## Evening's Program

Tonight's concert is dedicated to Peré, my Grandfather, Edward Francis Paquette.

Passacaglia

(1685 - 1759)

Handel-Halvorsen

**PERFORMERS** 

Anna & Thomas Philbrick

Potpourri Opus 94 for Viola and Orchestra

(1778 - 1837)

Johann Nepomuk Hummel

PERFORMERS

Anna Philbrick & Steven Thomas

Piano Quintet No. 2

(1855 - 1932)

Julius Englebert Rontgen

**PERFORMERS** 

The Bravada Quartet & Chantalle Falconer

La Campanella

(1782 - 1840)

Niccoló Paganini

PERFORMERS

Anna Philbrick & Steven Thomas

Morning Has Broken

(1881 - 1965)

**Eleanor Farjeon** 

PERFORMERS

Anna, Thomas, Silas, Joey, & Diane Philbrick

### Program Notes

George Frederick Handel was a German composer and one of the pillars of the Baroque era. Handel had a large and varied oeuvre and spent much of his career in Great Britain where many of his best-known works, including Messiah and Music for the Royal Fireworks, were first performed. The Passacaglia movement from Handel's Harpsichord Suite in G Minor was arranged for violin and viola duet in the 19th century by Norwegian violinist Johan Halvorsen. Halvorsen was concertmaster of several European orchestras. and became music director of the National Theater of Norway. His compositions are in the nationalistic style of Edvard Grieg, to whom Halvorsen was related by marriage. Halvorsen takes the Passacaglia form and uses it to highlight the virtuosity of both violin and viola.

Johann Nepomuk Hummel was an Austrian composer and virtuosic pianist, rising to fame during the period of transition from Classical to Romantic musical styles. After studying with Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart as a young child, he toured Germany with his father as a child-prodigy pianist. Hummel continued to study with well-known composers, such as Muzio Clementi, and was even kapellmeister to the Esterhazy family, a position that had been held previously by Franz Joseph Haydn. Hummel was a contemporary and pianist competitor of Ludwig van Beethoven. While piano compositions constitute the bulk of his compositional output, he wrote the curiously titled Potpourri for Viola and Orchestra, challenging classical harmonic structures and exploring key changes and forms that would become the basis for the Romantic tradition.

Julius Engelbert Rontgen was a German-Dutch composer born into a family of professional musicians. He was taught music by his parents and grandparents and was a touring solo pianist by age 18. Rontgen became acquainted with Franz Liszt and Johannes Brahms, whose Piano Concerto No. 2 he performed with the composer conducting. Later in life Rontgen turned his time and energy to composing chamber music. His Piano Quintet No. 2 is composed of four concise movements. The fourth movement is noteworthy for its constant shifts between major and minor keys and a reoccurrence of each movement's themes at the end of the piece. Although not a well-known composition the quintet is an example of the many works of genius waiting to be discovered!

Niccolò Paganini was an Italian born musician, mastering violin, viola, guitar, and composition. Considered to be the greatest violin virtuoso of the 19th century, he performed incredible improvisations and his own compositions that included concertos, chamber works and most notably his 24 Caprices for Solo Violin. The third movement of his Violin Concerto No. 2 in B minor owes its nickname "La Campanella" or "La Clochette", the little bell which Paganini prescribes to presage each recurrence of the rondo theme. This movement was transcribed for viola and piano by the great British viola virtuoso William Primrose. La Campanella features incredibly difficult passages of double-stops, bouncing bows, and challenging scale passages.

# Gratitude

We would like to thank the Houghton College administration for its faithful support of the Greatbatch School of Music.

Shirley A. Mullen, President Jack Connell, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the College David Smith, Chief Financial Officer Greatbatch School of Music Faculty, Staff, and Administration

Anna Philbrick, a student of Professor Thomas, is performing this recital in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Bachelor of Music degree in Viola.

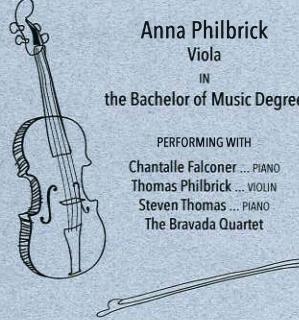
As a courtesy to the performer and your fellow audience members, please be certain that all cell phones, watch alarms, and pagers are either turned off or set for silent operation. Flash photography can be very disconcerting to performers and is not permitted during the performance. Thank you for your cooperation.



#### HOUGHTON COLLEGE

GREATBATCH SCHOOL OF MUSIC

#### Senior Viola Recital



Anna Philbrick Viola

the Bachelor of Music Degree

**PERFORMING WITH** 

Chantalle Falconer ... PIANO Thomas Philbrick ... VIOLIN Steven Thomas ... PIANO The Bravada Quartet

Recital Hall Center for the Arts Wednesday, January 18th, 2017 8:00pm