Celebrating

40 YEARS OF GREAT MUSIC

GALA: A FAR CRY WITH VIOLINISTS
BARRY SHIFFMAN & HANA CHANG
September 26, 2021
A Night Celebrating 40 Years

BY KAREN HERLITZ

Not only did this summer bring about the joyous return to live performances, but it also allowed us to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Rockport Chamber Music Festival.

This momentous event was commemorated on September 26 during Rockport Music’s Gala and brought together Rockport Music founders, board members, volunteers, patrons and donors to honor those who helped make this organization what it is today. With an outdoor reception and dinner at the beautiful Millbrook Meadow and perfect autumn weather, guests celebrated in style with friends, old and new.

Once seated, President and CEO Tony Beadle welcomed guests celebrated in style with friends, old and new. beautiful Millbrook Meadow and perfect autumn weather, guests celebrated in style with friends, old and new.

After dinner, the event moved to the Shalin Liu Performance Center where the chamber orchestra A Far Cry performed Grieg’s sumptuous Holberg Suite. They were then joined by Artistic Director Barry Shiffman and violinist Hana Chang for a movement from Bach’s Two Violin Concerto. The evening closed with an astounding performance of Chopin by celebrated pianist Yefim Bronfman.

The Gala raised a record-breaking amount of gifts for the organization, realizing a net of almost $275,000. It was incredibly moving to see so many eager to support Rockport Music. In the blend of past and present love of music, dedication, talent and energy lay inspiration for the future. I hope the spirit of the evening will live on in all of us and bring followers to give ongoing support to Rockport Music.

The lasting impression for me was the joy and pleasure palpable in an evening created to honor the dedication, generosity and work of so many people deserving acknowledgment and thanks for the growth and success of Rockport Music. In the blend of past and present love of music, dedication, talent and energy lay inspiration for the future. I hope the spirit of the evening will live on in all of us and bring followers to give ongoing support to Rockport Music.

David Alpher
CO-FOUNDER & FOUNDING CO-ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

In June 2001, it had been a mere 20 years since Lila, Paul and I conceived of the Rockport Chamber Music Festival, so I decided to come back and premiere a composition of mine called “Songs on the Passage of Time.” Twenty years seemed then like a very big deal. It would have been hard to imagine 40, and even harder to imagine the impressive scope of its gala celebration. I was so pleased to be able to attend and to reconnect with so many Cape Ann people in a spirit of good fellowship. With such bonhomie at every table, it made dealing with the passage of time a lot more comfortable.

The arts are not static, and Rockport Music is no exception. It has had 40 years to grow and change, and it has. But one irreducible mission has not changed from the day of its founding: to bring the greatest music to people, and to let that music work its magic and even—more than occasionally—to change lives for the better.

All best wishes for the next 40 years. I’ll have more to say then!

Paul Sylva
CO-FOUNDER

The lasting impression for me was the joy and pleasure palpable in an evening created to honor the dedication, generosity and work of so many people deserving acknowledgment and thanks for the growth and success of Rockport Music. In the blend of past and present love of music, dedication, talent and energy lay inspiration for the future. I hope the spirit of the evening will live on in all of us and bring followers to give ongoing support to Rockport Music.

Tony Beadle
PRESIDENT AND CEO

Over 40 years, organizational growth and change is to be expected and that change has always been good here! Under the tent at the 40th Anniversary Gala was a mélangé of founders, early supporters, and our Artistic Directors present and past, all sitting together with what could be called the “next generation” of supporters and volunteers. Add a fantastic staff who make it all look easy, and you’ve discovered the essence of our beloved Rockport Music!

Karl Lauby
WIDOWER OF CO-FOUNDER AND FOUNDING CO-ARTISTIC DIRECTOR LILA DEIS

Seeing some of the founders and friends reminded me of their initiative and innovation, musical talents, energy and dedication. They were inspiring and gave a marvelous gift to the cultural life of Rockport and Cape Ann.

Barry Shiffman
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

To see the meadow filled with Rockport Music supporters excited to see one another and to share live music again was incredibly joyful. The energy of the 40th Anniversary Gala concert was electric as the artists felt that they were part of something very special. Rockport Music sent a much needed message to the industry that the future is bright indeed. I am immensely proud of what was accomplished this summer by all the staff, supporters and artists and look forward to sharing the next season of classical music performances.

