

University of Missouri School of Music

2022-2023 Series • Guest Artist Recital

Concordia String Trio
Together Again!

Marcia Henry Liebenow, violin

Leslie Perna, viola

Karen Becker, cello

October 31, 2022 • 7:00PM

Sheryl Crow Hall

Program

When the Spirit Sings for String Trio (2011)..... Gwyneth Walker

My Lord, What a Morning!

(b. 1947)

Were You There?

This Train (is bound for glory)

Beyond the Celestial Horizon for String Trio (2021)* Andrew List

Lively and rhythmic

(b. 1966)

Flowing

Mysterioso

-Intermission-

String Trio (1925).....Jean Cras

1^{er} movement

(1879-1926)

Lent

Animé

Très animé

*World Premiere

Biographies

The **Concordia String Trio** explores and expands the eclectic repertoire of an under-appreciated genre—the string trio. This versatile ensemble has built a reputation for its exciting performances and innovative programs, juxtaposing pieces from the standard string trio repertoire with new compositions and little-known works of great composers. This fall, the Concordia String Trio will be presenting four concerts throughout the Midwest and Boston. Formed in 1999, the Trio has performed recitals, educational programs, and given lecture/demonstrations in throughout the United States. They were featured on WTVP public television in a program entitled “Marcia and Friends” as part of the Peoria Symphony’s Sound Bites series. The Trio has also been resident ensemble at the Warebrook Contemporary Music Festival and recorded a Capstone CD entitled “90’s Timeflow – Chamber Music of Alan Schmitz.” Their newest recordings are *Viennese String Trios*, released in August 2017 on the Centaur Label and *American Vistas*, released in 2018 on the same label.

Violinist **Marcia Henry Liebenow** is a highly regarded teacher and in demand as a recitalist, chamber musician, and soloist. She is Concertmaster of the Peoria Symphony Orchestra, and professor of Violin, Viola, and Chamber Music at Bradley University. Marcia recorded the Grieg Violin Sonatas with internationally acclaimed pianist Antonio Pompa-Baldi, appeared as soloist with orchestras in Europe, and performed in Germany, Ireland, and Wales. She also has been featured several times on Performance Today. In addition to the Concordia String Trio, she is a founding member of Peoria Lunaire chamber ensemble and the River City String Quartet. Marcia is a faculty artist at the Red Lodge Music Festival in Montana, Birch Creek Music Festival in Wisconsin, and has performed at festivals in Vermont and Alaska. She has taught at the ARIA International Summer Academy in Canada and Massachusetts. Her work has been recognized with the Outstanding Studio Teacher Award from Illinois ASTA, and the Distinguished Alumni Award from Ohio University. Marcia earned her Graduate Diploma in Violin Performance from the New England Conservatory.

Leslie Perna, violist, is a respected artist and teacher whose performances have been broadcast internationally on radio and television, including the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, Brazil’s Radio and TV MEC and the ABC Nightly News. She has recorded the music of some of today’s most important composers, including Samuel Adler, James Willey and Andrew List for the Albany, Centaur, Capstone, New World and CRI labels. Her performances have taken her to Europe, Japan, Russia, Brazil, Canada,

and many major American cities, where she is frequently invited to perform and teach viola and chamber music. She has given presentations at numerous national conferences, including the American String Teachers Association (ASTA) National Conventions in Kansas City, Louisville, KY, and Salt Lake City. She was awarded the Outstanding Alumni Award from Baldwin-Wallace University and the “Artist Teacher of the Year” and “Outstanding Collegiate String Educator” awards from the Missouri Chapter of the American String Teachers Association. She is currently Professor of Viola and Chamber Music at the University of Missouri-Columbia, violist of the Esterhazy Quartet, Director of the Missouri String Project, and a founding member of the Concordia String Trio.

Cellist **Karen Becker** is a passionate teacher, an active soloist, and an avid chamber and orchestral musician. She has performed throughout the United States as well as in Europe, Asia, and Mexico and has been featured on American Public Media’s Performance Today on several occasions. Becker is a faculty artist with the Red Lodge Music Festival in Montana and the Omaha Conservatory of Music Institute. She has presented at numerous conferences, including international conferences of the College Music Society and the Midwest International Band & Orchestra Clinic, and nationally for the American String Teachers Association (ASTA). Becker is a past president of both the Nebraska and Missouri chapters of ASTA and has served on national committees. She has been awarded the ASTA Citation for Leadership & Merit at the national level and the Private Studio Teacher Award from the Nebraska chapter. As Professor of Cello in the Glenn Korff School of Music at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Becker teaches cello, coaches chamber music and is director of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Public Schools String Project. She also serves as principal cellist of the Lincoln Symphony. She is an avid cyclist who enjoys endurance cycling and participating in century rides.

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