Abigail Johnston, soprano; Nicole Harwell, piano

Prerecorded Audio/Video

The Walrus

Daniel W. Johnston & Michael Shofner (b. 1985)

This song was one of many collaborative pieces between me and Michael Shofner. Incorporating soundscape elements and animal-like noises, we painted a picture of a walrus getting up to give a speech to an observing beach of walruses. The “walrus speech” theme is distinct in the beginning and fades to the background as the sea of walruses contemplate the speaker’s message.

Memories of Jackson

Daniel W. Johnston

Over the past few months, I have found myself filming everything, recording conversations with friends and professors and even going on wild rants, taping every word. It has been an attempt to remember the intimate details of my ongoing growth. This video is a collage of those recorded moments set to four different pieces I composed over the past year. Each song originated from improvisation. Jackson has taught me much, as well as been the source for a great deal of frustration and difficulty. The parallels of the obvious beauty that Jackson holds and the frustrated observations of the poem, speak to a continued desire to see the beauty amidst even the most suffocating circumstances.

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 Geihlsler, vocal adjunct; Recca 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; Valerie Tate, administrative assistant

BELHAVEN UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC, OUR MUSIC MAJORS!

Alyssa Aycok, Michael Baker, Bethany Basham, Jacqueline Bateman, Sarah Bravo, Skyler Bready,
Jimmy Brown, Shellie Brown, Chris Carlson, Nicole Colyer, Gina Condly, Clay Coward,
Andrew Craig, Hannah Cross, Anna Cullnane, Eleana Davis, Erin Desmond, Rachel Eason,
Brooke Edwards, Stephen Fairchild, John Farrar, Levi Foreman, Matthew Forester, Rachel Gorman,
Cory Gray, Curtis Harris, Joshua Harton, Eric Hartzog, Blakeney Hatcliff, Amanda Hester,
Daniel Hicks, Ellie Honea, Emmberly Jefferson, Sam Johnson, Abigail Johnston, Daniel Johnston,
Temperance Jones, Jensen Kelley, Alicia Kleeves, Malcom LaTour, Joshua Lee, John Mathieu,
Joseph McCullough, Maggie McLinden, Roddy Merritt, Lydia Moore, Joey Nelms, Joshua Nichols,
Alex Nitzberg, William Anthony Peacock, Lauren Pratt, Libby Roberts, Morgan Robertson,
Kaitlin Rowan, Rebekah Saks, Michael Shofner, Zachary Stafford, Stefanie Stoll, Hannah Thomas,
Marie Tolliver, Keeyonia Tyler, Megan van der Bijl, Travis White, Abby Wiggins, Ellen Wise,
Jocelyn Zhu, Robert Wesley Zickau

BELHAVEN UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC, OUR DECEMBER 2010 GRADUATES!

Micheal Hall, Ann Howard, Victoria Senete, Victoria Swilley