



News Update

BARRY SHIFFMAN, *artistic director*

CONTACT: Karen Herlitz, Director of Marketing
karen@rockportmusic.org
Phone: 978-546-7391, Ext. 110
DATE: February 4, 2019

ANNOUNCEMENT EMBARGOED UNTIL FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2019

The Rockport Chamber Music Festival returns with “Source & Inspiration”

After a spectacularly successful first festival as artistic director, Barry Shiffman builds on what the *Boston Globe* hailed as a “... launch of a season that seems poised to hit the paradoxical sweet spot of remaining true to the festival’s roots while carrying it somewhere entirely new.”

The 2019 Rockport Chamber Music Festival will be held **June 14-July 14, 2019**, and continues with two Festival Annex concerts in August which feature the incomparable duo **David Finckel and Wu Han** and the lauded **Handel & Haydn Society presenting Bach’s complete Brandenburg Concerti**. Threading throughout the Festival this year will be the theme of “**Source and Inspiration**.” Artistic Director Barry Shiffman shares insight on this year’s theme:

“Nothing comes from nothing.” This summer we shine a light on the creative process of *Source and Inspiration*. In a wide range of programs, our audience will follow a journey that peels back the layers, letting us peek into that creative process. Whether it is seeing a drawing, reading a text, hearing a rhythm, or even being enamored with a personality, inspiration abounds. The potential for inspiration is around us all every day. While the festival will explore the many sources that inspired composers and performers, it should also serve as a deep well of inspiration for all who attend the festival events.

The Festival is anchored by 19 concerts in the performance hall with additional informal performances woven throughout the Festival including late night classical cabarets on the third floor and Pop-up performances in the community. The ambitious growth of the Festival focuses on broadening the interpretation of classical music while expanding community engagement through family programming, films, and much more.

The Festival continues to bring established world-class artists such as the **Takács Quartet**, **pianist Richard Goode**, **A Far Cry**, **violinist Philippe Graffin**, and **cellist Pieter Wispelwey**. Additionally, the Festival brings new artistic experiences and works by contemporary composers, like the **Art of Time Ensemble’s Take this Waltz** following how music, inspired by the waltz, has transformed over 150 years; the **Aizuri Quartet’s** program featuring Caroline Shaw’s *Blueprint* and Gabriella Smith’s *Carrot Revolution*; as well as the **Reimagining Flamenco** program.

With a strong emphasis of presenting the next generation of stars, the Festival introduces exciting artists on the rise including the 2018 **Dublin competition winner Sae Yoon Chon**, **violinist Blake Pouliot**, and the 2019 Grammy-nominated **Aizuri Quartet**. For a second year, Rockport Music continues the spectacularly successful **Rockport Fellows** program bringing **pianists Sae Yoon Chon and Kevin Ahfat**, as well as the **Vera Quartet**. The late-night concert series—**Classical Cabaret**—will be expanded to all five weeks of the festival, primarily held on Saturday evenings and feature a casual, intimate setting on the Performance Center’s third floor.

Join in the exciting new era of music at the 38th annual Rockport Chamber Music Festival. Tickets are available March 29 for subscriptions and April 12 for single tickets purchases. Visit our website at rockportmusic.org for more. A full concert listing with program details follow.

ROCKPORT CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL 2019

SOURCE AND INSPIRATION

BARRY SHIFFMAN, artistic director

June 14-July 14

Annex: August 17 & 31

Friday, June 14, 8 PM

Opening Night

Parker Quartet | Blake Pouliot, *violin* | Stephen Prutsman, *piano* | Vera Quartet | Cristina Zavalloni, *soprano*

The 38th Rockport Chamber Music Festival opens with a spectacular evening of music inspired by the Roaring 20's and is followed by a celebratory cocktail party with the artists. The Opening Night concert brings music by Ravel, Milhaud, and an original score by Stephen Prutsman performed to Buster Keaton's 1927 film *College*, highlighting how the explosion of jazz during the 1920's inspired classical music and the world around it. For example, in 1922, Milhaud's experience of hearing jazz in Harlem impacted his musical perspective including *La Creation du monde*, in which he used elements of jazz for the ballet score. Ravel was also inspired by jazz and blues for his Violin Sonata No. 2.

