



*From the Pen to the Premiere*  
*Trios by*  
*Randall Faber*  
*and*  
*Tom Gerou*

Chamber Music Commissioned by MTNA

**World premiere of**

*Three Characters*

by Randall Faber

and

*Trio Capriccioso*

by Tom Gerou

**Sunday, April 3, 2016**

**2:15–3:15 P.M.**

**Room 006D**

**Henry B. Gonzales Convention Center  
San Antonio, Texas**

# *The MTNA Collaborative Commissioning Project Presents:*

*Three Characters*

Randall Faber

*Trio Capriccioso*

Tom Gerou

Janice Wenger, piano, University of Missouri-Columbia  
Julie Rosenfeld, violin, University of Missouri-Columbia  
Leslie Perna, viola, University of Missouri-Columbia  
Ann Rivers Witherspoon, moderator

*MTNA gratefully acknowledges the support and cooperation of  
Alfred Music and Faber Piano Adventures, Inc.*

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## **PROGRAM NOTES**

### **Three Characters**

*A listener may presume the Three Characters to be portrayed by the three instruments of the trio. Instead, the characters manifest in the unfolding sections of the work, ultimately depicting three aspects of the human persona: serenity, emotion and action. The simplicity of the opening develops with hint of a plaintive call. The middle section settles in rhythmically to present emotional reaching to the divine and the divine reaching down. The final section, a chromatic fugue, weaves an unrelenting twelve-tone subject with the plaintive theme in a forward drive of raucous activity.*

—Randall Faber



**Randall Faber**, pianist and educator, has lectured at universities throughout North America and Asia. He holds three degrees from the University of Michigan and a PhD in education and human development from Vanderbilt University.

### **Trio Capriccioso**

*Trio Capriccioso was commissioned by the Music Teachers National Association as part of the 2016 Commissioned Composer program, aimed at featuring collaborative music and exploring unusual instrumentation. This violin, viola and piano trio offers unique possibilities. The similar timbres*

*between the violin and viola allow for blended textures and extended range, while the differences in resonance provide variety of color. This rhapsodic piece, written in free-variation form, changes in tempo and character from section to section. Rhythmic and brilliant passages contrast with lyrical counterpoint, and short cadenzas are interspersed throughout the work to highlight each instrument.*

—Tom Gerou



**Tom Gerou**, is co-author of *Great Music And Musicians* published by Alfred Music and is well-known as a composer and arranger of piano music for students. He received degrees in composition from the University of Southern California and Yale University.

## PERFORMERS

**Leslie Perna** has performed with the Esterhazy, DaVinci and Artaria Quartets and the Concordia String Trio. She teaches viola and chamber music at the University of Missouri and at national and international conferences and festivals.

**Julie Rosenfeld** was first violinist of the renowned Colorado String Quartet from 1982 until 2013. Currently she is an assistant professor at the University of Missouri School of Music and a member of its resident Esterhazy Quartet.

**Janice Wenger**, NCTM, is professor of piano and associate director of the school of music at the University of Missouri, where she teaches piano literature and applied and collaborative piano. She is co-chair of the Collaborative Commissioning Project for MTNA.

**Ann Rivers Witherspoon** is an active composer in many genres. She also maintains a private studio, teaching composition, theory and piano. Witherspoon chairs the MTNA Composer Commissioning Program.

# *The MTNA Collaborative Commissioning Project*

## *From The Pen To The Premiere*

### **2011**

*Curiouser and Curiouser* by Nancy Faber, Faber Piano Adventures, Inc.

*Crescent City Connection* by Eugénie Rocherolle, Hal Leonard Publishing

*Fanfare Allegro* by Robert Vandall, Alfred Music

### **2012**

*Suite in Season* by Melody Bober, Alfred Music

*Urban Legends* by Kevin Olson, The FJH Music Company, Inc.

### **2013**

*Dance Suite* by Dennis Alexander, Alfred Music

*Serendipity* by Jennifer Linn, Hal Leonard Publishing

### **2014**

*Petite Voyage* by Phillip Keveren, Hal Leonard Publishing

*Skyscrapers* by Wynn-Anne Rossi, Alfred Music

### **2015**

*Suite Brasileiras* by Timothy Brown, The FJH Music Company, Inc.

*NOLA: A Tribute To New Orleans* by Mike Springer, Alfred Music

### **2016**

*Three Characters* by Randall Faber, Faber Piano Adventures, Inc.

*Trio Capriccioso* by Tom Gerou, Alfred Music