1. Co-founders (L-R): David Alpher, Paul Sylva and Karl Lauby (widower of founder Lila Deis)
2. Gala Co-chairs Margaret Ziering and Susan Gray
3. Lovgren Award Winners (FIRST ROW L-R): Pamela Bynum, Mary Ruth Sole, Christine Langren, Eleanor Hay, SECOND ROW: Barbara Sparks, Mollie Byrnes, co-founder David Alpher, Sharron Cohen, Mary Catherine Kingsley, Linda Teahan, and Dianne Anderson

MUSIC FOR A CELEBRATION
Yefim Bronfman mesmerizes the audience with Chopin’s Sonata in B minor, Op. 58.

By KAREN HERLITZ
JAZZ & FOLK NOTES
BELIEVE IT OR NOT, THE HOLIDAY SEASON IS ALMOST UPON US, AND OF COURSE AT ROCKPORT MUSIC THAT MEANS FESTIVE SEASONAL concerts. As in years past, several of our cherished holiday shows like A Christmas Celtic Sojourn (Dec. 14), the Back Bay Ringers (Dec. 12) and Cape Ann Big Band (Dec. 19) are indeed returning, but this year we’ve added several new options for you to celebrate with yuletide musical cheer.

Shortly after Thanksgiving, we welcome the Rockport debut of bluegrass ensemble Nelsh Mountain with their celebratory Hanukkah concert (Nov. 27). Taking a refreshingly different approach to traditional bluegrass music, the New York-based five-piece acoustic group merges Jewish spirituality with old-time Appalachian, creating their own unique and dazzling version of Americaana. The quintet (led by the husband/wife tandem of guitarist/banjo player Eric Lindberg and singer Doni Zasloff) are breaking new multicultural ground in the fertile world of roots music. In Rockport they’ll perform a Hanukkah-inspired concert, along with tunes from their critically acclaimed new record, Songs for the Sparrows, which features bluegrass icons Jerry Douglas and Sam Bush as well as Celtic folk heroes Mike McGoldrick and John Doyle.

When we get into December, the Christmas spirit gets a local boost with Seaside Yuletide, featuring three of Cape Ann’s most beloved performers (Ben Butler, Allen Estes and Sal Baglio) trading off their own songs as well as a sampling of holiday tunes. A week after that (Dec. 11), the enchanting New Orleans siren Quiana Lynell, who swept listeners off their feet back in August, returns to Rockport for a set of holiday American Songbook classics.

We also welcome a few concerts in December that don’t necessarily come with jingle bells attached, but will still undoubtedly fill listeners with that warm holiday feeling. Pianist Jason Moran makes his Rockport debut on December 3 and will bring his provocative and infectious take on the jazz tradition for a much-buzzed about solo show. Moran’s innovative shapeshifting style and jaw-dropping technical skills should not be missed. A week later, four-time GRAMMY®-winning singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist Sarah Jarosz comes to Cape Ann for the first time, armed with her newest release Blue Heron Suite.

Finally, Celtic music aficionados who maybe missed out on the sold out A Christmas Celtic Sojourn show will find sweet relief with the appearance of Cape Breton’s Còig on December 18. The young Nova Scotian group have made quite a stir in the Maritimes with their propulsive jigs and reels, and considering the calendar, will probably have a handful of merry Celtic Christmas tunes to dust off for the occasion.

Come on out and let Rockport Music get you in the holiday spirit!

CLASSICAL NOTES
FORGING NEWPATHS INCLASSICAL MUSIC
By KAREN HERLITZ
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR BARRY SHIFFMAN

I am constantly searching for the next compelling voice. Artists with a unique vision and freshness, eager to share their artistry and connect with new audiences. I hope you can join me for these and the other exceptional artists this season.

Derrick S.E. SIKE’s Sunlight Spread and culminating with Copland’s Appalachian Spring.

Barry Shifman remarks, “The Phoenix Orchestra is passionately committed to making the concert experience truly one of connection. Through their imaginative programming and embrace of performing in unusual venues, their vision for a modern orchestra is a welcome breath of freshness and excitement.”

Similar to the Phoenix Orchestra, pianist Isata Kanneh-Mason’s route to a classical music career was also unique. She, along with six of her supremely talented siblings, found international acclaim on the smash television series Britain’s Got Talent, where the family ensemble made it to the semi-finals. Their medleys of popular and classical music made Britain (and the world) take note and exposed millions of non-classical listeners to the genre. Isata’s cello-playing brother Sheku has become quite the rising star as well, as he drew raves from around the world when he was featured at Prince Harry and Meghan Markle’s televised wedding. Just this past May, the family was awarded the Global Award for Best Classical Artist 2021.

