



For Immediate Release

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ROCO String Quartet February 21, 2013 ***London & England: Its composers and its influence***

Part of a series: ROCO String Quartet Chamber Concerts presented by The University of St. Thomas and CultureMap

ROCO ("River Oaks Chamber Orchestra") and University of St. Thomas are pleased to present the second in a series of chamber concerts featuring the ROCO String Quartet in Cullen Hall at University of St. Thomas. This series is another step in the University's multi-year plan to establish a major performing arts center on the St. Thomas campus.

ROCO String Quartet Chamber Concert

Thursday, February 21, 2013

Cullen Hall at University of St. Thomas

4001 Mt. Vernon Houston 77006

7:00pm Reception

7:30pm Performance

Tickets: \$20 general admission, \$10 for students

Additional information and tickets are available at www.rocohouston.org

Program: *London & England: Its composers and its influence*

- Ralph Vaughan Williams *String Quartet in A minor*
- Benjamin Britten *A Phantasy for Oboe and String Quartet*
- Joseph Haydn *String Quartet Op. 74, No. 3*
- Two pieces based on traditional English folksongs by Frank Bridge

About the ROCO String Quartet

Through this String Quartet series, ROCO is featuring chamber ensembles drawn from within the full 40-piece chamber orchestra. Chamber music has been called "music among friends" because of its intimate nature. The series allows ROCO to expand relationships among musicians, with composers, and with the audience by presenting musical conversations that include contemporary as well as classic repertoire.

Performing with the ROCO String Quartet will be violinists **Ellen de Pasquale** and **Evan Price**, violist **Suzanne LeFevre**, cellist **Richard Belcher**, and special guest, oboist **Alecia Lawyer**. Each is an accomplished artist-performer.

Widely acclaimed for the beauty of her playing and refined musicianship, **Ellen de Pasquale** is a regular guest at leading music festivals throughout the United States and Europe, as well as an active recitalist and chamber musician

Evan Price is steadily gaining recognition as one of the world's most confident voices in extra-classical string playing at age 24, Price joined the world-renowned Turtle Island String Quartet. For the next ten years, he played with, arranged music for, and toured the world with Turtle Island, and is the recipient of two GRAMMY® awards for his work with the group.

Suzanne LeFevre is a **violist** and personnel manager for ROCO, as well as a violist for Houston Grand Opera and Mercury Baroque, and an affiliate artist at University of Houston.

New Zealand **cellist, Richard Belcher** has performed as a chamber musician and in solo settings across the USA and internationally. He is cellist with the Grammy-nominated Enso String Quartet, of which he is a founding member, and principal cellist with ROCO.

Oboist, Alecia Lawyer is ROCO's founder who also serves as artistic and executive director and performs as principal oboist of ROCO. In addition, she solos with area orchestras and is oboist with the contemporary composers group Musiqa in Houston.

About ROCO

ROCO is a professional chamber orchestra of 40 all-star musicians, distinguished guest conductors and composers who come together from all over the world to present engaging performances of classical and original compositions. Founded in 2005 by oboist, Alecia Lawyer, ROCO is *the most fun you can have with serious music*. www.rocohouston.org

About University of St. Thomas

Founded in 1947 by the Basilian Fathers, the University of St. Thomas remains Houston's first and only Catholic university. St. Thomas, dedicated to educating leaders of faith and character, is committed to the religious, ethical, and intellectual traditions of Catholic higher education. www.stthom.edu