

SECRETS AND SURPRISES

A CONCERT BY THE TWO RIVERS CHAMBER ORCHESTRA



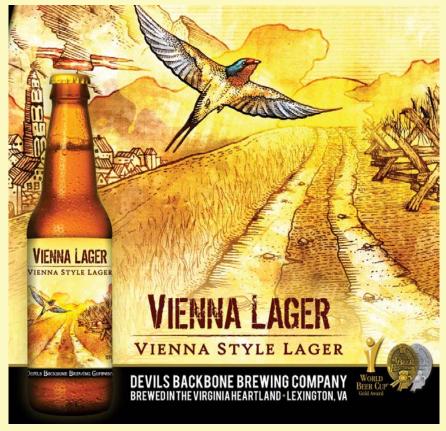
Saturday, May 21 at 7:30pm Sunday, May 22 at 3:00pm

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WELCOME TO THIS CONCERT!

How glad and privileged we are to bring such a wonderful concert to you at this, the end of our 2021-2022 season. At least two of the works that Jed and our very talented Two Rivers Chamber Orchestra musicians will play are well-known to most of us. And the third work, featuring our special guest artist Christine Lamprea, is stunning for its originality and likely to become a favorite.

Written by three very talented and popular composers, the music to be performed in this concert is, for the most part, happy and uplifting. At times juxtaposing those emotions with underlying tones of melancholy or moments of quiet pause, the beauty of the music's melodies compels us to feel joy and come away with our spirits raised.

It is a delight to be offering live music in person again and to see so many familiar—and happy—faces in the audience. COVID brought much angst and sorrow to many of us for sure, but a silver lining for Friends of Music is that it has prompted us to add matinee performances to our concert schedule. By expanding our seating capacity and thereby providing more room for our subscribing members and other patrons to sit comfortably, the new matinees are proving very popular and helpful for many—especially for those who prefer not to drive at night. The opportunity to perform the same concert twice is nice for our musicians, too, and we are gratified that they have been so accommodating in making this change.

Friends of Music is honored to be presenting this concert in a different venue, which offers not only the fine acoustics to which we're accustomed but also the greater space needed for the full chamber orchestra that this particular concert requires. We thank Pastor Gusti Newquist and the Session at Shepherdstown Presbyterian Church for their willingness to share their lovely facility with us and for being so hospitable. Like Trinity Episcopal Church, which we continue to treasure, these special places of beauty and repose are where chamber music was meant to be played. Please enjoy. And look for further word about our next season when we mail our annual brochure at the end of summer.

Be well,

Judith Miller Jones President, Friends of Music

MUSIC DIRECTOR



"Generous" is the word listeners and performers use time and again to describe conductor Jed Gaylin's approach to the orchestra, the score, and the audience. His joyful abandon and probing intellect combine to create powerful programs, compelling interpretations, and evenings that are fresh and exuberant. The legendary conductor George Szell said: "In music one must think with the heart and feel with the mind." Jed Gaylin embodies this maxim abundantly and passionately.

JED GAYLIN

Jed Gaylin was named music director of the Two Rivers Chamber Orchestra in 2012 after a nationwide search. A thorough professional, he has made a tremendous difference in the quality and creativity of the orchestra's programming and performances.

His approach to music, musicians, and life-lived-large is rare: It includes an old-world commitment to study and depth of conception, combined with a welcoming presence and warm engagement – both on and off the podium.

Orchestra members and soloists often recount how Jed's rehearsals and performances elicit their very best, not only individually but collectively. His dedication to exploring music's fullest potential in a collaborative spirit reaches beyond the stage to draw the audience into the creative act. Listeners feel engaged as participants in an eloquent musical conversation.

Jed is also the music director of the Hopkins Symphony Orchestra in Baltimore and the Bay Atlantic Symphony in New Jersey. In addition, he is principal guest conductor of the Cape May Music Festival. His numerous guest appearances include the St. Petersburg State Symphony, National Film and Radio Philharmonic (Beijing, China), Shanghai Conservatory Orchestra, Bucharest Radio Orchestra, Academia del Gran Teatre del Liceu (Barcelona, Spain), Eastman School of Music Broadband Ensemble, and many others.

