

BEHIND THE NOTES

ROCKPORT MUSIC NEWSLETTER :: SPRING 2019

The Future of Chamber Music

Rockport Chamber Music Festival
brings artists making a difference

Page 1



ROCKPORTMUSIC.ORG

AIZURI QUARTET

June 27

Building the Future of Chamber Music

Featuring pianist Barry Douglas and Aizuri Quartet

By KAREN HERLITZ

COMPOSERS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN INSPIRED BY THE REFERENCES OF THEIR TIMES, THEIR “SOURCE AND INSPIRATION” IF YOU WILL. AS THOSE REFERENCES have changed, so has the music. Musicians today strive to keep “traditional” classical music alive, but also celebrate the continuation of the creative process with new compositions and by supporting the next generation of musicians. Both are integral to the future of classical music. The theme of this year’s Rockport Chamber Music Festival (RCMF) is *Source + Inspiration* and we spotlight two of this year’s Festival artists, pianist Barry Douglas and the Aizuri Quartet, and their efforts towards that goal of keeping the future of classical music alive and well.

Barry Douglas shot into the spotlight with his Gold Medal performance at the 1986 Tchaikovsky International Piano Competition. It had a profound impact on his career. Recently, Douglas reflected on that competition with program annotator Keith Horner who was in the audience at that 1986 performance. At the close of Barry’s performance of Mussorgsky’s *Pictures at an Exhibition*, Keith remembers that it “resulted in 10 minutes of applause.” When asked why he thinks there was such a strong response, Barry replied, “...maybe, they detected that I, like them, appreciate that this is a ground-breaking piece of art!” Barry continues:

I was greatly influenced by Van Cliburn, whom I had the honour to know as a close friend for many years—he won, as everyone knows, the first Tchaikovsky Competition in 1958! We used to talk...about the need to branch out and have a wide repertoire. He told me to remember always the great honour of the Gold Medal, but also to think outside my success and be brave for new and exciting repertoire, and to think of new young composers!

In 1999 Barry Douglas founded the chamber orchestra Camerata Ireland and the Clandeboy Festival to celebrate and nurture the very best of young musicians from both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. He wished to create a “center of excellence for new young musicians in the first steps of their career...to find a way to nurture their talent.” He adds that approximately 20% of his Camerata Ireland players come from this Festival.



BARRY DOUGLAS
June 16

For his RCMF program, Douglas will be performing his two greatest musical loves, Mussorgsky’s *Pictures at an Exhibition* and a Brahms Trio.

Meet the Aizuri Quartet

Since winning the 2018 M-Prize Chamber Arts Competition, the Aizuri Quartet has been on a fast track, catching the attention of audiences and critics, as well as a Grammy nomination. As part of the Quartet’s residency at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the ensemble presented five unique programs over a season in which the *New York Times* hailed the Quartet’s “imaginative programming” and “places it in the new guard.” The Aizuri has had numerous other residencies, including the Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts, the Ravinia Festival’s Steans Music Institute, and the Curtis Institute of Music.

“In a crowded field of many brilliant young quartets, the Aizuri, through their exceptional playing and truly thoughtful curating, stand out. I am really excited to introduce this group to our Rockport family,” says artistic director Barry Shiffman.



Their debut release *Blueprinting*, a 2019 Grammy nominee and an NPR Music Best Classical Album of 2018, featured works by five of today's most exciting American composers. Two of the composers included were Caroline Shaw and Gabriella Smith, whose works will be performed on the Aizuri's RCMF program. According to NPR Music, the new quartet compositions "prove that the 250-year-old string quartet formula remains vibrant and vital." *The Washington Post* adds, "The result is a collection of viscerally powerful pieces that glow with ingenuity and push the string quartet in inventive and unexpected ways."

"These... prove that the 250-year-old string quartet formula remains vibrant and vital."

NPR MUSIC

Washington Post states, "In Aizuri's hands, Beethoven's String Quartet... became a study in contrasts...(the) syncopations were playful yet meticulous while, in the finale, the quartet bided its time, allowing the icy melancholy to melt into radiant sunbeams."

Both artists, Barry Douglas and the Aizuri Quartet, will be performing in the Rockport Chamber Music Festival this June, and both provide a fresh perspective on how to approach new compositions as well as works from the classical canon. Be sure to catch them and many more exciting artists this summer!

In addition to the tremendous success with new compositions and creative programming, the Aizuri Quartet is also known for its performances of the classical masters. *The*



Last summer's highly popular Rockport Fellows program continues during this year's Rockport Chamber Music Festival with seven exciting up-and-coming artists!

