

Faculty Series Opens Season Oct. 13 Featuring New Faculty Flutist

Contributed by Deborah A. Purnell
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OXFORD, Miss. - The University of Mississippi Department of Music opens its fall Faculty Series Monday (Oct. 13) with a flute recital by new faculty member Linda Pereksta.

The 8 p.m. performance in Nutt Auditorium is slated to include music by popular composers, such as Franz Schubert, Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach, David Lobe and Francois Poulenc.

"Prior to joining the music faculty, Linda was a full-time performer, so having her as the first artist is an exciting way to start the Faculty Series," said John Schuesselin, assistant professor of music and new coordinator of the popular series.

Tickets, at \$8 for adults and \$5 for students and children, are available by calling the UM Box Office at 662-915-7411.

Of her upcoming recital, Pereksta said, "I simply want the audience to come out and enjoy it. I tried to add a lot of variety to the program. As an old professor used to say, 'If you don't like what you're hearing, wait a few minutes and you will.' I think there are a lot of pieces the audience will respond to."

Pereksta joined the faculty in 2007 as an instructor. She holds the position of principal flute with the Tupelo Symphony Orchestra and piccolo with the Arkansas Symphony.

Previously, she was a tenured member of the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra in New Orleans, where she taught flute at Tulane University and music history at the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts. During her time with the LPO, she performed in the orchestra's joint concert with the New York Philharmonic, playing under the batons of James Conlon, Leonard Slatkin and Lorin Maazel. She can also be heard with the two orchestras on the CD "Our New Orleans," accompanying Randy Newman.

For more information about Pereksta or music education at Ole Miss, visit <http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/music/> . For assistance related to a disability, call 662-915-7268.