Isata recently graduated with a Master of Arts from London’s Royal Academy of Music and is currently serving as a Young Artist in Residence at Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra. In July of this year, Isata released her latest album Summertime, a record that features many of her favorite American classical composers. Currently part of ECHO’s Rising Stars, Isata will collaborate with Jamaican-British composer Eleanor Alberga on a newly commissioned piece, which she will perform in her Rockport debut on March 11. She will also bring another work by a female composer, Sofia Gubaidulina, a living Russian composer, who is considered one of the three most significant Moscow composers since Shostakovich. Isata’s program will also feature works by Mozart, Beethoven, Rachmaninov and Chopin.

At first glance there doesn’t seem to be much in common between the Phoenix Orchestra and Isata Kanneh-Mason, but musical upbringings and finding non-traditional audiences are notably common threads. Both Weilerstein and Kanneh-Mason come from musical families that instilled a love of classical music to this next generation. Now these artists want to take some of those families values out into the world and share them with those who may not know that classical music is for everyone.

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR BARRY SHIFFMAN

This winter classical season provides a diverse array of performers, including some dynamic younger artists. It is notable that this next generation of artists are paving new roads into classical music, with a look towards exposing the genre to new audiences, people who may not even realize they would enjoy it. The Boston-based Phoenix Orchestra is known for purposefully performing in non-traditional venues, like their incredibly successful residency at Somerville’s Aeronaut Brewery. In fact, this was the very first collaboration between an orchestra and a brewery in the country.

The orchestra has a new addition to their team with their new Music Director Joshua Weilerstein (their Rockport performance on January 23 is only their second performance with their new conductor). This appointment is a return home for Joshua, who received his Master’s degree from New England Conservatory (NEC), and whose parents are faculty members at NEC and Juilliard. If the name sounds familiar, Joshua’s father Don was a cellist at NEC and Juilliard. If the name sounds familiar, Joshua’s father Don was a cellist at NEC and Juilliard. If the name sounds familiar, Joshua’s father Don was a cellist at NEC and Juilliard. If the name sounds familiar, Joshua’s father Don was a cellist at NEC and Juilliard. If the name sounds familiar, Joshua’s father Don was a cellist at NEC and Juilliard. If the name sounds familiar, Joshua’s father Don was a cellist at NEC and Juilliard. If the name sounds familiar, Joshua’s father Don was a cellist at NEC and Juilliard. If the name sounds familiar, Joshua’s father Don was a cellist at NEC and Juilliard. If the name sounds familiar, Joshua’s father Don was a cellist at NEC and Juilliard. If the name sounds familiar, Joshua’s father Don was a cellist at NEC and Juilliard. If the name sounds familiar, Joshua’s father Don was a cellist at NEC and Juilliard. If the name sounds familiar, Joshua’s father Don was a cellist at NEC and Juilliard. If the name sounds familiar, Joshua’s father Don was a cellist at NEC and Juilliard. If the name sounds familiar, Joshua’s father Don was a cellist at NEC and Juilliard. If the name sounds familiar, Joshua’s father Don was a cellist at NEC and Juilliard. If the name sounds familiar, Joshua’s father Don was a cellist at NEC and Juilliard. If the name sounds familiar, Joshua’s father Don was a cellist at NEC and Juilliard. If the name sounds familiar, Joshua’s father Don was a cellist at NEC and Juilliard. If the name sounds familiar, Joshua’s father Don was a cellist at NEC and Juilliard.
HIGHLIGHTS
AN EVENING OF CELEBRATION


Trustee Emeritus is used as gender-neutral.
This year’s school residencies will continue with a diverse series including the Rasa Quartet, Phoenix Orchestra, Alexa Tarantino, the Beantown Swing Orchestra, Windborne vocal ensemble and violinist Adrian Anantawan.

This time last year, schools operated under hybrid in-person and virtual schooling models. Many families in Gloucester opted to keep their children at home and to attend a Virtual Academy offered to those who did not feel comfortable or safe sending their children to school. Without ways of making music together or venues to perform in, digital screens became the avenues to the musical soul for students and teachers who had to reinvent what it meant to teach music, and what it meant to be a musician. Through the advent of Zoom, Rockport Music worked with Jazz Workshop Director Alexa Tarantino to provide a month-long program through Gloucester’s Virtual Academy classes for over 200 students. Not surprisingly, they were met with wild enthusiasm for the musically starved elementary children who participated. Last spring, former Artist-in-Residence for the City of Boston Shaw Pong Liu was able to virtually connect with Rockport High School students to discuss how music can be used to bring awareness to social issues and to create space for students to think about how they can use their talents to affect change in their own communities. Throughout the pandemic these programs were vital lifelines to an isolated student population on Cape Ann and this fall Rockport Music returns full force with in-person activities.

