

*presents*

## **The UAB Chamber Trio**

Dr. Denise Gainey, *clarinet*

Dr. James Zingara, *trumpet*

Dr. Chris Steele, *piano*

### **Program**

A Baker's Tale (2018).....David Jason Snow

1. Le promenade du Pâtissier
2. Méditations á la Croissance Spirituel
3. Hymne áu Village Céleste
4. Dénouement

The Four Seasonings (2018).....Benedikt Brydern

1. Saltando
2. Passac-Oil-ia
3. Vinegar
4. Sugar-ando

City Scenes (2017).....Valentin M. Bogdan

- II. After Midnight
- III. Zoom

Jennycliff Bay (2018).....Andrew Wilson

## COMPOSERS

A native of Romania, pianist and composer **Valentin Mihai Bogdan** began his performing career as a teenager, when he toured with the orchestra of "*Tudor Ciortea Music Lyceum of Brasov*" throughout Europe and Asia including France, England, Netherlands, and Jordan. Throughout his career, he was awarded prizes at various piano competitions, and he has performed solo and chamber music recitals in North America and Europe. He was a soloist with the Varna Symphony (Bulgaria), Wayne State Symphony (Michigan) and the Arizona Western College Concert Band. He has released two piano solo recordings, "*The Grands of Piano*" and "*Live in Concert.*" His compositions were performed at Festival Miami, Music at MOCA Concert Series in Miami, the Oregon Bach Festival, and at conferences hosted by the College Music Society, NACUSA, and the Society of Composers Inc. His music was premiered, among others, by musicians of the Cleveland Symphony Orchestra, Beta Collide, Grambling State University Wind Ensemble, Grambling Chorale, and the AWC Wind Ensemble. He was the 2010 Florida State Music Teachers Association commissioned composer of the year, and he was also commissioned by the Dranoff International Two Piano Foundation of Miami. His research interests include 20th century Romanian composers, and various practices of music business and industry. He presented this research at regional and national conferences hosted by the CMS (College Music Society), and MTNA (Music Teachers National Association). An active clinician and pedagogue, he has conducted workshops and master classes in Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arizona, West Virginia and Michigan, and was invited to judge numerous piano competition across the southeastern US. Dr. Bogdan also serves as the executive director of *Music for All Ages*, a community outreach program that brings classical music to schools, churches, and retirement homes, and he is the founder of *Festival Yuma*, in Yuma AZ, and *The Downtown Community Concert Series*, in Miami FL. He is a former student of Diana Apan, Robert Conway, Pauline Martin, and Rosalina Sackstein (for piano), and Dennis Kam (music composition).

**Benedikt Brydern** studied violin and piano at the Richard-Strauss Academy of Music in Munich, Germany. He undertook private composition studies with Romanian composer Stefan Zorzor. He was selected out of 1000 applicants for Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival to perform in the Festival Orchestra under the baton of Leonard Bernstein in 1988. He returned to the Festival in 1990 to be part in the TV series "Orchestra!" hosted by Sir Georg Solti and Dudley Moore. After graduation in 1992 he received a Rotary International Ambassadorial Scholarship to continue his studies in the United States where he completed the Advanced Studies Program "Scoring for Motion Pictures and Television" at the prestigious USC Thornton School of Music in Los Angeles. Among the instructors were Elmer Bernstein, Christopher Young, David Raksin and Bruce Broughton. During his year at USC he won an additional scholarship sponsored by BMI. Since then he composed the music for Jon Voight's film "The Tin Soldier", the Miramax Documentary "Rhyme & Reason" and several award winning independent feature films. He won two Marmor Composition Awards sponsored by the Stanford University Music Department, the 2002 William Lincer Foundation Chamber Music Competition and in 2004 the Composer's Symposium at the Bach Festival in Eugene, Ore., commissioned Brydern to compose a string trio in honor of George Crumb's 75th birthday. Besides being a classically trained concert violinist he co-founded the "Hot Club Quartette" which pays tribute to the great music of legendary guitarist Django Reinhardt and violinist Stephane Grappelli. He owns a 1910 Stroh-viol which he uses in "Janet Klein & Her Parlor Boys" vintage band and a custom built electric violin for blues, rock and pop engagements. He played violin on various film, game and TV scores (*Battlestar Galactica*, *Terminator: Sarah Connor Chronicles*, *Cats & Dogs 2*, *Command & Conquer*) As a Past President of the Rotary Club of Hollywood and a board member of the Harmony Project, a non-profit organization providing free music lessons to more than 700 under privileged children in the Los Angeles area, he connects with the community and shares his passion and love for music.

**David Jason Snow** (born in 1954 in Providence, Rhode Island) first studied composition education at the Eastman School of Music under the instruction of Samuel Adler, Warren Benson, and Joseph Schwantner. He also studied with Jacob Druckman at the Yale School of Music, and Arthur Berger and Martin Boykan at Brandeis University near Boston. His compositions have been performed in concert by the *Ensemble Intercontemporain* at the Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris, the New Juilliard Ensemble at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the American Brass Quintet at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C., the Harvard Wind Ensemble in Cambridge, Massachusetts, the Yale University Band in New Haven, Connecticut, and other artists and ensembles in the United States, Europe, Asia and Africa. Snow has been the recipient of composer fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and grants from the Maryland State Arts Council, the ASCAP Foundation, and Meet the Composer. A recipient of composition awards from BMI, the Annapolis Fine Arts Foundation, Musician magazine, and Keyboard magazine, he has been an artist resident at Yaddo in Saratoga Springs and the Millay Colony for the Arts in Austerlitz, New York. He holds degrees in music composition from the Eastman School of Music and the Yale School of Music where his principal teachers were Joseph Schwantner, Warren Benson, Samuel Adler, and Jacob Druckman.

