

Joanna Ross Hersey, Tuba and Euphonium

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A native Vermonter, Joanna studied with Dan Perantoni at Arizona State University, received a Master of Music in Tuba Performance from the New England Conservatory of Music studying with Chester Schmitz, and earned her Doctor of Musical Arts in Tuba Performance from the Hartt School. As Principal Tubist with the United States Coast Guard Band, Joanna performed throughout the country as a soloist and clinician after winning the position at the age of nineteen. Joanna has played for three U.S. Presidents, performed at numerous state functions for visiting dignitaries, and has appeared on *The Today Show* and *Good Morning America*. In her freelance career she has performed with artists including Placido Domingo, Roberta Flack, Marilyn Horne, Arlo Guthrie, Michael Bolton, Lee Greenwood, Arturo Sandoval and Jack Nicholson. Joanna is a founding member of the Athena Brass Band, a group first created for the 2003 International Women's Brass Conference which has since performed at the 2006, 2012 and 2014 IWBCs, and has been featured at the Brass Band Festivals in Danville, Kentucky and Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Joanna is currently Principal Tubist with the Carolina Philharmonic and the Carolina International Orchestra.

As a member of the Alchemy Tuba-Euphonium Quartet, Joanna performs throughout North America and Europe and can be heard on the group's first compact disc recording *Village Dances* (1997), and on their new release *Prelude and Groove* (2012). For twelve years Alchemy has been in residence each February at the Horn-Tuba Workshop in Jever, Germany where the group performs recitals, gives master-classes and conducts ensembles. The quartet also recently performed recitals in Linz, Austria as part of the International Tuba Euphonium Conference, and was featured in the outdoor *Fest der Natur* on the banks of the Danube River. The Alchemy Quartet, founded in 1976 as the nation's first professional tuba euphonium quartet, celebrate their 40th birthday in 2016, and the group will release their next compact disc, featuring new arrangements and commissions, in celebration. Together with Michael Parker, Joanna is also part of an exciting new duo JAM: Joanna and Michael, who are about to release their first CD, featuring tuba, euphonium and cimbasso.

Joanna's first solo album, *O quam mirabilis* (2010), featuring music by women composers including Hildegard von Bingen and Libby Larson is available through Amazon.com, iTunes, by visiting her website, joannahersey.com. Her second solo album *Zigzags* (2015) is a collection of Joanna's own compositions, with works by Faye Ellen Silverman and Hildegard von Bingen. Joanna's research interests focus on brass history and women in 20th Century American music, and her work has been published in the *International Tuba Euphonium Journal*, the *International Women's Brass Conference Newsletter*, the *Historic Brass Society Journal*, the *North Carolina Music Educator's Journal* and the *Journal of Historical Research in Music Education*. Joanna is President of the International Women's Brass Conference, Associate Professor of Tuba and Euphonium at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, Visiting Instructor of Tuba Euphonium at East Carolina University, and a Yamaha and Parker Mouthpiece Performing Artist.

PRAISE FOR JOANNA'S NEW ALBUM ZIGZAGS...

"It is quite fascinating to hear the swirling textures, tuba riffs and pedal notes, as well as blending of analog and digital sounds... it has something of everything including extreme range, tricky rhythms and intervals, multiphonics, and other extended techniques. The entire album is quite different from what we would call mainstream tuba recordings. The original tuba and electronics work, a major unaccompanied tuba work all juxtaposed with Hildegard von Bingen, herself a musical visionary, sets this recording apart from anything else. Brava!" Dr. Mark Nelson, International Tuba Euphonium Journal, Summer 2015