The Belhaven College Department of Music
Dr. Stephen W. Sachs, Chair

presents

Johanna Rossman
Senior Organ Recital

Saturday, December 5, 2009
2:00 p.m.
Covenant Presbyterian Church
Jackson, Mississippi
BELHAVEN COLLEGE 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 College 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 of Belhaven College directs you to “Arts Ablaze 2009-2010.” Read about many of the excellent performances and presentations scheduled throughout this academic year at Belhaven College by the Arts Division. Please take a complimentary copy of “Arts Ablaze 2009-2010” with you.

The Music Department would like to thank our many community partners for their support of Christian Arts Education at Belhaven College through their advertising in “Arts Ablaze 2009-2010. 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 College when you visit our community partners.

If you would like to receive email news-concert updates from the Belhaven College 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 Fall and Spring Semesters, 2009-2010.

Thank you to those working behind the scenes to make today’s program a success: student workers – Ann Howard, door manager; Lauren Pratt and Chris Carlson, ushers; Drew Lamb, recording/sound technician; Sarah Jones, page turner; Jackie Bateman and Sam Johnson, reception assistants. A special thank you to Covenant Presbyterian Church for allowing this organ recital to be presented in the Covenant Presbyterian Church Sanctuary.

Upcoming Events:

Friday & Saturday, December 4 & 5  
7:30p.m., Soccer Bowl  
The 77th Annual Singing Christmas Tree

Sunday, December 13  
4:00p.m., Covenant Presbyterian Church  
Valerie Tate, soprano, Senior Voice Recital

There will be a reception in the foyer after the program. Please come and greet the performer.

Please refrain from the use of all flash photography.

Please turn off all pagers and cell phone.
PROGRAM

Vater Unser im Himmelreich BuxWV219
Dietrich Buxtehude
(1637-1707)

Trio Sonata No. 1
Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

Allegro
Adagio
Allegro

Prelude and Fugue in D BWV532

INTERMISSION

Sonata No. 6 in D minor
Felix Mendelssohn
(1809-1847)

Chorale and Variations
Fugue
Finale: Andante

Triptych
Stephen Paulus
(b. 1949)

III. As If the Whole Creation Cried

Johanna Rossman, organ

PROGRAM NOTES

Buxtehude was an organist and composer in Lubeck. He scheduled church concerts which included vocal and organ music. His organ music was composed for organs with three manuals and an independent pedalboard. Vater Unser im Himmelreich has a lightly ornamented melody in the top voice. The accompaniment has a thin texture. Each phrase of the chorale melody is introduced contrapuntally by the accompanying voices. The text of the chorale setting is a paraphrase of the Lord’s Prayer; each stanza of the chorale elaborates on a phrase of the Biblical text.

Our Father, thou in heaven above,
Who biddest us to dwell in love,
As brethren of one family,
And cry for all we need to thee;
Teach us to mean the words we say,
And from the inmost heart to pray. (translator C. Winkworth)

Trio Sonata No. 1. The trio sonatas were written for Bach’s oldest son, Wilhelm Friedemann. Bach finished writing the trio sonatas in 1727. A trio sonata is a composition written for two treble instruments with basso continuo. In the case of the organ trio sonatas, each hand is played on a different keyboard manual with contrasting organ registrations, with the bass part being played on the pedalboard by the feet.

The Prelude and Fugue in D is an engaging work. The Prelude is unique in that there are three different sections characterized by different beat units. The first is in common time (four beats per measure), the next in cut time (two beats per measure), and the last one is a slow adagio. The Fugue is noteworthy because in the development, there are interesting treatments of the subject. Sometimes the theme is stated in different keys. At other times, fragments of the subject are used. The Fugue concludes with a statement of the subject which develops into a cadenza-like passage in the pedals followed by fragments of the subject. I really enjoy the energy in the Fugue.

Sonata No. 6 in d minor Op. 65, No. 6. Although Mendelssohn wrote music for many various musical mediums, he also wrote organ music. His Sonata no. 6 was written in 1845. This sonata has a chorale and variations for the first movement. The chorale is Vater Unser im Himmelreich. Each variation is distinct and unique. The first variation has the solo on a separate manual and is in the treble. The melody is mostly in quarter notes and the accompaniment is in 16th notes. The second variation has a thicker texture and is homophonic. The busy pedal part is in triplets. The third
variation has the melody in the left hand. The accompaniment in the right hand is mainly comprised of 3rds and 6ths. The last variation is very loud and energetic. 16th notes dominate this variation. The first verse of the chorale melody is in the pedals. The next verse has the melody alternating between the two hands. The movement concludes with a statement of the first and last part of the chorale. I really like the harmonic richness of the last variation. The second movement is unique in that it is a fugue, and fugues were not usually part of a sonata. However, Mendelssohn admired Bach and could have been inspired to write a Fugue in honor of Bach. Only the second and sixth of Mendelssohn’s six organ sonatas contain a fugue for a movement. The last movement is very calm and peaceful, which is also unique because normally a sonata ends with a loud and fast movement.

Stephen Paulus has composed many works for a variety of musical mediums. He is a prominent composer whose works are performed by important performers and orchestras. A triptych is three images. Paulus’s Triptych has three movements: “Like an Ever-Rolling Stream”, “Still Be My Vision”, and “As if the Whole Creation Cried”. “As if the Whole Creation Cried” is a phrase from a hymn called “When in Our Music God is Glorified”. The title of this movement may have been taken from Romans 8:22. It says “For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now”. There are sections of the work that sound like groaning. However there is a chorale section that sounds tonal and the movement ends on a tonal chord. The piece culminates in a chorale section that could symbolize the creation being delivered from its groaning. “As if the Whole Creation Cried” does not have a clear tonal center. Sometimes a section can alternate between major and minor or be close to a key but have accidentals that make it difficult to know what key it is in. Triplet and duplet sections alternate. Triptych was commissioned for the 150th anniversary of The House of Hope Presbyterian Church in St. Paul, Minnesota.

When in our music God is glorified,
And adoration leaves no room for pride
It is as though the whole creation cried
Alleluia!

Thank you for coming. My hope is that in celebrating this musical program you will share with me the thanksgiving expressed in one of my favorite songs:

To God be the glory,
To God be the glory,
To God be the glory
For the things He has done.
With His blood He has saved me;
With His pow’r He has raised me;
To God be the glory
For the things He has done.

(“My Tribute” by Andrae Crouch)
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A SENIOR RECITAL

Johanna Rossman, Organ
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