He earned both a Bachelor of Music in piano and a Master of Music in conducting at the Oberlin Conservatory, and a Doctor of Musical Arts in conducting at the Peabody Conservatory. He attended the Aspen Music Festival as a conducting fellow. Among other honors, he has received a National Endowment for the Arts grant and the Presser Music Award. His conducting teachers have included Frederik Prausnitz, Leonard Slatkin, Jahja Ling, Murry Sidlin, Paul Vermel, and Michel Singher, and, for piano, Lydia Frumkin.

He lives in Baltimore with his wife, poet Lia Purpura.

For more information, visit his website at www.jedgaylin.com.



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THE PROGRAM

SECRETS AND SURPRISES

Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

Masques et Bergamasques, Op. 112

- 1. Overture. Allegro molto vivo
- 2. Menuet. Tempo di menuetto-Allegro moderato
- 3. Gavotte. Allegro vivo
- 4. Pastorale. Andantino tranquillo

Camille Saint-Saëns (1835–1921)

Cello concerto No. 1 in A minor, Op. 33

Christine Lamprea, cello

- 1. Allegro non troppo
- 2. Allegretto con moto
- 3. Allegro non troppo (Tempo primo)



Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

Symphony No. 4 in A major, Op. 90 (Italian)

- 1. Allegro vivace
- 2. Andante con moto
- 3. Con moto moderato
- 4. Finale, Saltarello-Presto



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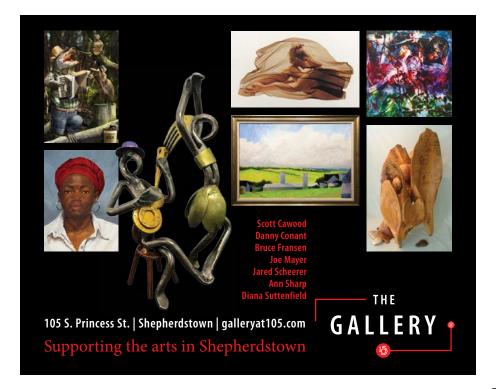
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ABOUT THE SOLOIST

CHRISTINE LAMPREA

"... an explosive, ferocious, go-for-broke performance. Remarkably, the risks [Lamprea] took, even in the frantic close of the cadenza, never compromised the beauty of her sound or the dead-eye accuracy of her pitch...absolutely riveting."—MIKE GREENBERG, INCIDENTLIGHT.COM

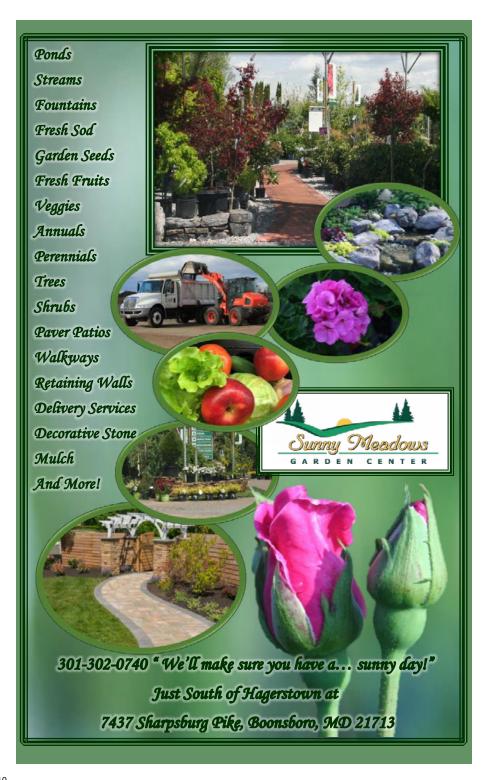
CHRISTINE LAMPREA, Cellist and 2018 Sphinx Medal of Excellence Winner, is an artist known for her emotionally committed and intense performances. Upon her Carnegie Hall debut as soloist in 2013, she has since returned to Carnegie, as well as performed with orchestras such as the Costa Rica National Symphony, Detroit Symphony, Houston Symphony, Michoacán Symphony Orchestra, New Jersey Symphony, San Antonio Symphony, Santa Fe Pro Musica, and toured with the Sphinx Virtuosi across the U.S. As a recitalist, Ms. Lamprea has appeared in prestigious series at Illinois' Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, Florida's Kravis Center for the Performing Arts, Pepperdine University, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and the Washington Performing Arts Society. In demand as a chamber musician, she performed with such musicians as Shmuel Ashkenasi, Sarah Chang, Itzhak Perlman, Roger Tapping, and Carol Wincenc.