VERA QUARTET

Formed in 2015, the Quartet is currently String-Quartet-in-Residence at the Curtis Institute. The ensemble is driven by the belief in the power of chamber music "to contribute toward a just, egalitarian, and inclusive society". The members are Pedro Rodríguez Rodríguez, Rebecca Anderson, Inés Picardo Molares, and Justin Goldsmith. (PICTURED ABOVE)

KEVIN AHFAT, *piano*

A graduate of Juilliard (undergrad and grad), Ahfat is currently artist-in-residence at the Glenn Gould School of the Royal Conservatory in Toronto. Last season he premiered a recently-published Saint-Saëns sonata, as well as filming and producing a mini-documentary about the work.



SAE YOON CHON, *piano*

Originally from South Korea, Chon is the 2018 winner of the Dublin International Piano Competition. He currently studies at the Glenn Gould School of the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, and will have performances at Carnegie Hall, and with the London Symphony Orchestra in the upcoming season.



LIAM SMITH, *percussion*

Smith is a percussionist and composer trained at Oberlin Conservatory. He works not only in orchestral music, but also in new and folkloric music, as a steel drum band director, and as a dance accompanist.



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Rockport Jazz Festival

There are no boundaries...

By CHRISTOPHER BLAGG

SINCE ITS INCEPTION, JAZZ HAS ALWAYS BEEN A FLUID, BOUNDARY-DEFYING STYLE OF MUSIC. THE DESIRE TO MELD, CROSS OR HYBRIDIZE SEEMS TO BE WRITTEN IN ITS CORE DNA. You need look no further than jazz titan Miles Davis to find an artist who habitually scoffed at perceived musical borders or stylistic limitations, wading into the waters of fusion, rock, electronica and hip hop to follow his muse.

Of course, there have always been jazz purists out there shaking their fists at the audacity of boundary-crossing artists. But we at Rockport Music celebrate the breadth and possibility of the music, especially in the artists we are bringing for the **8th Annual Rockport Jazz Festival**. Guitarist **John Scofield**, who kicks off the festival on August 4, made his career off crossing musical borders, his compositions and technique borrowing heavily from rock, blues, and funk. Trinidadian trumpeter **Etienne Charles** (August 7) infuses his creole heritage into his jazz, blending in Caribbean flavors and rhythms. On the opposite spectrum, we host the elfin vocalist **Kat Edmonson** (August 8), who brings a decidedly 1930's vintage feel to her tunes, but also breathes a thoroughly modern lyrical sensibility into her original songwriting. Pianist **Aaron Diehl**, who arrives in Rockport on August 9, finds inspiration in both classical and jazz, his programs running the gamut from Gershwin to Phillip Glass and from Jelly Roll Morton to Mozart. All that being said, there's something to be said for doing one thing really well, and if impeccably and passionately performed vintage "hot club" jazz is what you seek, the Rockport Jazz Festival also has you covered with New York City's beloved **Hot Sardines** making its Festival debut on August 10.

We close the weekend with two concerts led by phenomenal drummers, beginning with rising star **Ulysses Owens Jr.** (a veteran of Christian McBride's band) who brings a gospel, soul-drenched aesthetic to his performances. The final Festival concert stars the legendary **Jack DeJohnette** alongside two "legacy" artists; saxophonist and Festival alum **Ravi Coltrane** (son of John Coltrane) and bassist Matthew Garrison (son of jazz bassist **Jimmy Garrison**, known for his work with John Coltrane and Ornette Coleman). It's a genetically-blessed straight-ahead jazz capper to a weekend that is sure to be a memorable Festival, whether you're a purist or not.