The acclaimed New York City brass quintet Calliope Brass came to Cape Ann for the first school residency since March 2020. This all-female group of young and dynamic musicians took the Rockport schools by storm with two full days of workshops involving the Rockport middle and high schools. Students performed and received musical feedback from Calliope in a masterclass-style setting, while also engaging in section work with instrument-specific groupings. Calliope then switched gears and visited Rockport and Beeman elementary schools for presentations involving general music concepts about the brass family of instruments and explored how music is used as a storytelling device through medleys of familiar themes in popular movies and video games the students enthusiastically recognized.

The week culminated in a performance at the Shalin Liu Performance Center, where members of the Rockport High School Jazz II group performed an opening set and were joined side-by-side with Calliope for their final piece. Calliope then took over the stage and presented a virtuosic program of classical brass repertoire mixed with modern arrangements and other fun crowd pleasers.

Calliope’s residency ended how all successful residencies in Rockport end, with students and teachers clamoring for the ensemble to come back next year and the musicians claiming they never want to leave Cape Ann.
Applause for our 2021 Annual Fund Committee!

With the continued loss of ticket revenue during more than half of our 2021 fiscal year, it was crucial that we achieve our increased Annual Fund goal of $1,059,300 by the end of August 2021. Through the hard work and diligence of our Annual Fund Committee and the generosity of our many loyal donors, our Annual Fund surpassed the goal with $1,072,000 in revenue! This support is vital to our day-to-day operations, literally keeping the lights on and the music playing.

We gratefully acknowledge the hard work of our 2021 Annual Fund Committee members, ably led by our Annual Fund Chair Bob Cassady, for their personal outreach through notes, emails and phone calls. We know that it is their personal attention that makes all the difference in retaining and increasing financial support from our donors. Our sincerest thanks go to our Annual Fund Committee members:

**ANNUAL FUND COMMITTEE**

Robert Cassidy, Annual Fund Chair
Lois Brynes
Suzanne Cervo
Priscilla Deck
Nina Doggett

Our new fiscal year, our Annual Fund and Development Committees have merged creating one, more robust group that will broaden and deepen our outreach, and as a result, strengthen our results.

**Linden Tree Society Grows Rockport Music’s Future**

In 2019, Rockport Music’s first Planned Giving Committee was formed to help promote membership in our Linden Tree Society, an honorary group of individuals who believe that leaving a legacy gift to Rockport Music is the best way to ensure the future success of our extraordinary organization, and the best way to make sure generations to come have the opportunity to make music an important part of their lives. Under the leadership of Planned Giving Committee Co-Chairs Garth Greimann and Susan Gray, this committee has helped membership of the Linden Tree Society grow by 28% since they began their work in 2019!

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the members of our Planned Giving Committee for all of their dedication and hard work to make this accomplishment possible:

- Susan Gray, Co-Chair
- Garth Greimann, Co-Chair
- Steve Linde
- Ruth Salinger

Joining the Linden Tree Society allows you to leave a legacy of exceptional music, and in some cases, may also produce lifelong benefits. For more information please contact Lori Correale, Director of Development, at lcorreale@rockportmusic.org or 978.546.7391 x103 or visit rockportmusic.org/planned-giving.

**New Rockport Music Team Members**

Rockport Music would like to welcome new members of the team, two in Development and one in the Box Office.

**Billy Burgoyne** hails from the Merrimack Valley and has lived in Gloucester for the past five years. He previously worked in the box office at Gloucester Stage and is currently a graduate student at Boston University in the Arts Administration master’s degree program.

Jeanne Kinch joins Rockport Music after serving as Director of Development for Gloucester Stage. Prior to that, she had a successful career in high-tech where she developed rewarding long-term customer relationships. A native of Massachusetts, Jeanne has lived on Cape Ann for over 20 years enjoying its beauty with her family.

Nora Wholey joins the Rockport Music Development Office after working with the Danvers Historical Society as Assistant Communications Director. She graduated from Merrimack College in Communications and enjoys hiking, music, and writing. Nora has worked in music venues prior to being at the Danvers Historical Society and is excited to be back in the music scene as a Development Associate.

Join us in welcoming them to the Rockport Music family!

**Did You Know?**

Hopefully, many of you enjoyed our virtual concert series during the pandemic or this summer’s virtual series. What you may not have realized is that all of the video and much of the audio work was done by in-house staff. We’d like to say thank you to our in-house team who made it possible for us to keep you connected with music and in our day-to-day operations, literally keeping the lights on and the music playing.