Ms. Lamprea strives to expand her musical boundaries by exploring many genres of music and nontraditional venues for performance and teaching. Her Songs of Colombia Suite includes arrangements of traditional South

ABOUT THE SOLOIST

American tunes for cello and piano or guitar and have been performed at the Colombian Embassy and at the Supreme Court of the United States for Justice Sonia Sotomayor. She has worked with members of the Baroque ensemble Les Arts Florissants and studied sonatas with fortepiano with Audrey Axinn. She has premiered several works by composers of today. In recent years, she commissioned cadenzas for the Haydn D Major Concerto by Jessie Montgomery and premiered Jeffrey Mumford's cello concerto "of fields unfolding...echoing depths of resonant light" with the San Antonio Symphony.

Ms. Lamprea is on the cello faculty at the Longy School of Music of Bard College, serves as substitute faculty at The Juilliard School, and served as Lecturer of Cello at the Texas Christian University School of Music for the 2018-19 academic year. She has given masterclasses for the Vivac-e Festival, Idyllwild Arts Academy, Wintergreen Summer Music Festival, among others. She has worked with Ecuadorian youth in the cities of Quito and Guayaquil as part of a residency between The Juilliard School and "Sinfonia Por La Vida," a social inclusion program modeled after Venezuela's El Sistema program. Ms. Lamprea is the recipient of a Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowship for New Americans, which supported her studies at the New England Conservatory, and a Sphinx MPower Artist Grant, which supported her study with acclaimed cellist Matt Haimovitz. She studied with Bonnie Hampton at The Juilliard School and holds a master's degree from the New England Conservatory, where she studied with Natasha Brofsky. Additional influences were Lynn Harrell, Frans Helmerson, and Philippe Muller. Previous teachers include Ken Freudigman and Ken Ishii



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MAY 21 & 22, 2022 SECRETS AND SURPRISES

Gabriel Fauré

(Born in Pamiers, Ariège, Midi-Pyrénées, France on May 12, 1845; died in Paris in 1924)

Masques et Bergamasques Suite, Op. 112

- 1. Overture. Allegro molto vivo
- 2. Menuet. Tempo di menuetto-Allegro moderato
- 3. Gavotte. Allegro vivo
- 4. Pastorale. Andantino tranquillo

In 1918 Prince Albert of Monaco commissioned the aging Gabriel Fauré to write the music for a *divertissement* (a short ballet) to be performed at the Monte Carlo Theater. Fauré, age 73, was still busily directing the Paris Conservatoire and was battling a curious form of deafness that warps pitches. With little free time, instead of composing an "occasion" piece for this commission, Fauré partly expanded an earlier work, his *Clair de lune* from his *Fêtes galantes* of 1902. But at this stage in Faure's career, the Monte Carlo piece was also intended to be a kind of musical autobiography. And so, in the end, it contained eight songs and instrumental pieces, some of them previously published as far back as 1869 and some newly composed. The work was well-received, and Fauré quickly refashioned it into a four-piece suite that had its premiere in 1919 under the title *Masques et Bergamasques*.

The program for the Monte Carlo event noted that the inspiration for the ballet's characters came from the Italian commedia dell'arte:

The characters Harlequin, Gilles and Colombine, whose task is usually to amuse the aristocratic audience, take their turn at being spectators at a 'Fêtes galantes' on the island of Cythera. The lords



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and ladies, who as a rule applaud their efforts, now unwittingly provide them with entertainment by their coquettish behavior.

Fauré's *Clair de lune* had been based on a poem of the same name by the French poet Paul Verlaine. And the curious title of Fauré's 1919 suite was taken from the first stanza of Verlaine's poem, which reads as follows:

Votre âme est un paysage choisi

Que vont charmant masques et bergamasques,
Jouant du luth et dansant, et quasi
Tristes sous leurs déguisements fantastiques!

(Your soul is a chosen landscape charmed by masquers and revelers playing the lute and dancing, and almost sad beneath their fanciful disquises!).

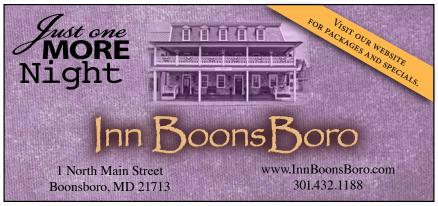
Fauré's suite may therefore be read as a kind of hidden camera on aristocratic reveling. The music strives, like Verlaine's decadent poems, to portray a deeper pathos underneath the polished veneer of such festivities. The overture, originally from Fauré's *Fêtes galantes* of 1902, begins in a sprint, with lighthearted vigor. The revelers are no doubt giddy and full of expectancy as they arrive at the grand party. But a second theme, though luxurious and soaring, seems to uncover a melancholy. All the same, it's ignored quickly enough with the return of the energetic first theme.