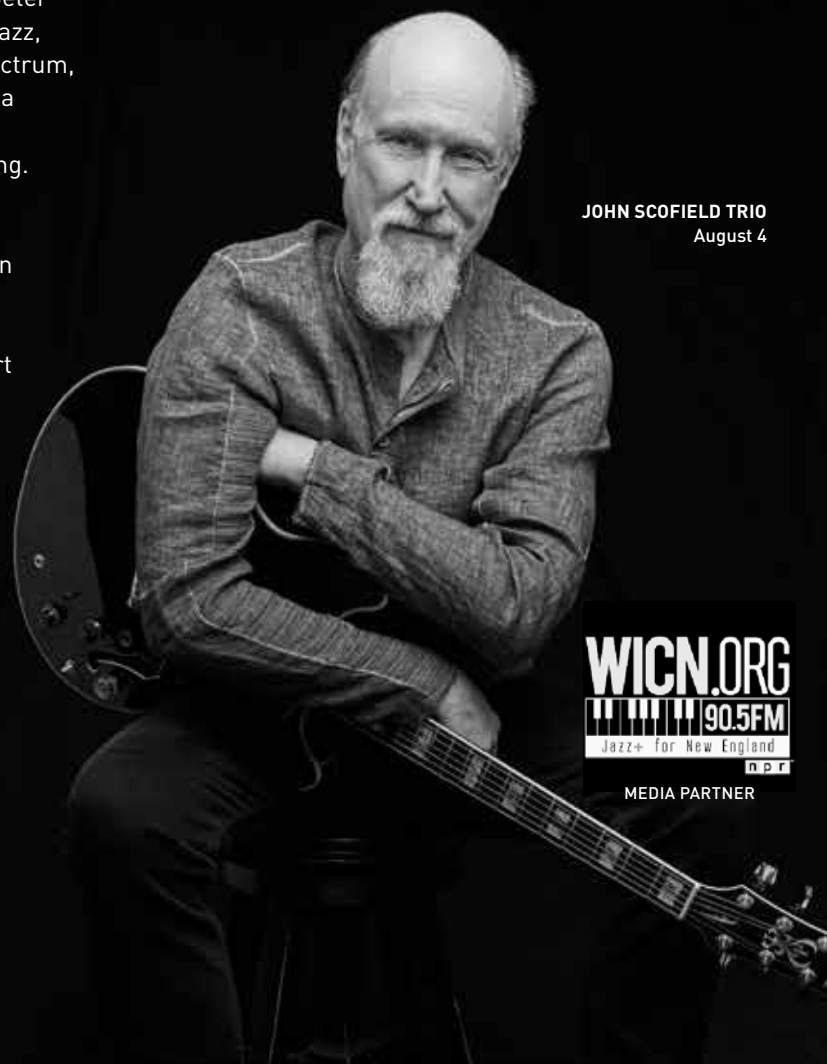
ETIENNE
CHARLES
August 7



HOT
SARDINES
August 10



JACK DEJOHNETTE
COLTRANE - GARRISON
August 11



JOHN SCOFIELD TRIO
August 4

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MATTHEW MORRISON

From Broadway Star to TV Superstar

By KAREN HERLITZ

ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, ROCKPORT MUSIC'S SUMMER GALA FEATURES BROADWAY AND TV STAR MATTHEW MORRISON, PERFORMING BROADWAY favorites, classics from the American Songbook, and other gems. Following the performance, guests will enjoy a celebratory evening of cocktails and dinner under the stars at the beautiful Millbrook Meadow.

Matthew received two Drama Desk nominations and won Favorite Actor in the Broadway.com Audience Awards for his role as J.M. Barrie in *Finding Neverland*. However, it's his role as the endearing Mr. Schuester on the explosively successful musical comedy TV hit *GLEE* (which won two consecutive Golden Globe Awards for Best TV Series) that truly rocketed him to fame. He has also had tremendous success as a recurring guest star on *Grey's Anatomy* and *The Good Wife*, as well as starring in the movie *What to Expect When You're Expecting* with Cameron Diaz.

A highly successful Broadway star, Matthew Morrison made his Broadway debut in *Footloose*, but theater-lovers will also remember him as the heartthrob Link Larkin in the musical *Hairspray*. His Broadway credits do not end there, including the Tony Award-winning revival of *South Pacific*, a Tony nomination for *The Light in the Piazza*, and a Drama Desk Nomination in *10 Million Miles*.

As a recording artist, Matthew's latest release *Where It All Began* features Broadway favorites and had *The Washington Post* lauding his "handsome tenor" and "excellent taste." His debut self-titled album in 2011 came out to great acclaim and featured duets with such legends as Elton John. Currently, Morrison is serving on the panel for a new dance competition series on BBC One, entitled *The Greatest Dancer*.

GALA TICKETS: Visit rockportmusic.org/2019-summer-gala
or call 978.546.7391 x106



SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY
AUGUST 3, 2019

Rockport Music
Summer Gala



STAY TUNED IN! FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM

@rockportchambermusicfestival will keep you current on all things Festival, and you can check out @shalinliuperformancecenter for a taste of past and upcoming concerts, events, behind-the-scenes and more!

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MUSIC CONNECTS US TO THE WORLD

MARTHA & WARREN SALINGER

Having been a part of Rockport Music's early years, Martha and Warren Salinger are proud to be members of Rockport Music's Linden Tree Society. The Salingers moved to Rockport a year or two after the Rockport Chamber Music Festival was launched in 1981 and soon joined its Board, Martha as Treasurer and Warren as President, succeeding Paul Sylva. They recall how challenging it was in those early years.

Martha notes, "Paul Sylva talked me into being Treasurer for the festival. Eleanor Hoy, the first Treasurer, welcomed me to the role saying, 'I hope you have enough money to pay the musicians.' It is so rewarding to see how successful Rockport Music has become now!"

Warren and Martha have always loved music in almost all its genres: particularly classical, blues and folk. "Rockport Music has given us so much pleasure," says Warren.