RAVEL: Violin Sonata

Song Set: *Second Hand Rose, Stardust, Ain't Misbehavin'*

DARIUS MILHAUD: Creation du Monde

PRUTSMAN: *College* by Buster Keaton-1927 (live performance by Prutsman & Vera Quartet)

Tickets: start at \$50

Saturday, June 15, 7:30 PM

Mozart and Brahms

Parker Quartet | Anthony McGill, *clarinet* | Barry Shiffman, *viola* | Ani Aznavoorian, *cello*

MOZART: Clarinet Quintet in A, K. 581

BRAHMS: String Sextet, No. 1 in B-flat major, Op. 18

The Grammy Award-winning Parker Quartet, currently the Blodgett Artists-in-Residence at Harvard University, joins with the New York Philharmonic's thrilling principal clarinetist Anthony McGill, principal cellist of Camerata Pacifica Ani Aznavoorian, and artistic director (and violist) Barry Shiffman for a dramatic evening of Mozart and Brahms.

Tickets: start at \$47

Saturday, June 15, 10 PM

Weimar Cabaret

Cristina Zavalloni, *soprano* | Steve Prutsman, *piano* | Blake Pouliot, *violin*

WEIMAR: Cabaret Song Set

BARTÓK: Rhapsody No. 1, Sz. 87

KREISLER: Caprice Viennois, Op. 2

Tickets: \$25 seated | \$10 standing

Sunday, June 16, 5 PM

Barry Douglas, piano

Ani Aznavoorian, *cello* | Anthony McGill, *clarinet*

MUSSORGSKY: Pictures at an Exhibition

TCHAIKOVSKY: Seasons (selections)

BRAHMS: Clarinet Trio in A minor, Op. 114

Gold Medalist at the 1986 Tchaikovsky International Piano Competition, Barry Douglas is currently Artistic Director of Camerata Ireland and the Clandeboye Festival. He is joined by Ani Aznavoorian and Anthony McGill for the Brahms Trio.

Tickets: start at \$45

Thursday, June 20, 8 PM

Homage to Eugene Ysaÿe

Philippe Graffin, violin

Marisa Gupta, *piano* | Piers Lane, *piano* | Festival Quartet (Benjamin Bowman, *violin*, Danny Koo, *violin*, Barry Shiffman, *viola*, Tom Wiebe, *cello*)

DOHNÁNYI: Andante rubato alla zingaresca, Op. 32

ENESCU: Violin Sonata No. 3, Op. 25

YSAÿE: Sonata posthume, Op. 27, No. 7 (**US Premiere**)

CHAUSSON: Concerto for violin, piano and string quartet, Op. 21

Graffin is a champion of discovering and performing lesser-known works, which is exemplified in his performance of Ysaÿe's Sonata for solo violin, a work he discovered, completed, and performed the world premiere. Graffin confirms that, "It's at least 98 per cent Ysaÿe's work...". The program also brings great works of Dohnányi, Enescu and Chausson.

Tickets: start at \$47

Friday, June 21, 8 PM

The Complete Chopin Nocturnes

Piers Lane, piano

London-based Australian pianist Piers Lane stands out as an engaging and highly versatile performer. He has performed five times as soloist at the BBC Proms in London's Royal Albert Hall and has recently been appointed Artistic Director of the Sydney International Piano Competition. Additionally, he was most recently the Artistic Director of the Australian Festival of Chamber Music. "No praise could be high enough for Piers Lane whose playing throughout is of a superb musical intelligence, sensitivity, and scintillating brilliance." -*Gramophone*

Tickets: start at \$47

Saturday, June 22, 7:30 PM

Pieter Wispelwey, cello

Pei-Shan Lee, *piano* | Benjamin Bowman, *violin*

BRAHMS: Sonata, Op. 120, No. 2

DEBUSSY: Sonata for cello and piano

RAVEL: Sonata for violin and cello

BRAHMS: Sonata Op. 38

Cellist Pieter Wispelwey has enjoyed a long, lauded career built upon his ease with both period and modern works, combined with a truly original interpretative ability and phenomenal technical mastery. In this concert, he collaborates with pianist Pei-Shan Lee (NEC and California State University faculty) and violinist Benjamin Bowman (concertmaster of Metropolitan Opera orchestra).

