

FACULTY RECITAL

ERIC HALEN, violin

THOMAS LEGRAND, clarinet

BRIAN CONNELLY, piano

Friday, March 12, 2010

8:00 p.m.

Lillian H. Duncan Recital Hall

RICE UNIVERSITY

the
Shepherd
School
of Music

PROGRAM

***Sonata in B-flat Major
for Violin and Piano, K. 454***

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756-1781)

Largo, Allegro

Andante

Allegretto

Sonata for Violin and Piano

Claude Debussy
(1862-1918)

Allegro vivo

Intermède: Fantasque et léger

Finale: Très animé

INTERMISSION

Adagio from the Chamber Concerto
*arranged by the composer for
violin, clarinet, and piano*

Alban Berg
(1885-1935)

Sonata in A Major for Violin and Piano

César Franck

Allegretto ben moderato

Allegro

Recitativo - Fantasia: Ben moderato

Allegretto poco mosso

The reverberative acoustics of Duncan Recital Hall magnify the slightest sound made by the audience. Your care and courtesy will be appreciated. The taking of photographs and use of recording equipment are prohibited.

BIOGRAPHIES

ERIC HALEN joined the Houston Symphony as Assistant Concertmaster in 1987. In 1997, he assumed the position of Associate Concertmaster and served as Acting Concertmaster for the 2005-06 season. He is serving as Acting Concertmaster this season as well. After earning his bachelor's degree at Central Missouri State University where he studied violin with his father, Dr. Walter Halen, he received his master's degree at the age of twenty from the University of Illinois while studying with Sergiu Luca. At age twenty-three, he became artist-teacher of violin at Texas Christian University.

Mr. Halen has performed in solo and chamber music programs in the United States and abroad, including solo appearances with the St. Louis and Houston Symphonies. As a chamber musician, Mr. Halen has collaborated with many pre-eminent artists including violinist Sergiu Luca, cellists Gary Hoffman and Lynn Harrell, and pianists Christoph Eschenbach and Jon Kimura Parker. Mr. Halen has made frequent guest appearances with Da Camera of Houston, and Music in Context. As a member of the Houston Symphony Chamber Players with Christoph Eschenbach, he has toured the U.S., Japan, and Europe and made recordings for Koch International, including Messiaen's **Quartet for the End of Time** and Alban Berg's **Adagio for Violin, Clarinet, and Piano** from the **Chamber Concerto**. Recognized by the Houston Chronicle as a Houston favorite, critics have described Mr. Halen's violin playing as "sterling," and "tenderly expressive and dramatic." A review in the Chicago Sun-Times of the Houston Symphony Chamber Players Ravinia Festival performance of Messiaen's **Quartet for the End of Time** states, "...as the final, sustained tone of Eric Halen's violin faded to close... there was no doubt that the evening had offered the best kind of virtuosity."

Mr. Halen has performed as soloist many times with the Houston Symphony on Classical subscription concerts, including a performance of Prokofiev's **Concerto in G Minor** with Christoph Eschenbach conducting and the Mozart duet aria **Non Temer Amato Bene** with soprano Barbara Bonney and Hans Graf conducting at Carnegie Hall. He has also performed as soloist on the "Interact," "Mozart and More," and the "Exxon Pops" series.

Mr. Halen teaches orchestral repertoire at The Shepherd School of Music and serves on the faculty at the Aspen Music Festival. He plays a violin made in 1616 by Antonio and Hieronymus Amati.

THOMAS LEGRAND is the Associate Principal Clarinetist of the Houston Symphony. He has appeared as soloist with the Symphony on several occasions in concertos of Weber, Rossini, Copland, and most recently, in the **Martin Concerto for Seven Wind Instruments**. An active chamber performer, he is one of the original members of the Greenbriar Consortium and has performed with Da Camera of Houston, the Texas Music Festival, and the Linton Series in Cincinnati, as well as at the International Clarinet Association convention. During the summer he can be heard with the Grand Teton Music Festival Orchestra in Jackson, Wyoming, where he enjoys long mountain hikes when he is not performing.

Mr. LeGrand is Associate Professor of Clarinet at The Shepherd School of Music and an Affiliate Artist in Clarinet at the University of Houston Moores School of Music. He also teaches privately.

Before coming to Houston, Mr. LeGrand was a member of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra and taught at the College-Conservatory of Music of the University of Cincinnati. He is a graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music where he was a student of Anthony Gigliotti. Other teachers include Keith Underwood and Carmine Campione.

Mr. LeGrand shares his life with his wife Carol, who is an elementary music teacher in Alief, and with their retired racing greyhound, Boux. When he is not busy with the orchestra he enjoys distance running, hiking, and camping.

*Performances of pianist BRIAN CONNELLY span an unusually broad range of historical and modern repertoires. Born in Detroit, he attended the University of Michigan, where he studied with pianists György Sándor and Theodore Lettvin. Mr. Connelly has premiered works by a host of contemporary composers such as William Albright, Karim Al-Zand, Derek Bermel, William Bolcom, Anthony Brandt, Paul Cooper, David Diamond, Ross Lee Finney, Arthur Gottschalk, Richard Lavenda, and many others. He is a frequent guest with new music groups such as the Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble and the Chicago Contemporary Players, and he was recently featured in the Carnegie Hall series "Making Music" in a tribute to William Bolcom. Known for his affinity for the works of Olivier Messiaen, Connelly's performances last season included recitals of Messiaen's piano music, the song cycles, the chamber music, **Oiseaux exotiques** with conductor Larry Rachleff and the Shepherd School Chamber Orchestra, and the **Trois petites liturgies de la Présence Divine** with conductor Donald Runnicles at the Grand Teton Music Festival.*

Mr. Connelly is also widely respected as a scholar and performer of historical instruments, appearing in the United States and Europe on 18th- and 19th-century pianos by Walther, Rosenberger, Graf, Pleyel, Bösendorfer, and Streicher. He performed nearly 150 solo and chamber works for Da Camera of Houston in its path-breaking first six seasons, and he has for thirteen years been a member of the renowned ensemble CONTEXT. Mr. Connelly has appeared with many of today's most respected instrumentalists, such as violinist Sergiu Luca, cellists Michael Kannen, Gary Hoffman, and Lynn Harrell, flutist Carol Wincenc, clarinetist Charles Neidich, and pianists Robert Levin and André-Michel Schub, and he has shared ragtime recitals with jazz pianist Marcus Roberts. He teaches piano performance and chamber music at The Shepherd School of Music.



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