As a former non-profit Development Director with the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, and with over thirty years of experience, Warren understands that institutions like Rockport Music must count on planned giving opportunities like bequests not only to stay afloat, but to grow. Warren comments, "Fundraising, at its best, is never begging for money but rather providing opportunities for donors to participate in something that is important to them in their lives and that, through groups like Rockport Music's Linden Tree Society, can be continued even after those lives have ended."

Warren came to the United States in 1939 as a six-year-old refugee from Nazi Germany. According to Warren, "I grew up relatively poor, but we had a phonograph. As a family, we listened to classical music. Through music, I could travel in my mind. Music connects us to the world."

Martha was also born in Germany. They met when Warren was stationed there during his service with the U.S. Air Force. "We now have four grown children, and we are fortunate. We are comfortable enough and so are our children. We can afford to take some of our estate and leave it to organizations that have been so important to us during our lifetimes," says Warren. "To be able to perpetuate one's love for something that has made your life richer and more fulfilling – like Rockport Music – is an opportunity we did not want to miss."

For information on becoming a Linden Tree Society member by making a bequest through your will or trust, please contact Kathy Urner-Jones at 978.546.7391 x132 or kurnerjones@rockportmusic.org.



"To be able to perpetuate one's love for...something that has made your life richer and more fulfilling – like Rockport Music – is an opportunity we did not want to miss."

WARREN & MARTHA SALINGER



Align Your Business with Excellence

Rockport Music is a boutique performing arts organization that focuses on providing extraordinary experiences, and we work with our Corporate Partners to customize sponsor benefits to meet different business objectives and budget. With a wide range of musical performances, educational and free community programs, and over 38,000 concert attendees at the Shalin Liu Performance Center each year, we have the leverage to create high-profile branding opportunities. Rockport Music would like to highlight two of our Corporate Partners:

ENGEL & VÖLKERS By The Sea

"Engel & Völkers By The Sea represents fine living and discerning taste as a trusted lifestyle brand. By aligning Engel & Völkers By The Sea as an Exclusive Partner of Rockport Music, which presents exceptional artists in an extraordinary setting, we are strengthening both our brands, all while supporting the arts in the community we love." **Karen Hanson**, LICENSE PARTNER

CAPE ANN TREE SERVICE

"Working with Rockport Music as a corporate sponsor has been nothing short of amazing; the staff is great and the music is world class. Having the opportunity to enhance the landscape of this organization, both physically and financially, allows the team at Cape Ann Tree Service to share and build on a commitment to the local community - expanding art, culture and helping to improve the space around us." **Matthew Natti**, OWNER AND OPERATOR

Business Associate levels start at \$250. For more information on Corporate Sponsorships, please contact Susan Rogers at 978.743.546.7391 x106 or srogers@rockportmusic.org.



Engel & Völkers By The Sea

SPONSORSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Cape Ann Tree Service



ROCKPORT MUSIC COUNCIL

This past March, sixteen members of the Rockport Music Council gathered for their annual meeting to hear an update on our accomplishments and plans for the future as well as to brainstorm together on ways to advance Rockport Music's mission. Council members collaborated with Trustees, Trustees Emeriti and staff about the best ways to serve as our ambassadors, and how to help expand our network of patrons, donors and community friends. Those in attendance also got to enjoy a wonderful musical performance from soprano Carley DeFranco and pianist Jonathan Shin.

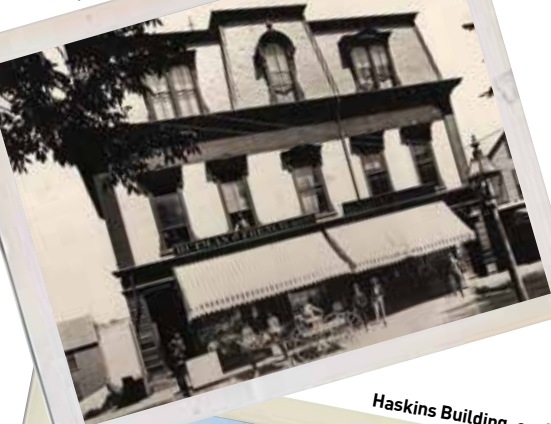
The Rockport Music Council is a group of thirty-two volunteers representing our patrons, donors, local businesses and community leaders who help to inspire others to engage with Rockport Music and broaden our base of support. **If you are interested in learning more about the Council and its activities, please contact Lori Correale, Director of Development at lcorreale@rockportmusic.org.**

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE (L TO R): Judy Hood, Greg Bover (CB Fiske Inc.), Deborah Epstein (Epstein Joslin Architects Inc.), Barbara Sparks, Lois Brynes, Laura Stevens, Suzanne Cervo, John Brennan (Cape Ann Savings Bank), Karen Hanson (Engel & Völkers), LeeAnne Powers (Align Credit Union), Kathy Skrabut, Sandy Lawrence, Susan King, Michael Costello, Dianne Anderson, Mel Rosenblatt UNABLE TO ATTEND: James Bacon, Patricia Bertero, William Bonaccorso, Mary Ann Sherry Bresnan, Andrew Calkins, Frank Fritsch, Gillian Kellogg, Lewis Leathersich, Edward Lowenstein, Deborah Nelson, Olivia Parker, Richard Safier, Hinda Simon, Helen Soussou, Bruce Sunstein

A Home of Their Own

Rockport Chamber Music Festival Prepares to Build a Performance Center

Haskins Building, late 1800's



Haskins Building, ca. 2005



Bill Hausman showing the model of the new concert hall.