Tickets: start at \$45

Saturday, June 22, 10 PM

Classical Cabaret

Featuring pianist Piers Lane performing a work by Dudley Moore

Tickets: \$25 seated | \$10 standing

Sunday, June 23, 5 PM

Hosted by Glenn Gould

with the Art of Time Ensemble

Andrew Burashko, *piano* | Pieter Wispelwey, *cello* | Pei-Shan Lee, *piano*

Festival Quartet: Benjamin Bowman, *violin* | Barry Shiffman, *viola* | Danny Koo, *violin* | Tom Wiebe, *cello*

BEETHOVEN: Cello Sonata No. 5, Op. 102, No. 2

SHOSTAKOVICH: Piano Quintet in G minor, Op. 57

Glenn Gould was known as both a musical genius and a great eccentric. His perspective is presented, via screenings of CBC's *Glenn Gould on Television*, as introductions to live performances of chamber music by Shostakovich and Beethoven.

Tickets: start at \$45

Thursday, June 27, 8 PM

Aizuri Quartet

GABRIELLA SMITH: *Carrot Revolution* (2015, written for Aizuri Quartet)

HAYDN: String Quartet in B minor, Op. 64, No. 2

BEETHOVEN: String Quartet No. 6, Op 18, No. 6

CAROLINE SHAW: "Blueprint" (2016, written for Aizuri Quartet)

The Aizuri Quartet, nominated for a 2019 Grammy for its debut album *Blueprinting* which features new works written for the Aizuri by five American composers, performs two of these works on the program. After receiving the 2018 M-Prize Chamber Arts Competition, the Quartet has quickly risen to the top echelon of chamber ensembles and recently served as the MetLiveArts String Quartet-in-Residence at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Tickets: start at \$29

Friday, June 28, 8 PM

Take this Waltz

With Art of Time Ensemble

Andrew Burashko, *piano* | Andy Milne, *piano* | Danny Koo, *violin* | Allison Eldredge, *cello* | Kevin Ahfat, *piano* | Aizuri Quartet | Sarah Slean, *vocal* | flute TBD | Rob Pilch, *guitar* | Rob Carli, *saxophone & clarinet* | Joseph Phillips, *bass*

Led by Artistic Director Andrew Burashko, the Art of Time Ensemble transforms the way people experience music. Fusing high art and popular culture in concerts that juxtapose the best of each genre, the Art of Time entertains as it enlightens, revealing the universal qualities that lie at the heart of all great music. This program explores the waltz throughout the last 150 years.

"I haven't enjoyed a concert so much in a long time... we shouldn't miss the opportunity to listen to them having so much fun." *Toronto Star*

SHOSTAKOVICH: Waltz, No. 2 arranged for solo piano

SCHNITTKE: Piano Quintet Waltz

KORNGOLD: Suite, Op. 23

LISZT: Mephisto Waltz, No. 1, S. 514

RAVEL: La Valse

STRAUSS/SCHOENBERG: waltzes

FOUR SONGS

“In Germany Before the War” (Randy Newman)

“Take This Waltz” (Leonard Cohen)

“Innocent When You Dream” (Tom Waits)

“Ne me quitte pas” (Jacques Brel)

BILL EVANS: *Waltz for Debby*

Tickets: start at \$45

Saturday, June 29, 7:30 PM

Gilad Karni, *viola*

Kevin Ahfat, *piano* | Aizuri Quartet | Danny Koo, *violin*

MOZART: Duo for violin and viola

DVORÁK: Drobnosti, Op. 75a

PROKOFIEV: Romeo and Juliet

BRAHMS: Viola quintet

Currently Principal Violist of the Tonhalle Orchestra Zurich, Gilad Karni has been praised throughout the world for his tone and interpretation. With first prizes at multiple competitions, his technique and musicality have earned him countless honors as well as leadership roles in some of the world's finest orchestras.

