

FACULTY RECITAL

KAREN RITSCHER, Viola

CHARLES TAUBER, Piano

RICHARD BROWN, Percussion

Wednesday, March 19, 2003

8:00 p.m.

Lillian H. Duncan Recital Hall

RICE UNIVERSITY

the
Shepherd
School
of Music

PROGRAM

- Lachrymae - Reflections on a
Song of Dowland, Op. 48 (1950)* Benjamin Britten
(1913-1976)
- Cadenza for Solo Viola (1984)* Krzysztof Penderecki
(b. 1933)
- Djembach (1997)* Christina Woehr
(suite for viola and percussion) (b. 1951)
- Prelude*
Allemande
Courante
Sarabande
Gavotte - Trio
Cadenza
Gigue

INTERMISSION

- Suite for Viola and Piano (1919)* Ernest Bloch
(1880-1959)
- Lento - Allegro*
Allegro ironico
Lento
Molto vivo

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

BIOGRAPHIES

Praised by The New York Times for her "superb musicianship," KAREN RITSCHER has an unusually diverse career. She is in demand as a recitalist, chamber musician, soloist, and teacher. She has been a member of the Aureus Piano Quartet, the Steve Reich Musicians, the American Composers Orchestra, and the St. Luke's Chamber Orchestra. In addition, she has performed with numerous other groups including New York Philomusica, BargeMusic, the New York Philharmonic, the New York Chamber Soloists, and the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra. As a viola soloist, she has played with the Dallas Chamber Orchestra, the Rochester Chamber Orchestra, the Malibu Strawberry Creek Festival Orchestra, and the Westchester Symphony. A champion of music of living composers, she has premiered works by Bruce Adolphe, Wendy Mae Chambers, Tan Dun, and Bright Sheng.

*Ms. Ritscher is currently Associate Professor of Viola and Chamber Music at the Shepherd School of Music. She has previously taught at the Mannes College of Music, the Manhattan School of Music, the Eastman School of Music, and the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, as well as serving as an artist faculty member at such festivals as Bowdoin, Round Top, Aspen, Domaine Forget, and Musicorda. She has given master classes in Korea, Taiwan, Canada, and throughout the U.S. A member of the board of directors of the American Viola Society, she has participated as panelist and performer at three International Viola Congresses. She was the string consultant for the book by Madeline Bruser, **The Art of Practicing; Making Music From The Heart**, published by Bell Tower. She performs on a Francesco Goffriller viola made in 1730 in Udine, Italy.*

Pianist CHARLES TAUBER joined the staff of the Shepherd School of Music in August 2002. He holds degrees from the Juilliard School where he studied with Jerome Lowenthal and Joseph Kalichstein. Mr. Tauber has performed throughout the United States and abroad in such distinguished venues as the La Jolla Chamber Music Festival, the Vancouver Recital Society, Dumbarton Oaks, and the Kammermusiksaal der Berliner Philharmonie, and on Albany Records with noted artists Wendy Warner, Nokuthula Ngwenyama, Juliette Kang, Charles Castle-

man, and Paul Sperry. Heavily involved in the performance of new music, he has appeared at Summergarden at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the FOCUS! Festival in Alice Tully Hall, the New York Guild of Composers at Merkin Hall, the New York Public Library, and the Charles Ives Center for Contemporary Music. In addition to the Shepherd School, Mr. Tauber has been a staff pianist at the Juilliard School, the Joy in Singing Foundation, the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts, the Quartet Program, Bowdoin Summer Music Festival, Music Academy of the West, and the Aspen Music Festival.

A native of Philadelphia, RICHARD BROWN earned his Bachelor of Music degree from Temple University in Philadelphia and his Master of Music degree from Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. He started his career with the Chamber Symphony of Philadelphia in 1968. He played in the United States Army Band in Washington, D.C., and then moved to Houston to play with the Houston Symphony, a position he held for eight years. While in Houston he established the percussion department at the Shepherd School of Music.

Mr. Brown left the Houston Symphony to establish a free-lance career in New York City. He worked in studios recording film scores, records, and radio and TV jingles, played several Broadway shows, and worked with the Metropolitan Opera, the Orchestra of St. Luke's, and the New York Philharmonic. It was during this time that he began his association as percussionist for the live stage performances of actress and singer Ann-Margret. In the summer, Mr. Brown is principal percussionist with the Grand Teton Music Festival Orchestra in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

In 1984 he returned to the Shepherd School as full-time Professor of Percussion and plays regularly with the Houston Symphony and as Principal Percussionist of the Houston Grand Opera Orchestra.