ON OPENING NIGHT OF THE 2005 CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL (RCMF), PHIL CUTTER, CHAIR OF THE NEWLY FORMED CAMPAIGN committee, addressed the audience. Looking forward to the 25th anniversary in 2006, he spoke of the organization's goal to raise \$5 million to ensure artistic quality, provide working capital and establish a building fund. "We want to intensify our efforts which began nearly eight years ago...to secure a fitting, permanent home for the Festival."

A few months earlier, the organization had learned that the Haskins Building was for sale. Built in the early 1860's, and rising three stories, the Haskins Building occupied a prominent spot on Rockport's Main Street. By the 1880's, the top floor was used for "sociables" hosted by the Sandy Bay Yacht Club and other community functions. By 1974 use of the third floor social hall had been discontinued and many of the dramatic Second Empire features had been covered by aluminum siding. The street level commercial space was occupied by the Madras Shop, a popular clothing store.

Despite its age and awkward attempts at modernization, the Haskins Building offered the essential elements of a new home for the RCMF: a building in the center of Rockport just steps from its home at the Rockport Art Association, a seaside location with the potential for water views, and space for both a concert hall and social gathering space.

A few months later, an unexpected offer came from an anonymous donor – \$50,000 to hire renowned acoustician Lawrence Kirkegaard to assess the building's suitability for a concert hall. Kirkegaard passed first judgment on the feasibility of turning the Haskins Building into a concert hall and proclaimed, "I think you've got enough space here."

With funds approved for preliminary design work, the list of potential candidates was



Lawrence Kirkegaard

narrowed to eight and then to four. Among the finalists was the newly formed firm Epstein Joslin Architects. Recalling Epstein and Joslin's presentation to the selection committee, Barbara Sparks explained "They submitted a proposal that just blew us away."

An attempt was made to utilize the existing Haskins building, but due to issues or limitations with building mass and shape of the original building, it was clear that the Haskins Building would need to be razed.

Having determined the ideal footprint, the next major decision was on which floors to locate the concert hall. It was determined that the advantage of joining ocean, performance and street life by way of windows at both ends of the concert hall was ideal. In addition, the new exterior design brought elements to recreate the Second Empire aesthetic integrating the building with the public life of the town. Plans for the new building were revealed in April 2006 at which time construction costs had risen to \$12 million from an earlier estimate of \$8 million.

As fundraising efforts gathered momentum, Phil Cutter and his wife Eve became acquainted with Shalin Liu as a prospective donor. Having never attended the Festival concerts, Shalin was unfamiliar with RCMF, but as a philanthropist she had dreams of supporting the creation of a concert hall. Phil and Eve introduced her to RCMF Artistic Director David Deveau and to the architects. Inspired by Alan Joslin's

design for the hall with its view out to the ocean, bringing nature inside, she became one of the "early angel" donors with her naming gift for the performance center.

In March 2007, with construction costs now estimated at \$17 million, RCMF submitted a grant application to the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) Facilities Fund. Although the proposal was rejected, the organization had gained the attention of MCC's new executive director Anita Walker who arranged to meet with members of the board. Walker acknowledged that RCMF was an organization with a history, a donor base and experience in successful fundraising. RCMF had shown it knew, on a smaller scale, what was required to sustainably run a non-profit organization. "But," Walker observed, "[without] the due diligence, ...the feasibility study, and the business plan to support the vision, it could go off the rail in short order." Walker recommended that the organization complete a business plan with additional market research and reapply to the Facilities Fund – MCC awarded a Feasibility and Technical Assistance grant to this end.

With architectural and fundraising plans developed, RCMF began its public relations efforts. The community was eager to know what would replace the historic Haskins Building. Carol Ciulla, Box Office Manager, recalled Saturday morning public presentations at the building. "We would set up

the chairs, open the doors and let the town come in. They could ask us questions and Alan would give a presentation – he [was] just fabulous at it – and they fielded questions and complaints."