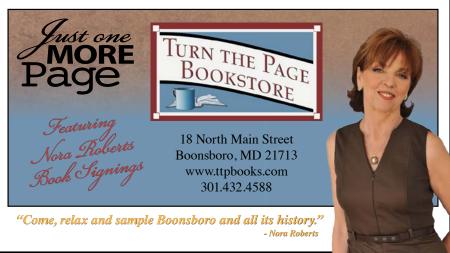
The two middle dance movements, the Menuet (newly composed) and the Gavotte (from 1869), broaden the underlying dissatisfactions in the revelers, though the formal appearances are upheld. Fauré keeps the dance forms structurally accurate, but the Menuet drives through an unsettling number of key changes and introduces a sort of reveler petulance in the Trio section

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PROGRAM NOTES

with plodding brass and low pitched timpani. Likewise, the Gavotte has an absolutely lovely first theme but is tinged with dark harmonic hues, suggesting an underlying melancholy. It continues with a frenetic and driving repetition of notes in the liquid-like middle section, portraying a vapid chattering. And yet, though this music flirts with shallowness and pathos, it also contains some of Fauré's most exquisite melodies.

The suite ends with an unexpectedly placed Pastorale. Perhaps the sleepy and drunken revelers are taking a walk under the moonlight: The music is gentle and dreamy, lightly cascading in the strings and harp. The music grows and sweeps, breathes deeply and deliciously, and all are under the spell of Fauré's musical charms. But near the Pastorale's end a breathtaking set of harmonies stagger the melodic cadences. The harmonies shift about and don't want to come back to the home key; although brief. These shifts cleverly create an atmosphere of surrealism à la Verlaine—though lush and sated, there is a feeling of being unsure, and alone.

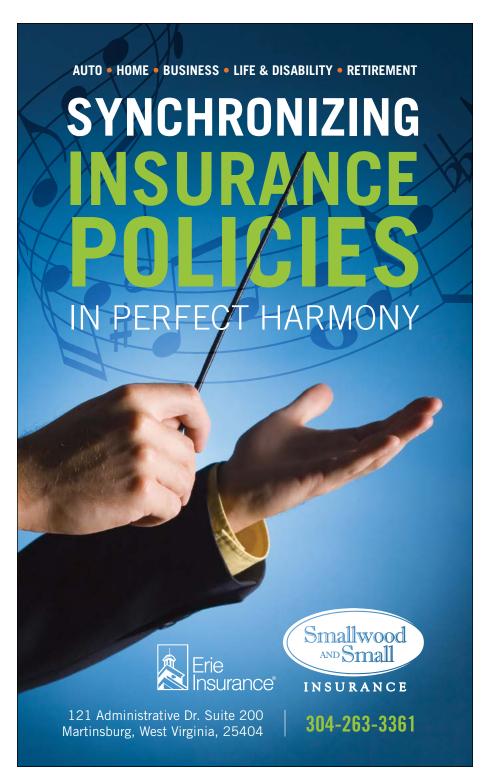
Camille Saint-Saëns

(Born in Paris in 1835; died in Algiers, Algeria in 1921)

Cello Concerto No. 1 in A minor, Op. 33

- 1. Allegro non troppo
- 2. Allegretto con moto
- 3. Allegro non troppo (Tempo primo)

Following France's loss to Germany in the Franco-Prussian War in 1871, Paris began calling for a new, French-minded music to reassert its national self-esteem, and Saint-Saëns was at the ready. One of his first responses was to compose a concerto for cello, an instrument that at the time was highly overshadowed by the public's obsession with showy German piano and violin concertos. His Cello Concerto No. 1 premiered in 1873 to thunderous nationalist acclaim.