Tickets: start at \$29

Saturday, June 29, 10 PM

Cabaret

Stefan Jackiw, *violin* | Danny Koo, *violin* | Gilad Karni, *viola* | Allison Eldredge, *cello* | Kevin Ahfat, *piano*

BRUCH: Romanze

PRUTSMAN (arr): Four Songs for cello

I Could Have Danced All Night- from *My Fair Lady*

“On My Own” from *Les Miserable*

“Shall We Dance” from *The King and I*

“Where Is It Written” from *Yentl*

SHOSTAKOVICH: TBA

Tickets: \$25 seated | \$10 standing

Sunday, June 30, 5 PM

JCT Trio

Stefan Jackiw, *violin* | Conrad Tao, *piano* | Jay Campbell, *cello*

IVES: Trio for violin, cello and piano, Op. 86

CHRISTOPHER TRAPANI: Passing Through, Staying Put

DVORAK: Piano Trio in F minor, No. 3, OP. 65

Three renowned artists of the next generation combining talents in this piano trio JCT (pronounced “junction”) which is hailed for their “bracing technique and jaw-dropping precision... A sense of unity, especially in dynamics and rhythmic thrust...” (*Aspen Times*). Violinist Stefan Jackiw, with a tremendous solo career, returns to Rockport with Conrad Tao (composer/pianist who curated and produced the critically acclaimed UNPLAY Festival in Brooklyn) and cellist Jay Campbell (member of JACK quartet).

Tickets: start at \$35

Wednesday, July 3, 2 PM
YOUNG ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

Sae Yoon Chon, piano

BEETHOVEN: Piano Sonata No.6, Op.10, No.2
DEBUSSY: Selected works from Prelude Book. 1
SCHUBERT/LISZT: Selected song transcriptions from Schubert Lieder
RACHMANINOFF: Piano Sonata No. 2, Op. 36

First prize winner at the 2018 Dublin International Piano Competition, Sae-Yoon Chon has won numerous awards including First Prize at the Jeonbuk International Music Festival (2010), the Suri competition (2010), the Segyetimes competition (2010), and the Concours of the Piano Society of Korea (2010).

Free, no tickets required.

Saturday, July 6, 7:30 PM

Takács Quartet

MOZART: String Quartet, K. 465
BARTÓK: String Quartet, No. 4
BEETHOVEN: String Quartet, Op. 59, No. 3

The Takács Quartet is renowned for the vitality of its interpretations. *The New York Times* recently lauded the ensemble for “revealing the familiar as unfamiliar, making the most traditional of works feel radical once more.” Based in Boulder at the University of Colorado, Edward Dusinberre and Harumi Rhodes (violins), Geraldine Walther (viola) and András Fejér (cello) perform eighty concerts a year worldwide.

Tickets: start at \$47

Saturday, July 6, 10 PM

Cabaret

Jens Lindemann, *trumpet* | Barry Shiffman, *violin* | Details TBA

Tickets: \$25 seated | \$10 standing

Sunday, July 7, 5 PM

Max Levinson, piano

Sae Yoon Chon, piano | Andrés Díaz, cello | Barry Shiffman, violin

MOZART: Sonata in E-flat major, K 282
SCHUBERT: Fantasie in F minor, D. 940
TCHAIKOVSKY: Piano Trio in A minor, Op. 50

Considered one of the finest collaborative pianists in the country, Max Levinson currently serves as Chair of the Piano Department at the Boston Conservatory and Artistic Director of the San Juan Music Festival. Winner of the 1997 Dublin International Piano Competition, Levinson joins with 2018 winner Sae Yoon Chon for a 4-hand piano performance of Schubert’s Fantasie, and then joins with cellist Andrés Diaz and violinist Barry Shiffman for Tchaikovsky’s Piano Trio.

Tickets: start at \$45

Thursday, July 11, 8 PM

Reimagining Flamenco

Grisha Goryachev, *guitar* | Serouj Kradjian, *piano* | Jamey Haddad, *percussion* | Chee-Yun, *violin* | Daniela Mack, *mezzo-soprano*

This all-star cast of musicians bring Reimagining Flamenco to Rockport—a unique opportunity to hear the flamenco-inspired music of Manuel de Falla as well as classically-flavored reinventions of guitar and piano pieces by the old flamenco masters. Kradjian describes the program as, “...(a) rare collaboration of flamenco guitar and piano takes the music of Manuel de Falla and Isaac Albeniz back to their roots, imaginatively reconstructing the route these composers took in composing their masterpieces.”