On May 1, 2007, RCMF submitted its application for zoning relief to the Rockport Board of Appeals. Three public hearings were held through late May and June, as well as additional public hearings for abutters. Following approval of the Site Plan by the Planning Board, the Board of Appeals granted the necessary special permits on August 6. Peter Bergholtz, then chairman of the Board of Appeals, said of the Board's deliberation, "I think they got [a] thorough questioning, ...as a group, there wasn't anyone not in favor of...doing this."

Despite approvals from the Planning Board and the Board of Appeals in August 2007, it would be another 15 months before demolition could begin. Owners of the property abutting the Haskins Building erected obstacles which included claiming non-compliance with zoning set-backs. With a proposal for a Cultural Overlay District addressing the problem, RCMF was prepared to bring this to a vote before the Town Meeting. On May 8, 2008, having reached a resolution with the abutter moments before the Town Meeting began, Bill Hausman, a member of the board, recounted the dramatic moment. As the meeting began, and with a pre-arranged

nod to the moderator, Hausman rose to announce the settlement "and the packed house erupted with applause..."

Forty months after Phil Cutter's original announcement, the primary item on the RCMF board meeting agenda of September 18, 2008, was whether to go forward with the demolition of the Haskins building and begin construction of the Shalin Liu Performance Center. Major hurdles had been cleared — yet there remained one last hurdle. The cost of building had increased to \$20 million and at this point only \$13 million had been raised. At the meeting there was intense discussion— some board members urged caution, others voiced a strong degree of confidence in meeting the goal, others spoke of "taking a leap of faith." The vote was taken. The minutes of the meeting record: "The unanimous vote to go forward was celebrated with a round of champagne..."

On September 29, 2008, the stock market crashed. On Tuesday, November 18, with several dozen Rockporters on hand to witness the event, the shell of the Haskins Building fell with a crash.

BY THE ROCKPORT MUSIC ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE:
Ruth Shane (writer), Frank Berson, Robert Cassidy,
Jean Rees, Richard Tennant, Jean Woodbury and
Margaret Ziering.

Founded by the late John Sparks, a longtime Rockport music board member, the Oral History Project has conducted, recorded, and preserved over 50 interviews with former and current Rockport Music trustees, volunteers, staff, and members of the Rockport community. This is the fourth article in the series.



On September 29, 2008,
the stock market crashed.
On Tuesday, November 18...
the shell of the Haskins
Building fell with a crash.



Body Songs, which involved body percussion, looping pedals and singing. Below he describes how he came about conceiving *Body Songs*:

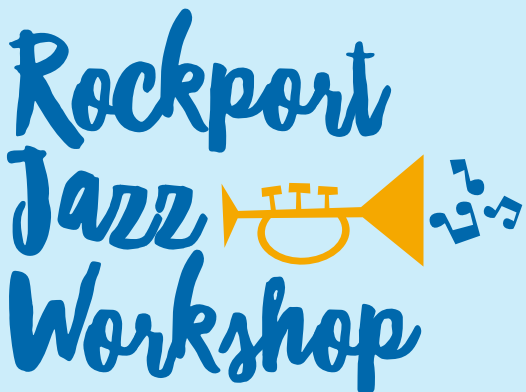
I actually come from a classically trained background, and it's interesting to see how I almost went backwards through this discovery process. I went along with the assumption that I was ordained as a "professional musician" once I graduated from college studying classical music, and viewed the drumset and jazz and other genres as nice supplements to my musical life at the time. I started going broader with my musical taste and started experimenting with random objects and then my body. I ultimately realized after studying music for decades that this whole process was backwards. Music starts with your body, then from there you start looking outward and eventually pick a more specific genre. This was something I had to discover myself and ask why did we as a society build our educational system this way? That's exactly why I'm trying to rethink our educational approach and am sharing these systems here in Rockport and all over the world. I want to share my realization that everything starts from within us, and from there expands outward into whatever else we want, hopefully never disconnecting from ourselves as the core of it all. Body Songs came about as a natural response of the necessity from the audience to reconnect to our own selves as human beings, and it's a beautiful chance of showing people how valuable it is to remember to take care of yourself and open up to everyone around you.

Utilizing Your Body as an Instrument

By JOSUE GONZALEZ, DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION & PARTNERSHIPS

INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED, GRAMMY-NOMINATED PERCUSSIONIST/DRUMMER TUPAC MANTILLA IS CONSIDERED BY CRITICS AS ONE OF THE MOST VERSATILE AND CREATIVE ARTISTS OF HIS GENERATION. His work as a performer, educator, producer and clinician has been highly recognized worldwide and includes appearances in major festivals, institutions and venues such as Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Harvard University, Stanford University, Kennedy Center, Berklee College of Music, Tanglewood and Newport Jazz festivals, among many others. During Tupac Mantilla's educational residency week here in Cape Ann, he visited eight schools and gave a free performance at the Shalin Liu Performance Center of his new one man show

Tupac Mantilla presented one of several multi-day residency programs brought to Cape Ann Schools by Rockport Music featuring all musical genres and going into all grade levels. This year's residencies have featured the award-winning Tesla Quartet, the folk trio Molsky's Mountain Drifters, the vocal ensemble Windborne, Beantown Swing Orchestra, African percussionist Sowah Mensah, and in May, The Brass Project.