**TOP REVIEWS**

“Great place to visit!!! Must see!”
- Samuel 

“Tessa Lark, Violin Amy Wang, Piano...this performance was truly amazing. The Concert Hall is a gem.”
- Ed

“Sound was excellent and people [staff] were very friendly”. 
- Vero

“Great place to visit!!! Must see!”
- “BRAZIL, UNITED KINGDOM, UNITED STATES, CANADA, GLOUCESTER, ROCKPORT, BOSTON, BEVERLY, SALEM”

Boston and Cambridge may have dominated our readers’ lists of favorites, with one notable (and surprising) exception: The Shalin Liu Performance Center in the tiny seaside town of Rockport was the third-most-popular small venue among Boston.com readers. “Superb architecture, fabulous acoustics, magnificent view of the Rockport Harbor, plus terrific artists! What more could you want?” asked David of Ipswich.
Box Office Hours
Tuesday–Thursday, 10 AM–4 PM
Friday, 10 AM–2 PM

STAY CONNECTED WITH US
- Youtube.com/rockportmusic
- @shalinliuperformancecenter
- Facebook.com/rockportmusic

Please visit our website for our Health & Safety Protocols for attending concerts.

2021–2022 SCHEDULE
ROCKPORTMUSIC.ORG | 978.546.7391

NOVEMBER
Friday, November 19 :: 8 PM
AL DI MEOLA
Saturday, November 20 :: 1 PM
Met Opera in HD Encore: FIRE SHUT UP IN MY BONES
Saturday, November 20 :: 8 PM
KRIS ALLEN
Sunday, November 21 :: 5 PM
ALASDAIR FRASER & NATHALIE HAAS
Saturday, November 27 :: 8 PM
NEFESH MOUNTAIN

DECEMBER
Friday, December 3 :: 8 PM
JASON MORAN
Saturday, December 4 :: 12:55 PM
Met Opera in HD: EURYDICE
Saturday, December 4 :: 8 PM
JON BUTCHER – ALLEN ESTES SAL BAGLIO / SEASIDE YULETIDE
Sunday, December 5 :: 3 PM
BOSTON BRASS CHRISTMAS
Friday, December 10 :: 8 PM
SARAH JAROSZ Co-presented with DSP Shows
Saturday, December 11 :: 5 PM
QUIANA LYNELL, Holiday Classics
Sunday, December 12 :: 2 & 5 PM
CHRISTMAS WITH BACK BAY RINGERS

JANUARY
Saturday, January 1 :: 12:55 PM
Met Opera in HD: CINDERELLA
Wednesday, January 5 :: 7 PM
BEANTOWN SWING ORCHESTRA
Sunday, January 23 :: 3 PM
PHOENIX ORCHESTRA
Wednesday, January 26 :: 7 PM
WINDBORNE
Saturday, January 29 :: 12:55 PM
Met Opera in HD: RIGOLETTO
Sunday, January 30 :: 12:55 PM
Bolshoi Ballet in HD: JEWELS

FEBRUARY
Sunday, February 6 :: 1 PM
Great Art on Screen: Maverick Modigliani

MARCH
Saturday, February 12 :: 1 PM
Met Opera in HD Encore: FIRE SHUT UP IN MY BONES
Sunday, February 13 :: 3 PM
HORSZOWSKI TRIO
Friday, February 18 :: 8 PM
LIZ LONGLEY

APRIL
Sunday, April 3 :: 3 PM
CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY OF LINCOLN CENTER
Saturday, April 9 :: 3 PM
BOSTON CHILDREN’S CHORUS
Tuesday, April 12 :: 7 PM
Great Art on Screen: RAPHAEL
Sunday, April 24 :: 3 PM
ZUKERMAN TRIO
Wednesday, April 27 :: 7 PM
ADRIAN ANANTAWAN, violin

MAY
Sunday, May 1 :: 5 PM
FRANK VIGNOLA MARTIN TAYLOR JOHN JORGENSEN
Thursday, May 5 :: 7 PM
Bolshoi Ballet in HD: THE PHARAOH’S DAUGHTER
Saturday, May 7 :: 12:55 PM
Met Opera in HD: TURANDOT
Saturday, May 14 :: 1 PM
Great Art on Screen: TUTANKHAMUN
Sunday, May 15 :: 5 PM
JAYME STONE
Saturday, May 21 :: 12:55 PM
Met Opera in HD: LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR
Saturday, May 28 :: 8 PM
KARLA BONOFF

JUNE
Friday, June 3 :: 8 PM
JONATHAN EDWARDS & JON POUSETTE-DART
Saturday, June 4 :: 12:55 PM
Met Opera in HD: HAMLET