Tickets: start at \$29

Friday, July 12, 7:30 PM

Venice Baroque Orchestra with Avi Avital, *mandolin*

GEMINIANI: Concerto Grosso in D minor after Corelli's *La Follia*, Op. 5, No. 12

VIVALDI: Concerto in D for lute and strings RV93

Sinfonia in G RV146

Concerto in A minor Op. 3, No. 6, RV356

VIVALDI: Concerto in D minor for strings, RV127

Mandolin Concerto in C, RV425

PAISIELLO: Mandolin Concerto in E-flat major

VIVALDI: Concerto in G minor for mandolin, strings and basso continuo “Summer” from *The Four Seasons*

Recognized as one of the premier baroque ensembles in the world, Italy’s Venice Baroque Orchestra brings an all-Italian program, celebrating the rich musical history of their homeland. The Orchestra joins with Grammy nominated mandolinist Avi Avital who is hailed as “explosively charismatic” (*New York Times*).

Tickets: start at \$50

Friday, July 12, 10 PM

Cabaret

Details to be announced.

Tickets: \$25 seated | \$10 standing

Saturday, July 13, 8 PM

Richard Goode, *piano*

HAYDN: Sonata in A major, Hob XVI: 26

HAYDN: Sonata in D major, Hob. XVI: 24

MOZART: Rondo in A minor, K. 511

BEETHOVEN: Sonata No. 28 in A major, Op. 101

JANÁČEK: In The Mist

DEBUSSY: 6 Preludes chosen from Books I and II

Richard Goode has been hailed for music-making of tremendous emotional power, depth and expressiveness, and has been acknowledged worldwide as one of today’s leading interpreters of classical and romantic music. In regular performances with major orchestras, recitals in the world’s music capitals, and through his extensive and acclaimed Nonesuch recordings, he has won a large and devoted following.

“Every time we hear him, he impresses us as better than we remembered, surprising us, surpassing our expectations and communicating perceptions that stay in the mind.”- *Gramophone Magazine*

Tickets: start at \$55

Sunday, July 14, 5 PM

A Far Cry

Chee-Yun Kim, *violin* | Barry Shiffman, *viola*

LEMBIT BEECHER: The Conference of the Birds

TCHAIKOVSKY: Serenade for Strings in C major, Op. 48

MOZART: Sinfonia Concertante in E-flat major

The Grammy-nominated A Far Cry, a self-conducted orchestra, stands at the forefront of an exciting new generation in classical music. In addition to the Criers serving as Chamber Orchestra in Residence at the Gardner Museum, the Criers were named by *The New Yorker* as one of the "Imagination-Grabbing, Trailblazing Artists of 2014."

Tickets: start at \$50

AUGUST ANNEX

Saturday, August 17, 7 PM

Bach's Complete Brandenburg Concerti

With the Handel and Haydn Society

Hailed as "magical" (*Boston Globe*), the internationally acclaimed Handel and Haydn Society brings a true event to Rockport with a performance of Bach's complete Brandenburg Concerti. Considered a benchmark of Baroque music, the Brandenburg's transformed the concerto grosso form to an entirely new height.

Tickets: start at \$59

Saturday, August 31, 7 PM

David Finckel, cello & Wu Han, piano

BACH: Adagio (from the Toccata in C Major for Organ) for cello and piano

SCHUMANN: Adagio and Allegro for cello and piano, Op. 70

GRIEG: Sonata for Solo Piano in E minor, Op. 7

MENDELSSOHN: Song Without Words

CHOPIN: Sonata in G minor for cello and piano, Op. 65

Among the most esteemed and influential classical musicians in the world today, Finckel and Han are recipients of *Musical America's* Musicians of the Year award, and continue to serve as Artistic Directors of The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and Music@Menlo. "When a pair of genuine artists explodes on the stage, exuding not only glamour and theatrical flair but also superb musical insight, the audience's thrill is twofold." --*Chicago Sun-Times*

Tickets: start at \$55

FILMS

Friday, June 21, 11 AM

Mountain

Mountain is a unique cinematic and musical collaboration between the Australian Chamber Orchestra and BAFTA-nominated director Jennifer Peedom. Narrated by Willem Dafoe, the 2017 documentary film shares dazzling images and cinematography of the high peaks and mountains around the world, depicting more than just their tremendous beauty, but representing that, "The mountains we climb are not only made of rocks and ice...but also dreams and desires." *Free, no tickets required.*