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JAZZ WORKSHOP STUDENT SHOWCASE

FRIDAY, JULY 26, 11 AM Location: Rockport High School Auditorium

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 11 AM Location: Shalin Liu Performance Center

The Rockport Jazz Workshop is generously sponsored in part by Mary and Frank Fritsch and The Cressey Cares Charitable Fund.

Introducing the...

Rockport Celtic Festival

EXPLORING THE ROOTS & BRANCHES OF CELTIC MUSIC

BRIAN O'DONOVAN & MAEVE GILCHRIST, ARTISTIC DIRECTORS

For over three decades, Brian O'Donovan has been hosting *A Celtic Sojourn* on WGBH, a program exploring traditional and contemporary music from around the Celtic world. He's also well known for his live concert series *A Christmas Celtic Sojourn* as well as many other presentations around New England. In partnership with Rockport Music and working in close collaboration with fellow Artistic Director, Edinburgh-born harpist/composer Maeve Gilchrist, Brian is proud to present the first annual Rockport Celtic Festival – *Exploring Celtic Roots and Branches*. Featuring a wide and quite extraordinary variety of new and familiar musicians, singers, dancers, and storytellers, the weekend will focus on the genre's broad and vibrant range with a strong emphasis on crossover and collaborative work between musicians from different genres including classical, jazz, and American traditional. This will be a dynamic and interactive weekend featuring mainstage concerts, workshops, intimate salon-style sessions in our third floor space, and much more. In addition to Maeve and Brian, the Festival will feature: Mick McAuley and John Doyle (early members of Solas), Oisín McAuley (Danú), Bruce Molsky & Allison de Groot (fiddle, banjo), Palaver Strings (13 piece chamber orchestra), composers Dana Lyn and Kyle Sanna, The Seamus Egan Project with Moira Smiley, fiddler Jenna Moynihan and harpist Mairi Chaimbeul, singers Eamon O'Leary and Jefferson Hamer (The Murphy Beds), dancer Kevin Doyle, and more. This will be a gathering rarely, if ever, seen before.

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, AUGUST 23

7 PM OPENING NIGHT: *The Celtic-Appalachian Journey*

10 PM Celtic Session

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24

4 PM Celtic Workshop

7 PM String on Strings: *classical crossover with chamber orchestra*

10 PM Celtic Session

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25

2 PM Words and Music – *The Celtic Spirit: poetry, prose, and song*

5 PM CLOSING: *Songs and Stories of the Sea*

TICKETS: Mainstage \$49–\$69 | Celtic Session \$25 / \$10

Tickets on-sale now! Visit rockportmusic.org



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A CELTIC SOJOURN
with Brian O'Donovan

VOLUNTEER NEWS

ANNOUNCING 2019 LOVGREN AWARD WINNERS JEAN REES & JEAN WOODBURY

Rockport Music would like to thank this year's Lovgren Award winners – Jean Rees and Jean Woodbury. Both represent longstanding volunteer service to the organization. Jean Rees serves as a docent and member of the Oral History Committee, and has also served as a board member and was the "Friends" Volunteer liaison to the Board during the opening of the hall. Jean Woodbury volunteers as a docent and serves on the Oral History Committee, as well as previously working as an usher, helping with merchandise sales and with the marketing committee. Thank you both for your outstanding work to Rockport Music over the years!



Jean Rees

Jean Woodbury



IN MEMORIAM ALEC DINGEE (1930–2019)

In memory of Alec Dingee, Rockport Music celebrates the life of a cherished friend, generous supporter and advisor to the organization. His steadfast commitment to Rockport Music and the Shalin Liu Performance Center will be remembered for generations to come.



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CONCERTS & PROGRAMS / JUNE – SEPTEMBER 2019

CALENDAR

JUNE

JUNE 1, 8 PM Glenn Crytzer's Savoy Seven
JUNE 2, 5 PM Bobby McFerrin
JUNE 4, 7 PM GREAT ART ON SCREEN: Monet
JUNE 7, 8 PM Christian McBride
JUNE 8, 8 PM Mountain Man
JUNE 14, 8 PM RCMF OPENING NIGHT: The Roaring '20s
JUNE 15, 7:30 PM Parker Quartet
JUNE 15, 10 PM Weimar Cabaret
JUNE 16, 5 PM Barry Douglas
JUNE 18, 7 PM FILM: *Coriolanus*
JUNE 20, 2 PM OPEN REHEARSAL: Philippe Graffin*
JUNE 20, 8 PM Philippe Graffin
JUNE 21, 11 AM FILM: *Mountain**
JUNE 21, 8 PM Piers Lane
JUNE 22, 7:30 PM Pieter Wispelwey
JUNE 22, 10 PM CABARET: Inspired by Beethoven
JUNE 23, 5 PM Hosted by Glenn Gould
JUNE 27, 2 PM OPEN REHEARSAL: Aizuri Quartet*
JUNE 27, 8 PM Aizuri Quartet
JUNE 28, 8 PM Take This Waltz

