

**HOUGHTON
COLLEGE**

GREATBATCH SCHOOL OF MUSIC

presents

Music By Two

Sharon Johnson

&

Nancy Davis,

Pianists

in

Faculty and Guest Artist Recital

Recital Hall

Center for the Arts

Tuesday, March 6, 2018

7:30 p.m.

Program

*The program this evening is in memory of Hazel M. Allen, beloved
mother of Nancy Davis*

Danses andalouses

- I. Ritmo
- II. Sentimiento
- III. Gracia (El Vito)

Manuel Infante

(1883-1958)

from **Souvenirs, Op. 28**

- III. Pas de deux
- V. Hesitation-Tango

Samuel Barber

(1910-1981)

Pause

Recuerdos

- I. Chôro (Homage to Nazareth)
- II. Paseo
- III. Valse Venezolano

William Bolcom

(b. 1938)

- La Muerte del Ángel**
- Milongo del Angel**
- Verano Porteño**

Astor Piazzolla

(1921-1992)

As *Music By Two*, pianists *Nancy Davis & Sharon Johnson*, were named finalists in the 2016 Professional Chamber Ensemble division of *The American Prize* Competition. They have been heard in a variety of venues including: WFMT Radio in Chicago, and have appeared in faculty and guest artist recitals at The Library of Congress, The University of Maryland, The University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Houghton College (New York), *First Friday Series* (Ohio), and *Music on Market* series (Ohio). Their repertoire includes compositions that range in style from romantic to 20th century to sacred. Both as a team, and as individuals, Davis and Johnson are actively involved in premieres of new works on a regular basis. Since the spring of 2005, *Music By Two* has given multiple premieres of Eric Ewazen's *Sonata for Two Pianos*. In January of 2007, the duo premiered an unpublished work by Lowell Liebermann, *Three Lullabies, Op. 76* in North Carolina. In March 2007, a re-discovered four-hand piano work by Louise Talma was premiered in a concert at The Library of Congress. That concert celebrated the 100th anniversary of the MacDowell Colony. The two-piano version of the Talma work was premiered in January in North Carolina, and later, at the University of Maryland. *Music By Two* will release soon their first CD, *American Landscapes*, which includes world premieres by Eric Ewazen and Lowell Liebermann.

Averaging 50 concerts per year, *Davis*, has performed in the North Carolina area with University of North Carolina at Greensboro faculty including Randy Kohlenberg, Dennis Askew, Deborah Egekvist, Donald Hartmann, and LaVonne Tobin-Scott; and in New York recitals with Phyllis Tektonidis and Edward Bach, with whom she released a CD entitled, *Contrast*. A new CD project featuring Bach and Davis in sacred arrangements for trumpet and piano (*Glory to the Lord, My Shepherd*) was released in fall 2010. In 2016, she began an annual recital appearance with Bach at Brandon University (Manitoba); last year, she added performances and recordings with Aaron Wilson, trombone. After coaching with the composer, Davis and Renee Sokol, soprano, presented the world premiere of songs for voice and piano by Joyce Suskind (recorded on the *New York Women Composers* CD). Davis also has been involved in multiple premieres of works by David Gillingham, including works with percussion ensemble/piano and trumpet/piano. In addition to maintaining a private piano studio in Greensboro, North Carolina, she has served as one of the official pianists for the International Double Reed Society, Musical Director of the Young Artists Opera Theater, the National Trumpet Competition, and on the faculties of Greensboro College, Elon University, Guest Lecturer for Song Repertoire at UNC Greensboro (currently the collaborative pianist with the Chamber Singers under the direction of William Young), the UNC Greensboro Community Music School, Salem College Community Music School and is a 29 year veteran faculty member of the UNC

Greensboro Summer Music Camp. Davis serves as one of the official pianists for the National Association of Teachers of Singing Competitions.

Johnson has been heard with the Greensboro Symphony and the Greensboro Philharmonia, in guest artist recitals at the NC Museum of Art, Dickinson State University, University of Wisconsin, the Baltimore Composers Forum, The Schubert Club Courtroom Concert Series, on Minnesota Public Radio with the Ted Mann Vocal Quartet, and WXXI Radio with flutist Nina Assimakopoulos. She has served as the invited pianist for master classes of Eugene Rousseau and Keith Underwood. Johnson has also been one of the official pianists for the International Horn Prize Competition, the International Tuba/Euphonium and Double Reed Society Conferences, and the National Association of Teachers of Singing Competitions. Last May, she was chosen as one of four pianists to participate in the Fall Island Repertoire Development Program. As primary keyboard/assistant director of the Continental Singers, Johnson has toured the United States, Asia, and Europe. Recently, she formed a partnership with saxophonist Chisato Eda as *Duo du Soleil*. As well, Johnson has begun a recital/masterclass exchange program with David Klassen, baritone (Manitoba, Canada) partnering at venues in the United States and Canada. Faculty positions held include Greensboro College, The Music Center of Greensboro, The Wesleyan Institute of Music and Arts, UNC Greensboro's Summer Music Camp and charter faculty member piano/collaborative piano at the Vivace String Camp (New York). Johnson completed the DMA in accompanying and coaching at the University of Minnesota, (studying with Margo Garrett, Karl Paulnack, and Tim Lovelace), where she was a teaching assistant and a Denny Scholar. Currently, she is Associate Professor of Piano and Collaborative Piano at Houghton College (NY).

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, Provost and Dean of the Faculty
Vincent Morris, Chief Financial Officer
Greatbatch School of Music Faculty, Staff, and Administration**

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. Thanks for your cooperation.