

Musical Arts
CONCERT SERIES 2014-2015

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

Ars Nova String Quartet

Benjamin Hart, violin
Caroline Maichel, violin
Christopher Lowry, viola
Emily Nelson, cello
with
Robert Holm, piano

Piano Quintet in E-flat major, op. 44 (1842)

Allegro brillante

In modo d'una Marcia. Un poco largamente

Scherzo: Molto vivace

Allegro ma non troppo

Robert Schumann
(1810-1856)

INTERMISSION

Piano Quintet in F minor (1880)

Molto moderato quasi lento

Lento, con molto sentimento

Allegro non troppo, ma con fuoco

César Franck
(1822-1890)

The Third Concert of Academic Year 2014-2015

Saturday, September 6, 2014
7:30 p.m.

ARS NOVA STRING QUARTET

The Ars Nova String Quartet was formed in the fall of 2008 at Vanderbilt University's Blair School of Music. Their name is derived from their mission: to promote the works of living composers while providing grounded interpretations of traditional repertoire. Based in Nashville Tennessee, the Ars Nova Quartet has studied and performed in Europe and the US. In 2010, the quartet was selected by Blair faculty to attend the Vanderbilt Academie in Aix-en-Provence, France, where they performed new music by Oscar Bianchi and Claudio Gabrieli. A trip to Vienna resulted in a performance of Mozart's Clarinet Quintet with former member of the London Philharmonic, Philip Tarlton. In the summer of 2011 the quartet was granted a fellowship to participate in the Advanced Quartet Studies program at the Aspen Music Festival and School. There they collaborated with pianists Orli Shaham and Inon Barnatan, and presented recitals across the state of Colorado. In 2012, Ars Nova was selected to participate in the inaugural Robert Mann String Quartet Institute at the Manhattan School of Music. Their performance was featured on radio and later in a documentary. The following summer, the quartet made a tour of Idaho, participating in festivals in Moscow and McCall. Ars Nova feels equally at home in classical and commercial settings. In 2009, their engagement in the Blair Percussion Vortex involved collaboration with Michael Holland and the Blair Percussion Ensemble, along with electric violinists Daniel Bernard Roumain, Tracy Silverman, and remix artist Brad "Kali" Bowden. They have performed live and in studios with bands, arrangers, and producers in Nashville.

In the course of their journey, the quartet has come into contact with many beloved people and phenomenal artists. They have studied under the Emerson, Takács, American, Jupiter, and Calder String Quartets, as well as John Kochanowski of the Blair String Quartet, Robert Mann and Earl Carlyss of the Juilliard String Quartet, Aline Champion of the Berlin Philharmonic, and David Alberman of the London Symphony Orchestra, David Requiro, James Dunham, Sylvia Rosenberg, David Halen, Cornelia Heard, Alexander Kerr, Darrett Adkins, and Jeffery Irvine.

The Ars Nova String Quartet is comprised of sibling violinists Benjamin Hart and Caroline Maichel, both from St. Louis, Missouri; violist and composer Christopher Lowry, from Antioch, Tennessee; and cellist Emily Nelson, from Moscow, Idaho. Though the quartet members have been geographically separated since 2012, their commitment to chamber music has not diminished and they are delighted to reunite for a tour of the southern states in the summer of 2014.