A Deeper Dive into Music
Building long-term musical learning experiences
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THIS JANUARY, ROCKPORT MUSIC HEATS UP THE WINTER WITH A LATIN-INSPIRED PROGRAM ENTITLED THE SOUL OF THE AMERICAS CELEBRATING THE RICH tapestry of musical influences across North and South America, the concert features works of seven iconic composers – Aaron Copland, George Gershwin, Leonard Bernstein, Samuel Barber, Heitor Villa-Lobos (Brazil), Alberto Ginastera (Argentina), and Osvaldo Golijov (Argentina). Curated by pianist Michael Brown and cellist Nicholas Canellakis, they are joined by highly acclaimed pianist Orion Weiss and percussionist Ian David Rosenbaum to perform the program.

Michael Brown and Nicholas Canellakis shared their thoughts with us on their exciting program and what to expect from their concert.

On their inspiration for Soul of the Americas
We are big fans and proponents of 20th century American music. Some of our favorite American pioneers like Bernstein, Copland and Gershwin were all influenced by the rich musical cultures of Latin and South America. We wanted to create a thrilling program that celebrated these cross-continental connections. The works we’ve selected are full of the vivacity, dance, excitement and passion that characterizes the music of the Americas at its best.

On the impact of Latin composers on modern classical music
Composers often take inspiration from each other – and the music and dance from Central and South America has seeped into the compositional toolbox of composers writing today from all over the world. Their music made a huge impact on the American composers presented on this program. Take a look at Aaron Copland’s compositional output for example – many of his works are Latin American-inspired. He took great interest in that music, promoting several young Latin American composers in the early 1950s including Ginastera – who studied with Copland and credits him for opening many doors for him. It is often these types of musical connections that continually shape and redefine the direction of music history.

On how the definition of “classical music” has changed over time
It does seem like musicians and audiences are less interested in boundaries today, and more open to genres bleeding into each other. At the end of the day, as long as it's done with craft and sophistication, great music is great music.

On what to expect from the concert
The concert takes the listener on a journey from Copland’s El Salón México to Gershwin’s Cuban Overture, with many other works in between by Golijov, Barber, Bernstein, Villa-Lobos, and Ginastera. These North and South American composers responded to the rhythm of their surroundings, places they encountered, and dance. The fusion of these elements combined with supreme compositional talent showcases these composers’ unique voices and their stamp on musical history. Above all, the music on this program is vibrant and fun featuring different instrumental combinations (with two pianists, cello, and percussion) showing a chamber music angle to how these masterpieces can be presented and enjoyed.
• Copland’s *El Salón Mexico* was inspired by a nightclub in Mexico City he discovered during his first visit in 1932.
• Barber’s *Souvenirs* was inspired from his memories as a child at New York’s Palm Court of the Plaza Hotel.
• Bernstein’s *Mass*, from which he later arranged the *Three Meditations* for cello, piano and percussion, was originally commissioned by Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis for the Kennedy Center opening in 1971.

- Ginastera was the founder of the League of Composers and was a teacher to Astor Piazzolla.
- Villa-Lobos is best known for his *Chôros* works for guitar, which he wrote for Spanish guitarist Andrés Segovia.
- Golijov was born and raised in Argentina. He currently lives in the Boston area and was the 2018 Rockport Chamber Music Festival Composer-In-Residence.
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NICHOLAS CANELLAKIS, cello
MICHAEL BROWN, piano
Margaret Ziering recalls taking her elderly mother to the symphony years ago. “My mother was in a wheelchair by that time – very frail, with memory issues. I thought she would probably fall asleep. On the contrary, she was alert and immersed in the music for the entire performance. People have an innate sense for music. It heals.” She adds, “When I go to the Shalin Liu Performance Center, it’s like going to my ‘happy place’. I may arrive feeling tired, but by the time I leave I am energized.” Margaret’s husband, Chip, adds: “It is undoubtedly one of the best small performance venues in the world.”

The Zierings have been summering on Cape Ann for decades. Margaret’s great grandparents came from Cleveland to Gloucester for summers starting in the early 1900s. Generations of her family still summer in Gloucester, and Margaret and Chip were motivated to purchase a home five minutes from the house her grandparents bought in 1950. “Summer is a big family reunion time for us,” notes Margaret. “Once in a while, we would go to the Rockport Chamber Music Festival concerts in the Rockport Art Association when our daughters were young.”

