

Joanna Ross Hersey

Tuba and Euphonium

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A native Vermonter, tuba and euphonium soloist Joanna Ross Hersey has produced two solo albums, *O quam mirabilis* (2010) and *Zigzags* (2015), featuring music by composers including Hildegard von Bingen and Libby Larson in combination with her own works. Joanna is President of the International Women's Brass Conference, Professor of Tuba and Euphonium at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, and a Yamaha and Parker Mouthpiece Performing Artist. As a composer, her new *Fresh Faces* series highlights diverse music for solo and chamber brass, available from her website. Joanna's newest solo composition, *ElevenTwelve*, for solo tuba and electronics, takes soloist and audience alike on a tour of Hildegard von Bingen's convent, through a map presented as a graphic score.

As a member of the Alchemy Tuba-Euphonium Quartet, Joanna performs throughout North America and Europe and can be heard on the group's recordings *Village Dances* and *Prelude and Groove*. For sixteen 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. 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 Hart School. Beginning her career 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. In collaboration with Parker Mouthpieces, Joanna has debuted the Hersey Artist Model Tuba Mouthpiece, featuring a three component stainless steel design.

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 has also contributed chapters to three books, *Bands of Sisters: U.S. Military Bands During World War II*, *Women's Bands in America: Performing Music and Gender*, and *An Early History of Music Education in Universities: The Normal School Years*.

PRAISE FOR JOANNA'S SOLO 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