**Andrew M. Wilson** was born in 1960 in Bedfordshire, England. He held a Junior Exhibition to Trinity College of Music, London, before proceeding to study Music at London University. For many years he was Director of Music at Kelly College, Devon. In 2015 he became the Director of Studies of the National College of Music, London, which post he combines with a busy composing schedule. Recently, his music has been performed all over the world, from London's famous Royal Albert Hall, to the University of Wisconsin. He has had a number of commercial recordings released of his orchestral, chamber and keyboard music which have been broadcast on BBC Radio. In 2016, his children's opera "The Green Children" was produced to great acclaim at the Woolpit Festival. He has won numerous awards for his compositions, most recently: the Project Trio New York Composition Prize 2017, the Laudem Composition Prize Montreal; the Bournemouth Sinfonietta Choir's "Celebrating Dorset Competition" 2016; the International Small Choirs Competition 2015 and the "Harvest of the Sea" City of London Prize 2015. He is the organist of Okehampton Parish Church and Musical Director of the Okehampton Choral Society. 2017 saw premieres of various commissions: the concert overture "Hartland Point" for the North Devon Sinfonia; choral and brass incidental music for the Tavistock Passion Play and "Conversation Pieces" for Piano Quintet by the Dante String Quartet with renowned pianist Mark Bebbington. Future plans include "La Rosace" an organ work for Notre Dame Cathedral Paris, a Requiem to commemorate the end of World War One in Plymouth Minster and a large scale choral work on the subject of the Pilgrim Fathers, for the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations of the sailing of the "Mayflower", in the port of Southampton. He lives with his wife, in the beautiful English town of Tavistock, on the edge of Dartmoor National Park. *Jennycliff Bay* was written for the UAB Chamber Trio in 2018. (Program notes provided by the composer)

## The University of Alabama at Birmingham Chamber Trio

**The University of Alabama at Birmingham Chamber Trio** consists of Dr. Denise Gainey, clarinet, Dr. James Zingara, trumpet and Dr. Christopher Steele, piano. The group was established in 2012 and has performed throughout Alabama, Mississippi, New Mexico, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia including appearances at the Alabama Music Educators Conference, the College Music Society Southern Region Conference, the Birmingham Arts Music Alliance and the National Association of Composers USA Conference. In October, the ensemble premiered two new works at the NACWPI/CMS National Conference in Vancouver, British Columbia. The UAB Chamber Trio has generated many new pieces for this genre including works by William Price, Jeffrey Boehm, Benedikt Brydern, David Jason Snow, Andrew Wilson, Juan Maria Solare and Virginia Samuel. **The UAB Chamber Trio is proud to announce the release of their new CD, *Many New Trails to Blaze*** on the Ravello label. The CD features many of the new works that were commissioned by the ensemble and was released in November 2018.

**Dr. Denise Gainey** is Professor of Clarinet and Instrumental Music Education and Associate Chair of the Department of Music at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She serves as the President-Elect of the Board of Directors for the International Clarinet Association. An avid proponent of chamber music, she tours regularly with the Amicitia Duo and the UAB Chamber Trio. An active clinician and performer throughout the United States and abroad, Gainey has compiled and edited a collection of clarinet solos, *Solos for Clarinet*, published by Carl Fischer. Her book, *Kalmen Opperman: A Legacy of Excellence* was released by Carl Fischer in January 2018. She received the Bachelor of Music Education from Florida State University, the Master of Music in Clarinet Performance from the University of North Texas, and the Doctor of Musical Arts in Clarinet from the University of Kentucky. Gainey is an Artist/Clinician for Backun Clarinets, D'Addario Woodwinds, and Silverstein Works.

**Dr. James Zingara** has performed throughout the United States as well as England, Germany, the Czech Republic, Denmark, China, and Singapore. Currently he serves as Associate Professor of Trumpet at the University of Alabama at Birmingham where his responsibilities include applied trumpet and brass methods, coaching and conducting brass ensembles, performing with the UAB Faculty Brass Quintet and UAB Chamber Trio, and coordinating the annual Trumpet Symposium. Former positions include Associate Professor of Trumpet at Troy University, and principal cornet/trumpet soloist with the US Air Force Heritage of America Band. He has recorded on the Telarc, Zephyr, Capstone, and Mark labels, and his recording of modern works for trumpet entitled *Textures* was released on the Ravello label in 2016. Dr. Zingara currently represents Bach Trumpets as a performing artist/clinician and also serves as instructor of trumpet at the Alabama School of Fine Arts.

**Chris Steele** is Staff Pianist and Aural Skills Instructor at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He has held previous positions at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts as Staff Pianist, and at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro as both Lecturer of Music Theory and Ear Training as well as Faculty Fellow for the UNCG Grogan College Music Learning Community. He received his Doctor of Musical Arts in Accompanying and Chamber Music from UNCG where he studied with Andrew Harley and James Douglass, and held assistantships in both accompanying and music theory/ear training. He received two Masters degrees from The Florida State University in Piano Performance and Music Theory where he studied with Carolyn Bridger. An active performer, Steele is a member of the UAB Chamber Trio, and has collaborated with members of the Alabama Symphony Orchestra and the Greensboro Symphony Orchestra.