

Musical Arts
CONCERT SERIES 2014-2015

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC
LAIDLAW PERFORMING ARTS CENTER RECITAL HALL

Guest Faculty Chamber Recital

Tri-State Piano Quartet

Jenny Gregoire, violin

Rudolf Haken, viola

Alexander Russakovsky, cello

Robert Holm, piano

First Piano Quartet (1942)
Poco Allegro
Adagio
Allegretto poco moderato

Bohuslav Martinů
(1890-1959)

INTERMISSION

Piano Quartet No. 2 in A major, op. 26 (1861)
Allegro non troppo
Poco Adagio
Scherzo and Trio: Poco Allegro
Allegro

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

The Forty-seventh Concert of Academic Year 2014-2015

**Friday, January 16, 2015
7:30 p.m.**



Violinist **Jenny Grégoire** is in her thirteenth season as concertmaster of the Mobile Symphony, under the direction of Scott Speck. Ms. Grégoire was first featured as a soloist with the orchestra in 2002 in Vaughan Williams' *Lark Ascending*. In 2004, she was invited by Maestro Speck to give the Southeastern premiere of the Fantasy for Violin and Orchestra by Kenji Bunch, a rising young American composer. Finally, in January 2007, Ms. Grégoire performed the Barber Violin Concerto with conductor John Morris Russell leading the Mobile Symphony.

Born in Québec, Canada, Ms. Grégoire began to play violin when she was five. At age six, she was admitted in the pre-college division of the Québec Music Conservatoire where she studied with Jean Angers and Liliane Garnier-Le Sage and earned both undergraduate and graduate degrees in violin performance and a minor in chamber music. Upon leaving Québec, Ms. Grégoire attended Northwestern University, where she received a Master's degree in Violin Performance and Pedagogy with Dr. Myron Kartman. She was also a member of the Civic Orchestra of Chicago for two seasons and worked with conductors Cliff Colnot, Mstislav Rostropovitch, Neemi Jarvi and Pierre Boulez, among others. One of the highlights of her tenure with the Civic Orchestra was a performance at Carnegie Hall in March 2000, under the direction of Maestro Daniel Barenboim. Ms. Grégoire left Chicago to play one season with the New World Symphony, a professional training orchestra under the direction of Michael Tilson Thomas, in Miami, FL. One of her final concerts with the New World Symphony included a performance of Haydn Symphony no. 88 with Ms. Grégoire leading the ensemble from the concertmaster position, with Maestro Tilson Thomas in attendance. The following year she was appointed concertmaster of the Mobile Symphony Orchestra. Jenny Grégoire is extremely sought-after in the southeast, as she is also concertmaster of the Tuscaloosa and Meridian Symphony Orchestras.

In addition to her orchestral career, Ms. Grégoire remains active as a soloist, recitalist, and teacher. She was recently appointed as the Assistant Professor of Violin at The University of Alabama.



Rudolf Haken is a composer and violist internationally renowned for his creative melding of disparate musical styles and genres. He is particularly known for his work with extended-range violas, appearing in concert on four continents with his Rivinus five-string viola and Jensen six-string electric viola.

Haken's compositions have met with great success internationally in performances by artists such as violinist Rachel Barton Pine, violinist Stefan Milenkovich, flutist Jean Ferrandis, oboist Nancy Ambrose King, and Paul Merkelo (Principal Trumpet of the Montreal Symphony). A CD of concertos composed by Rudolf Haken was chosen as a 2007 "Critics' Choice" by *American Record Guide*. In 2004, WTTW-Chicago produced a video featuring Haken performing his electric viola transcriptions of Van Halen and Metallica. This video was shown frequently in passenger areas at O'Hare and Midway airports in Chicago.

As a sought-after educator and adjudicator, Professor Haken has served on the international jury for string auditions of the Korean Broadcasting Service Symphony Orchestra as well as the Houston Symphony Young Artists Competition, and on the faculty of numerous festivals throughout the United States, Europe, Turkey, Korea, China, and Brazil. He has also served as guest violist for the Houston Symphony and Houston Grand Opera.

At the age of ten, Haken conducted his first orchestral works, and appeared frequently in his teenage years throughout the US and Europe as composer, conductor, soloist, and chamber musician.

Haken is currently a viola professor at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, having previously served on the faculty of West Virginia University.



A graduate of Yale University and 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 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. His disc, featuring Russian works for cello and piano, was released by Brilliant Classics in April 2014.

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 Career Grant of the Esperia Foundation.



Robert Holm is Professor of Music and head of the piano division at the University of South Alabama. Added to the roster of Steinway Artists in Spring 2010, Holm is principal pianist for the Mobile Symphony Orchestra and pianist at Dauphin Way Baptist Church. Prior to his appointment at USA in 1997, Holm received a B.A. in Piano at Pt. Loma Nazarene University in San Diego followed by studies at the University of Illinois School of Music

with Professor Kenneth Drake, where, in 1999, he earned a D.M.A. in Piano Performance and Literature.

He was a finalist at both the 2003 International Franz Liszt Competition in Grottammare, Italy and the 2002 International Bartók-Kabalevsky-Prokofiev Competition in Radford, Virginia, and Third Prize winner at the 1997 International Beethoven Piano Sonata Competition in Memphis, Tennessee.

Holm has appeared as soloist with the Mobile Symphony Orchestra, Mobile Youth Symphony, USA Symphony, University of Mobile Orchestra and Mobile Symphonic Pops and will perform next season with the Johnson City Orchestra. He has performed as soloist and collaborative artist at Steinway Hall in London, at Carnegie (Weill) Hall and given solo programs throughout the United States at Howard University, Washington State University, Ball St. University, Northeastern St. University, University of Mississippi, University of Southern Mississippi and Pt. Loma Nazarene University. In 2006, Holm, violinist Enen Yu and cellist Guo-Sheng Huang formed the Archduke Piano Trio, which has performed over 30 standard chamber works throughout Alabama and Mississippi. At USA, Holm has given 44 solo recitals including sonata cycles by Mozart and Beethoven and over 200 collaborative recitals. In October 2014, Holm joined Gerald Anderson, Jeff Bennett and Stephen Nielson as the newest member in the Festival of Keyboards four-piano ensemble.