Friday, July 12, 11 AM

Itzhak

A 2019 Grammy Award Best Music Film Nominee, *Itzhak* is "A love story on so many levels—Perlman's love of music, of the violin, of life itself!" (*The Hollywood Reporter*) From Schubert to Strauss, Bach to Brahms, Mozart to...Billy Joel, Itzhak Perlman's violin playing transcends mere performance to evoke the celebrations and struggles of real life. As charming and entrancing as the famous violinist himself, *ITZHAK* is a portrait of musical virtuosity seamlessly enclosed in warmth, humor, and above all, love. *Free, no tickets required.*

FESTIVAL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The 2019 Rockport Chamber Music Festival will continue to bring an exciting musical presence throughout the town with several Pop-Up concerts around Rockport and Gloucester, Family Concerts held in the Shalin Liu Performance Center, the Classical Cabaret series, and pianist Stephen Prutsman returns with a special outreach program held for the autistic community. This year's Festival continues to offer the Rockport Fellows program, which will bring several young musicians and competition winners in-residence during the festival for extended periods. While in-residence, the Rockport Fellows—including the Vera Quartet, and pianists Sae Yoon Chon and Kevin Ahfat—will be part of mainstage concerts, as well as create an even greater engagement with the community with performances throughout town.

Saturday, June 29, 10 AM

FAMILY CONCERT

Danny Koo, *violin* & Kevin Ahfat, *piano*

Violinist Danny Koo has carved out a distinctive professional profile as a chamber musician, soloist, and recitalist in appearances throughout the world. As part of his desire to educate and excite the youngest generation about classical music, he has partnered with 'Pinkfong' (creators of Baby Shark) to produce videos about classical music for young children. He joins with pianist Kevin Ahfat, a graduate of Juilliard and currently part of the Rebanks Family Fellowship Residency at the Glenn Gould School of The Royal Conservatory, to present a program for families and children. *Free, no tickets required.*

Additional family concerts to be announced.

Wednesday, July 3, 2 PM

YOUNG ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

Sae Yoon Chon, *piano*

First prize winner at the 2018 Dublin International Piano Competition, Sae-Yoon Chon has won numerous awards including 1st Prize at the Jeonbuk International Music Festival.

BEETHOVEN: Piano Sonata No.6, Op.10, No.2

DEBUSSY: Selected works from Prelude Book. 1

SCHUBERT/LISZT: Selected song transcriptions from Schubert Lieder

RACHMANINOFF: Piano Sonata No. 2, Op. 36

Free, no tickets required.

Wednesday, July 10, 7 PM

YOUNG ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

Students of NEC's Morningside Music Bridge program

This concert will feature students from the New England Conservatory's Morningside Music Bridge program which seeks to identify and promote outstanding young artists as well as develop long-term partnerships between classical music communities internationally to ultimately build a bridge of understanding and creativity that spans the world. *Free, no tickets required.*

TICKETING DETAILS

Subscriptions are available for purchase **March 29** and subscribers receive a 10% discount with purchase of 5-9 concerts and 15% with purchase of 10 or more concerts. All subscribers are eligible for exchange privileges and purchasing additional concerts without additional handling fees. **Single concert tickets** go on sale **April 12**. Please visit our website rockportmusic.org for more details on upcoming concerts.

Website: rockportmusic.org

Box Office: 978.546.7391

Ticket Sales Dates

Subscriptions: March 29, 2019

Single Tickets: April 12, 2019

Rockport Music is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and is supported in part by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.



ABOUT ROCKPORT MUSIC

Founded in 1981 as the Rockport Chamber Music Festival, Rockport Music presents exceptional concerts and cultural events in the “stunning acoustics and dramatic setting” (*Boston Globe*) of the Shalin Liu Performance Center. Best known for its summer chamber music festival featuring some of the world’s finest ensembles and soloists, Rockport Music has expanded its offerings to include year-round presentations of jazz, folk, pop, and world music, high-definition broadcasts from the Metropolitan Opera and National Theatre (London), and special film presentations. Education and community outreach activities serve nearly 10,000 students and adults throughout Cape Ann and the North Shore annually.