JUNE 29, 10 AM

FAMILY CONCERT:
Danny Koo &
Kevin Ahfat*
JUNE 29, 7:30 PM Gilad Karni
JUNE 29, 10 PM CABARET: Musicals
JUNE 30, 5 PM JCT Trio

JULY

JULY 1, 7 PM FILM: *The Tempest*
JULY 3, 2 PM Sae Yoon Chon*
JULY 5, 8 PM Jens Lindemann
JULY 6, 7:30 PM Takács Quartet
JULY 6, 10 PM CABARET: Brass Soirée
JULY 7, 5 PM Max Levinson
JULY 8, 8 PM MET ENCORE IN HD: *Roméo et Juliette*
JULY 10, 7 PM YOUNG ARTIST: Morningside Music Bridge*
JULY 11, 8 PM Reimagining Flamenco
JULY 12, 11 AM FILM: *Itzhak**
JULY 12, 7:30 PM Venice Baroque Orchestra & Avi Avital
JULY 12, 10 PM CABARET: Tango!!
JULY 13, 10 AM FAMILY CONCERT: A Far Cry*
JULY 13, 8 PM Richard Goode

JULY 14, 5 PM

CLOSING CONCERT:
A Far Cry

JULY 16, 7 PM

NATIONAL THEATRE
IN HD: *Small Island*

JULY 18 & 19, 8 PM

Tom Rush with
Matt Nakoa

JULY 20, 8 PM

Martin Sexton

JULY 21, 7 PM

Sierra Hull

JULY 22, 7 PM

MET ENCORE IN HD:
La Bohème

JULY 24, 7 PM

Alexa Tarantino
Quartet*

JULY 25 & 26, 8 PM

Paula Cole

JULY 26, 11 AM

Jazz Workshop
Student Showcase*

JULY 27, 8 PM

Quebe Sisters

JULY 28, 5 PM

Ronan Tynan

JULY 29, 7 PM

MET ENCORE IN HD:
Il Barbiere di Siviglia

JULY 30, 8 PM

Natalie Merchant

JULY 31, 7 PM

Jazz Workshop
Faculty*

AUGUST

AUG 1 & 2, 8 PM Béla Fleck & Abigail Washburn
AUG 2, 11 AM Jazz Workshop Student Showcase*
AUG 3, 5:30 PM SUMMER GALA: Matthew Morrison
John Scofield Trio
AUG 4, 5 PM MET ENCORE IN HD: *Aida*
AUG 5, 7 PM Etienne Charles
AUG 7, 8 PM Kat Edmonson
AUG 8, 8 PM Aaron Diehl
AUG 9, 8 PM Hot Sardines
AUG 10, 8 PM

AUG 11, 2 PM

Ulysses Owens, Jr.

AUG 11, 8 PM

Jack DeJohnette

AUG 14, 8 PM

Mipso

AUG 15, 8 PM

Darrell Scott

AUG 16, 8 PM

Ben Wendel

AUG 17, 7 PM

Handel + Haydn
Society

AUG 18, 7 PM

Jim Brickman

AUG 22, 8 PM

Mikarimba

AUG 23, 7 PM

OPENING NIGHT:
The Celtic-Appalachian Journey

AUG 23, 10 PM

Celtic Session
Upstairs

AUG 24, 4 PM

Celtic Workshop

AUG 24, 7 PM

String on Strings

AUG 24, 10 PM

Celtic Session
Upstairs

AUG 25, 2 PM

Words and Music –
The Celtic Spirit

AUG 25, 5 PM

CLOSING: Songs &
Stories of the Sea

AUG 31, 7 PM:

David Finckel
& Wu Han

SEPTEMBER

SEPT 1, 7 PM Della Mae
SEPT 6, 8 PM 1964: The Tribute
SEPT 10, 2:30 PM & SEPT 12, 7 PM
Margaret Atwood: Live in Cinemas
SEPT 17, 7 PM NATIONAL THEATRE
IN HD: *The Lehman
Trilogy*
SEPT 28, 8 PM Chelsea Berry

■ ROCKPORT CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL
■ ROCKPORT JAZZ FESTIVAL
■ ROCKPORT CELTIC FESTIVAL
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