However, the Zierings credit Susan Gray and her late husband Alec Dingee for bringing them into the Rockport Music family. Susan and Alec invited the Zierings to a special event for Rockport Music. At the dinner, then Board Chair Tom Burger offered to show them the new hall under construction. The magic of the building and the warmth of the people involved captured the Zierings’ imagination – and they soon became generous supporters of Rockport Music. Margaret joined the Board of Trustees in 2012 and now serves as Vice-Chair.

But the seeds of the Zierings’ love of music were planted as children. Chip grew up in Georgia, learning to play clarinet and saxophone. His father played the piano, and his mother worked at Atlanta’s Theater Under the Stars. Margaret was raised in Ohio, also in a music-loving family. Her great-grandfather was the first president of the Musical Arts Association in Cleveland, now known as the Cleveland Symphony Orchestra. “I played the piano, and my parents regularly took us to the Cleveland Orchestra concerts and to the Metropolitan Opera when it came to Cleveland each year.”

Margaret and Chip became friends while in college at Wellesley and MIT and married after graduation. Chip, now retired, was a co-founder of Progress Software. Margaret, an Art History major, worked in the archives at Historic New England before their daughters were born. Their primary home is in Concord, MA, but summers find them on Cape Ann – often at the Shalin Liu Performance Center, where they are “enveloped in the music,” according to Margaret.

The Zierings included Rockport Music as a charitable beneficiary in their estate plans because they want future generations to have the same experience at the hall that they now enjoy. Margaret concludes, “Both of the Artistic Directors of the chamber music festival have produced outstanding performances that keep us coming back for more. Rockport Music is also embracing its roots as a community organization with residencies, pop-up concerts and educational offerings. The arts are essential; everyone needs a creative outlet. We want to ensure that for the future.”
With the help and support of our Annual Fund Committee, we surpassed our 2019 Annual Fund goal of $975,000 with a total of $1,031,468 raised! Annual Fund support is the lifeblood of our organization. It bridges the gap between ticket revenue, which provides about half of what we need, and our annual costs. This critical funding helps bring world-class musicians of all genres to our community, maintain our spectacular Shalin Liu Performance Center and provide educational opportunities for music students of all ages.

Our success this year would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of our fifteen Annual Fund Committee members who added that important personal touch to our appeal by spending countless hours writing personal notes, sending emails and making phone calls. Our sincere thanks to our 2019 Annual Fund Committee, particularly Jeannie McIntyre for her dedication and tireless efforts as our Chair.

In 2016, Cape Ann Savings Bank scheduled a client appreciation event at the Shalin Liu Performance Center, and its relationship with Rockport Music began. “The third floor with its wonderful views in itself would have made my clients happy, but the event included a concert which made it a huge success.” said John Brennan, Vice President and Senior Trust Officer of Cape Ann Savings Trust & Financial Services. “The Shalin Liu Performance Center is a cultural beacon for our region.”

Since then, Cape Ann Savings Bank has become an anchor sponsor of the non-classical concerts in the fall-spring season, and Brennan now serves as a valued member of the Rockport Music Council, sharing the positive outcomes of Rockport Music’s Corporate Partnership program with area businesses.

“The visibility Cape Ann Savings Bank receives through our sponsorship puts us in a position to compete for business” says Brennan. “Our partnership elevates our community profile, and another way to introduce ourselves to prospective clients.”

About Cape Ann Savings Bank
For close to 175 years, Cape Ann Savings Bank has been a valued financial institution on Cape Ann. “Being committed to our community and providing an exceptional customer experience are a priority for us as a community bank,” says Bob Gillis, President of the Cape Ann Savings Bank.

Over time, products and services have grown to meet customers’ needs. “Many Cape Ann residents are unaware that Cape Ann Savings Trust & Financial Services offers investments, retirement planning, estate planning and settlement services,” says Gillis, “and as a professional fiduciary, it’s our responsibility to provide services that work in your best interest.”

Align Your Business with Excellence
Rockport Music works with Corporate Partners, like Cape Ann Savings Bank, to customize benefits to meet business objectives and budgets. For more information, please contact Susan Rogers at 978.546.7391 x106 or srogers@rockportmusic.org.
BLUE NOTE RECORDS

By CHRIS BLAGG

TO SURVIVE 80 YEARS IN THE FAMOUSLY CUTTHROAT WORLD OF THE MUSIC INDUSTRY IS QUITE A FEAT. BUT THAT’S JUST WHAT BLUE NOTE RECORDS HAS DONE, AND THEY’RE NOT JUST SURVIVING—THEY’RE STILL FLOURISHING. So, how’d they do it? Savvy backroom deals? Ruthless strongarm tactics? Nope. It comes down to this: the artist always came first.