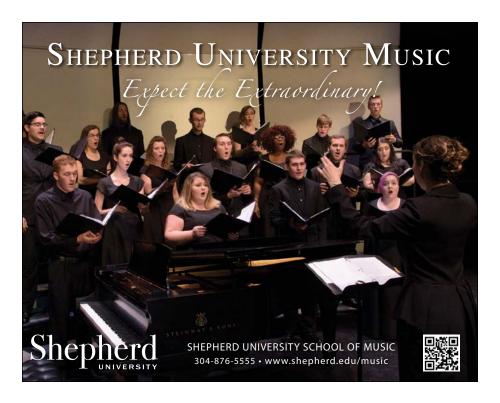
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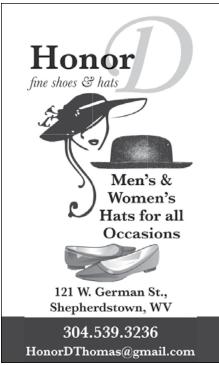
Two distinctive features of the concerto made it stand out immediately in 1870's French music: The first and most obvious feature is the way the Concerto begins with an unaccompanied cello solo that completely skips the typical orchestra-only introduction. The second striking feature is the innovative manner in which Saint-Saëns blends all three movements into a single movement without pauses in between.

Few concerti begin as stridently as this one, as the opening cello solo immediately sweeps us up with its majestic power and rich singing ability. The delightful transition into the slower next movement is one of Saint-Saëns' most novel techniques—the music abruptly begins slowing down, as if the engine had run out of fuel.

The Allegretto second movement is one of those wonders that take us to another realm of beauty. Saint-Saëns does this by capturing a feeling of antiquity and simplicity, filled with lyrical themes that hint of older times and offer nothing showy. A brief reprise of the main theme returns at the end, serving as a musical bridge to the next movement, again, without pause.

The finale offers both tunefulness and a certain operatic drama that trade off in turns. The cello passages both melt and burn, the themes blending melancholy, intrigue and excitement with gleeful gymnastics. The movement paces itself perfectly into a quickening of tempo and an exciting, yet stately, ending—not grandiloquent but the perfect finish to a work of such mastery. It's hard not to marvel that Saint-Saëns, in his first attempt at a cello concerto, could have gotten it so *right*.





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Felix Mendelssohn

(Born in Hamburg, Germany in 1809; died in Leipzig, Germany in 1847) Symphony No. 4 in A major, Op 90 (Italian)

- 1. Allegro vivace
- 2. Andante con moto
- 3. Con moto moderato
- 4. Finale, Saltarello-Presto

When Mendelssohn was a young and precocious lad of 12, he met the great poet Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, and it was then that this elder statesman of German literature encouraged the young Felix to travel and see the world and thereby learn. By the time the extraordinarily talented Mendelssohn was 21 in 1830, he had already composed two astonishingly great pieces: his octet at age 16, and his masterpiece, the overture to A Midsummer Night's Dream, at 17. Despite these successes, he wondered whether music was to be his true path, and so with his family's financial backing and Goethe's advice to inspire him, he set out into the world for what he called his "Great Trip." His destinations were London, Paris, and key cities in Germany, Scotland and Italy. In each place, Mendelssohn gave keyboard concerts, soaked in the atmosphere, met other famous musicians, and painted. But mainly he absorbed musical inspiration. After a little more than two years on this journey Mendelssohn returned home a richer man in spirit, dedicated to music as his vocation, and having mostly completed both his Scottish Symphony No. 3 and his Italian Symphony No. 4.

The nicknames that Mendelssohn gave these symphonies tell only of his inspirations from those countries, rather than any storyline or place depiction in them. Nonetheless, judging from the copious letters he wrote during his travels, Mendelssohn was utterly in love with Italy: enchanted by its history, its congeniality, and its sun-soaked climate. There can be no better musical souvenir of his jubilant impressions than the opening of his Italian symphony (which premiered in 1833). Beginning with a grand pizzicato in the strings, the winds then race off into rapid-fire motion, underneath a wonderfully bright



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melody in the violins above them. Its sprightliness and vigor are infectious and clearly reflect Mendelssohn's exuberant delight with Italy.

The beautiful and arching second movement, Andante, captures something of the faded grandeur of a country that once ruled and cultured the Western world. The solemn main theme paints nostalgic frescos in long, cinematic sweeps, but a delicately subtle simplicity and naiveté also shines through.

The third movement, Moderato, sings with a tender touch, but it is darkened ever so skillfully with a more somber Trio in the middle section that is reminiscent of Mozart's magical and evocative minuets that Mendelssohn so adored.

