

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

presents

*Alexander  
Russakovsky  
Cello Recital*

Saturday, March 26, 2011  
2:00pm  
Belhaven University Center for the Arts  
Recital Room

## **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 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.*

*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 during the 2010-2011 Academic Year.*

*Thank you to those working behind the scenes to make today's program a success: music faculty supervisor, Mr. Song Xie; student workers –door manager, Jackie Bateman; ushers, Anne Donnelly & Brooke Edwards; recording/sound & lighting, Rachel Gorman.*

### *Upcoming Events:*

<i>Saturday, March 26, 7:30pm, Concert Hall</i>	<i>Alicia Kleeves Junior Voice Recital</i>
<i>Friday, April 8, 7:30pm, Concert Hall</i>	<i>Orchestras &amp; Strings Concert</i>
<i>Saturday, April 9, 3:00pm, Concert Hall</i>	<i>All State Strings Concert</i>
<i>Saturday, April 9, 7:30pm, Concert Hall</i>	<i>Guitar Ensemble Concert</i>
<i>Tuesday, April 12, 7:30pm, Concert Hall</i>	<i>BU &amp; Jackson Community Symphonic Band, Jazz Ensemble &amp; Percussion Ensemble Concert</i>
<i>Saturday, April 16, 7:30pm, Concert Hall</i>	<i>Choral Concert - "Iberian Romance"</i>
<i>Tuesday, April 19, 7:30pm, Concert Hall</i>	<i>Best of Belhaven II</i>

**Please refrain from the use of all flash and still photography during the concert.**  
**Please turn off all pagers and cell phones.**

## PROGRAM

Cello Suite No. 2, BWV 1008

Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685-1750)

Prélude  
Allemande  
Courante  
Sarabande  
Menuet I & II  
Gigue

Sonata for Unaccompanied Cello, Op. 8

Zoltán Kodály  
(1882-1967)

Allegro maestoso ma appassionato  
Adagio (con gran espressione)  
Allegro molto vivace

## PROGRAM NOTES

From 1717 to 1723, when he served as Kapellmeister of the court orchestra of Prince Leopold of Anhalt-Cöthen, and for the first time in his long life, Bach had no responsibility for church music. In those years, he produced many secular instrumental works, among them the six Suites for Unaccompanied Cello (BWV 1007-12). Unlike Bach's violin sonatas, no autograph manuscript of the cello suites survives. However, analysis of secondary sources, including a hand-written copy by Bach's second wife, Anna Magdalena, has produced passably authentic editions. The suites are in six movements each: four basic older dances (allemande, courante, sarabande, and gigue) and Galanterien, an optional group of newer, shorter and more homophonic dances. Bach also added an improvisatory-sounding prélu­de in the opening of each suite. The Suite in D minor is one of two minor-key suites among the six for solo cello. This suite, perhaps above all the others, compels the listener's attention through the contrast between the graceful and courtly language of its French dances and the dark complexity of Bach's own compositional thinking.

The music of the Hungarian composer Zoltán Kodály grows, heart and soul, from his extended folk song research undertaken over a period of years, often with his friend Bela Bartók. The Sonata for Unaccompanied Cello Op. 8, to which Kodály attached particular importance, was composed in 1915. It is the largest and the most significant work written for unaccompanied cello since Bach composed his cello suites two centuries earlier. The originality of the sonata was noted by Bartók who in the 1921 essay observed that 'no other composer has written music that is at all similar to this type of work.' Though it grows out of his long study of Hungarian folk music, Kodály's sonata goes far beyond the arrangement of folk melodies. It rather absorbs within itself the entire melos of traditional Hungarian music, its modality, its rhythmic flexibility, its love of fluid and florid ornamentation, and its passionate energy. Two principal kinds of melodies characterize Kodály's instrumental writing: repetitive rhythms and pitch patterns suggestive of Hungarian children's songs and a free improvisatory melodic style which, typically, opens with a long note occurring on an accented beat followed by a song-like motive that is developed, ornamented, and accelerated in speed. The cello tuning is also unusual: the two bottom strings are lowered a half step, from C and G to B and F-sharp, respectively. This allows the bottom three strings (B, F-sharp, and D), to form the cord of B minor, the home key of the work.

## BIOGRAPHY

A graduate of the Jerusalem Music Academy, the Yale University and the University of Santa Barbara, Alexander Russakovsky has appeared in numerous solo and chamber music performances in Russia, Israel, Europe and the United States. A founding member of the Jerusalem Academy String Quartet, he also performed in the Chamber Music Series of the Spoleto Festival in Italy, the Barge Music in New York City and with the Western Slope Music Festival in Colorado.

In the fall of 2001 Dr. Russakovsky joined the music faculty of the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg. He also has served on the faculties of the Adriatic Chamber Music Festival in Bonefro, the IV Violoncello Biennial in Peru and the CICA Chamber Music Festival. Most recently, Dr. Russakovsky has given master classes and recitals in Taiwan, Israel, and Latin America. A recipient of many awards, he won the Angela and Maurice M. Clairmont Competition in Tel Aviv, the Performing Arts Foundation Competition in Santa Barbara and the 1999 Career Grant of the Esperia Foundation.

### **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; Reza 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!**

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### **BELHAVEN UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC, OUR DECEMBER 2010 GRADUATES!**

Micheal Hall, Ann Howard, Victoria Senete, Victoria Swilley