Perhaps the most tangible example of their dedication to the artist is simply that they paid more than other labels. Unlike many of their peers at the time (Prestige, Columbia, Impulse! Atlantic, etc.), Blue Note paid their artists for rehearsal time in the days leading up to the recording session. This naturally made for tighter, more engaged sessions and higher quality recordings. So almost since its inception, the Blue Note brand was synonymous with top notch performances. The brand was also boosted by the strong, stylized visual appeal of its album artwork. In its heyday, the 1950s and 1960s, the photography and graphic art of Reid Miles created a series of iconic album covers that juxtaposed cropped photos of the recording artists with ultra-modern typography. The artwork, along with its now immediately recognizable logo and tagline (“The finest jazz since 1939”), was imitated throughout the hard bop era, but never truly replicated.

Of course, it’s the music that matters most and the amount of absolutely legendary records put out on Blue Note through the years is staggering. To just give a small taste: John Coltrane’s Blue Train, Herbie Hancock’s Maiden Voyage, Dexter Gordon’s Go!, Sonny Rollins’ Night at the Village Vanguard, Eric Dolphy’s Out to Lunch, Horace Silver’s Song for My Father, Art Blakey’s Moanin’, and countless other bonafide classics.

Like any long-running company there have been ups and downs, but in 2019 Blue Note is still going strong with a stable of exciting forward-thinking artists including keyboardist Robert Glasper, hip hop producer Madlib, singer/pianist Norah Jones, New Orleans’ Trombone Shorty and many others.

Blue Note Records celebrates its eight decade anniversary this year with a tour featuring the great James Carter Organ Trio, as well as some of the historic label’s most promising young artists – singer Kandace Springs and pianist James Frances. The tour arrives in Rockport on November 7th. Come check out some of that Blue Note magic!
HIGHLIGHTS
ROCKPORT CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL
2019 Barry Shiffman ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

FROM TOP LEFT: Danny Koo and Barry Shiffman, Piers Lane, Avi Avital, Stephen Prutsman and Vera Quartet performing to Buster Keaton’s College, Chee-yun and Barry Shiffman with A Far Cry.

SAVE THE DATE
June 12 – July 12, 2020
39th Annual ROCKPORT CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL

HIGHLIGHTS
AN EVENING OF APPRECIATION
September 12, 2019

1. President Tony Beadle, Trustee Emeriti Susanne Guyer, Board Chair Nina Doggett, and Artistic Director Barry Shiffman honor Susanne’s leadership term as Board Chair and welcome Nina as the incoming Chair.

2. Trustees Naomi Stonberg and Trustee Pat Petrou appreciate Rockport Music donors.

3. Jack Henning, Helen and Joe Soussou, and Deborah Henning having a lovely evening.

4. Maura Wadlinger, Trustee Emeriti Mollie Byrnes, Board Chair Nina Doggett, Lindsay Greimann, and Donna Fairservice enjoying the reception.
OVER THE YEARS, ROCKPORT MUSIC HAS ENJOYED A SUCCESSFUL HISTORY OF EDUCATION RESIDENCIES. They’ve been so successful, in fact, that one of the biggest requests we receive from teachers and students is wanting even more time with the artists, so this year we decided to experiment with a different residency model, one that prioritizes long-term exposure. In addition to our regular residency programs, we are piloting an “ensemble in residence” model with Palaver Strings from Portland, Maine (via Boston). This residency will have Palaver Strings visit the Rockport Middle and High School strings students eleven times throughout the year, including side-by-side performances at the Shalin Liu Performance Center and the Rockport School Auditorium. We believe that this type of exposure, depth and frequency will lead to longer term pedagogical benefits, as well as allow for more meaningful relationships to develop with students over the entire school year.

We talked with Maya French and Matthew Smith, Managing and Co-Artistic Directors of Palaver Strings, about what they are looking forward to this year in Rockport:

As the first ever Education Ensemble-in-Residence for Rockport Music, what are you and your members most looking forward to? What do you hope to get out of this experience?

