The Thoreau Piano Trio

Susan Jensen, violin • Darry Dolezal, cello • Paul Jacobs, piano

*“Art is not tame.” -Henry David Thoreau*

www.thoreaupianotrio.com

**Full-length Biography**

Powerful performances and imaginative programs are hallmarks of the Thoreau Piano Trio.

Three internationally acclaimed artists, with concert appearances on four continents and numerous accolades including a Grammy nomination, formed the Thoreau Piano Trio in 2011 during a philosophical backstage conversation at a music festival in Vermont.

In the spirit of Henry David Thoreau, the quintessential New England philosopher who wrote in *Walden*, "I wanted to live deep and suck out all the marrow of life,” the Thoreau Piano Trio cuts through hundreds of years of tradition to find and express the essence of each masterwork, interpreting each on its own terms. The Thoreau Piano Trio’s mission is to engage with audiences and to explore links between music, art, literature and philosophy.

Described by *Boston Voyager Magazine* as an ensemble of “depth, brilliance and conviction,” the Thoreau Piano Trio has appeared in concerts and festivals throughout the US and was a featured resident ensemble at the Warebrook Contemporary Music Festival in Vermont, the White Lake Chamber Music Festival in Michigan and the Chelmsford Center for the Arts in Massachusetts. Not limited to conventional concert hall venues, the Thoreau Piano Trio frequently performs in locations including coffee shops, libraries, private homes, churches, pubs and traditional jazz/rock venues.

Seeking artistic expressions that cross boundaries, the Thoreau Piano Trio recently collaborated with the Commonwealth Ballet in the premiere of “Rehearsal,” a ballet choreographed by Chip Morris to the music of Leonard Bernstein. Another multimedia event was the presentation of artwork by Susan Schwalb with the music it inspired – Martin Boykan’s *Rites of Passage.*

The Thoreau Piano Trio has created a Thoreau Essay Series, concerts connecting Thoreau’s writings to music with programs such “Walking,” a deep homage to nature’s influence on thought, art and humanity, “Night and Moonlight,” an invitation to discover hidden beauty and transform one’s perspective and “Faith in a Seed,” an exploration of artistic potential and propagation. Another popular series is “Untamed Trios,” a Beethoven trio cycle celebrating Beethoven’s revolutionary music with a play on the Thoreau Piano Trio’s motto, “Art is Not Tame.”

With strong connections to contemporary composers, the Thoreau Piano Trio has performed many modern works and this year will record and release two pieces written for them by intrepid New York composer William Pfaff – *Departing Landscapes* and *Chorale*.