We’re so excited to be working with the Rockport High School Orchestra throughout the year as well as the intensive week of workshops in November with all of the Rockport string students (elementary – high school). We’ve worked with younger string students for long periods of time in the past, but this will be our first time working with high school students across an entire year. It gives us and the students the time to really get to know each other, not just as students and teachers, but as individuals and fellow musicians.

2019 HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS

This year, the Rockport Music Board of Trustees Scholarship, given in honor of Susan Gray and Alec Dingee and Eve and Phil Cutter, was awarded to four students, more than has ever been given out in a single year! During the review process, we determined that there was an overwhelming number of qualified and talented students that would benefit tremendously from this fund. The scholarships were awarded to Sadie Cook, Clara Mazo, Will Vincent and Eamon Wheeler. These students will be attending institutions such as Belmont and Salem State Universities as well as Boston Conservatory. Three students hailed from Rockport High School and one from Gloucester High.

(L to R): Education Director Josue Gonzalez, Eamon Wheeler, Sadie Cook, Clara Mazo, Will Vincent, and President & CEO Tony Beadle.
We’re also excited to dive into the imaginative world of Baroque music using Vivaldi’s “Winter” from the Four Seasons as a vehicle to learn about this style of music and its influences. In January, Palaver will perform the piece with violinist Nicholas Kitchen from the Borromeo String Quartet as the soloist.

And of course we’re honored to be able to rehearse and perform in the beautiful Shalin Liu Performance Center. When we first performed there last December, we were struck by the hall’s perfect acoustics for intimate chamber music – not to mention the astonishing view of the ocean from the stage.

What’s next for Palaver?
We will be experimenting, planning, and developing the Palaver Music Center [PMC] in Portland for the next several years. PMC is a space that will encompass and connect all of our education and community engagement activities. It will offer holistic musical experiences and education from birth through adulthood. Performance is equally important to members of Palaver and in 10 years we hope to have a full performance schedule that balances our creative and self-produced programming with large scale collaborations, education residencies and performances around the country.

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ROCKPORT MUSIC JAZZ WORKSHOP
This past summer the Rockport Jazz Workshop celebrated its sixth year and featured our most diverse student body yet, with students from New York, Florida and even France! Thanks to a special gift from Deborah Nelson (Rockport Music Council member), this year Rockport Music also established its first ever scholarship fund. This fund allowed Rockport Music to pilot an internship program with workshop alum/Rockport High School graduates who were able to help staff with daily duties as well as participate in ensembles and serve as mentors for students. We are looking forward to having Alexa Tarantino and select workshop faculty make an appearance in February during a special education residency targeted towards the Gloucester Middle and High Schools.
**ROCKPORT MUSIC**

**FALL–WINTER 2019-2020 SCHEDULE**

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**NOVEMBER**

- **Thursday, November 7, 8pm**
  - Blue Note 80th
  - James Carter | James Frances
  - Kendace Springs

- **Friday, November 8, 8pm**
  - Small Glories

- **Saturday, November 9, 8pm**
  - Met Opera in HD: *Madama Butterfly*

- **Saturday, November 9, 12:55pm**
  - Capitola Steps

- **Sunday, November 10, 5pm**
  - Lucia Micarelli, violin

- **Thursday, November 14, 8pm**
  - Friday, November 15, 8pm
  - Ani Difranco

- **Friday, November 15, 8pm**
  - James Carter | James Francies

- **Saturday, November 16, 3pm**
  - Capitol Steps

- **Sunday, November 17, 3pm**
  - Curtis on Tour: Vera Quartet & Meng-Chieh Liu

- **Tuesday, November 19, 7pm**
  - Great Art on Screen: The Prado Museum

- **Thursday, November 21, 7pm**
  - National Theatre in HD: HANSARD

- **Saturday, November 23, 12:55pm**
  - Met Opera in HD: ACHNATEN

- **Sunday, November 24, 2pm**
  - National Theatre in HD: FLEABAG

- **Friday, November 29, 8pm**
  - David Benoit Christmas

- **Saturday, November 30, 12:55pm**
  - Bolshoi Ballet in HD: Der Fliegende Holländer

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**JANUARY**

- **Saturday, January 4, 1pm**
  - Met Opera in HD: *Madama Butterfly*

- **Saturday, January 4, 7pm**
  - Curtis on Tour: Hearing the Arts

- **Saturday, January 11, 12:55pm**
  - Met Opera in HD: Wozzeck

- **Sunday, January 12, 5pm**
  - Marc Cohn

- **Friday, January 17, 7pm**
  - National Theatre in HD: *All My Sons*

- **Thursday, January 23, 7pm**
  - Palaver Strings

- **Sunday, January 26, 12:55pm**
  - Bolshoi Ballet in HD: *Giselle*

- **Saturday, January 26, 7pm**
  - Mat Kearney

- **Wednesday, January 29, 7pm**
  - Beantown Swing Orchestra

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**FEBRUARY**

- **Saturday, February 1, 12:55pm**
  - Met Opera in HD: *The Bad Plus*

- **Saturday, February 1, 8pm**
  - Met Opera in HD: *Romeo and Juliet*

- **Saturday, February 3, 8pm**
  - Met Opera in HD: *Federico Mompou*

- **Tuesday, February 5, 7pm**
  - Palaver Strings with Warp Trio

- **Saturday, February 9, 7pm**
  - Met Opera in HD: *Jewels*

- **Saturday, February 9, 12:55pm**
  - Bolshoi Ballet in HD: *Swan Lake*

- **Saturday, February 14, 8pm**
  - California & Montreal Guitar Trios

- **Saturday, February 14, 12:55pm**
  - Bolshoi Ballet in HD: *The Nutcracker*

- **Sunday, February 15, 3pm**
  - Met Opera in HD: *Agrrippina*

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**MARCH**

- **Sunday, March 1, 5pm**
  - Raul Midon & Lionel Loueke

- **Wednesday, March 4, 7pm**
  - Long School of Music Showcase

- **Saturday, March 7, 12:55pm**
  - Met Opera in HD: *Maria Stuarda*

- **Saturday, March 12, 7pm**
  - St. Patrick’s Day Sojourn

- **Sunday, March 13, 3pm**
  - Met Opera in HD: *Der Fliegende Holländer*

- **Tuesday, March 17, 7pm**
  - Windborne

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**APRIL**

- **Thursday, April 2, 7pm**
  - Bolshoi Ballet in HD: *Romeo and Juliet*

- **Saturday, April 4, 8pm**
  - Frank Vignola Hot Jazz Guitar Trio

- **Saturday, April 11, 12:55pm**
  - Met Opera in HD: *70SCA*

- **Friday, April 17, 8pm**
  - Alasdaire Fraser & Natalie Haas

- **Sunday, April 19, 3pm**
  - Alexander Ullman, piano

- **Saturday, April 25, 1:30pm**
  - Boston Children’s Chorus

- **Sunday, April 26, 5pm**
  - Emmet Cohen Trio

- **Tuesday, April 28, 7pm**
  - Bolshoi Ballet in HD: *Jewels*

- **Wednesday, April 29, 7pm**
  - Windborne

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**MAY**

- **Tuesday, May 5, 7:30–9pm**
  - Tuesday, May 12, 7:30–9pm

- **Adult Music Making Classes**

- **Thursday, May 7, 7pm**
  - Palaver Strings with Warp Trio

- **Sunday, May 9, 8pm**
  - Hanneke Cassel

- **Saturday, May 16, 2pm | Free**
  - Boston City Singers

- **Sunday, May 17, 7pm**
  - Lisa Fischer

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**DECEMBER**

- **Monday, December 2, 7pm**
  - Handel’s Messiah
  - Location: Congregational Church

- **Thursday, December 5, 7pm**
  - National Theatre in HD: Present Laughter

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**LUCIA MICARELLI**

**November 10**

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**LUCIA MICARELLI**

**November 10**

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**LISA FISCHER**

**May 17**

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New Winter Box Office Hours

Through March 2, Box Office is open Tuesday–Friday, 10am–4pm (closed Mondays). Administrative offices will remain open on Mondays (except holidays).

STAY CONNECTED WITH US

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Music – Up Close & Personal

With the visually stunning intimate setting of the Shalin Liu Performance Center, patrons and artists are brought together for distinctive musical moments. Rockport Music invites you to be a partner in these exceptional musical experiences throughout the year—through ticket subscriptions and gifts.

BE A SUBSCRIBER
When you purchase 4 or more concerts within a season, you not only save 10%, you:

• Receive the discount on any additional tickets purchased that season
• Can exchange your tickets (up to 48 hours prior to the concert)

BE A DONOR
When you make a gift to Rockport Music, you support:

• Exceptional live music of all genres
• Education and Community Engagement initiatives
• Maintenance of the performance center
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Thank you for your continued patronage!
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