The Finale is fashioned after an old Italian dance form called a *saltarello*, although some musicologists insist it is a *tarantella*—that frantic, jumping dance prescribed as an antidote to a tarantula bite. Whichever its inspiration, after the stomping-like opening chords, the animation is set in high motion. What makes it so fantastic is the way Mendelssohn manages to continue increasing the excitement amid its unrelenting pace, leading to its final bars brimming with exhilaration.

© Max Derrickson

Once again, our Friends of Music season is being presented in part with generous financial assistance from the West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History and the National Endowment for the Arts, with approval from the West Virginia Commission on the Arts. We're very grateful for their support!

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When the COVID-19 pandemic forced us to cut short the 2019-2020 concert season, we suspended all our programming and fundraising from that time until late this summer. Fortunately, we are still being sustained to some degree by the grants, contributions, and other forms of support received at the beginning of the 2019-2020 concert season. The lists below include that earlier support as well as additional contributions and grants received since then. For memberships, we are simply listing those who have signed up as members for the new, current season.

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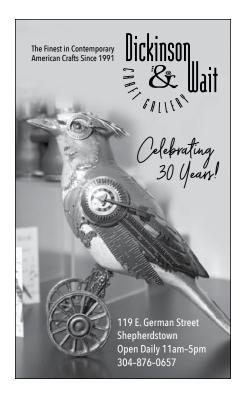
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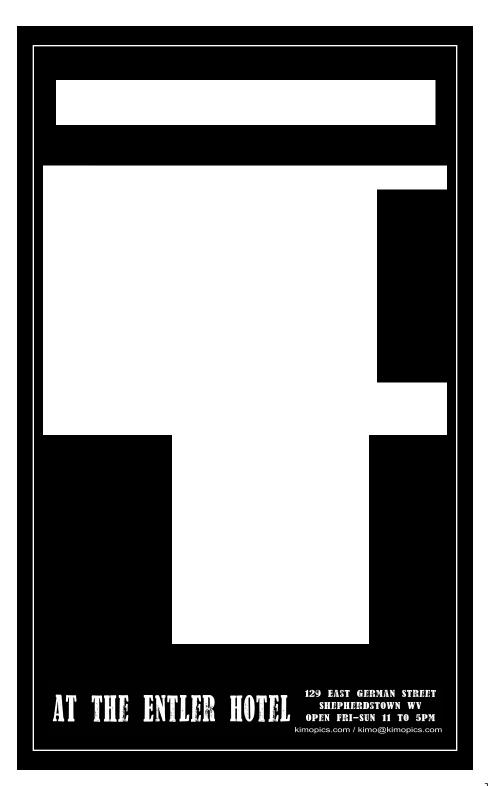
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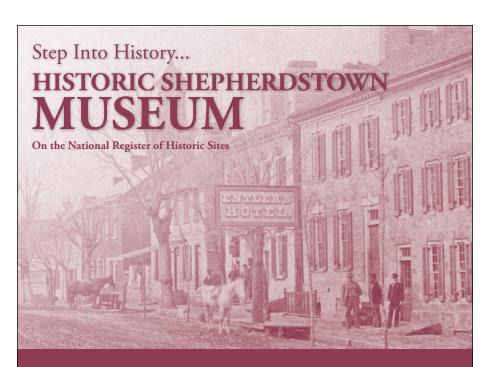
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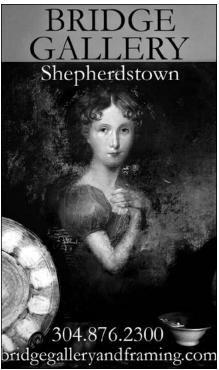
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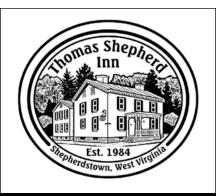
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FRIENDS OF MUSIC 2021-2022 CONCERT SCHEDULE

All concerts: Trinity Episcopal Church, Shepherdstown All programs subject to change.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2021

TWO RIVERS STRING QUARTET • 7:30PM

Re-Invention!

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791) -- String Quartet No. 3 in G major Joseph Haydn (1732-1809) -- String Quartet No. 1 in G major, Op. 76

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2021

TWO RIVERS CHAMBER ORCHESTRA • 7:30PM

Looking Bach-Wards

Edvard Grieg (1843-1907) -- Holberg Suite

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750) -- Concerto in D minor for violin and oboe

Heather Austin-Stone, violin | Noelle Drewes, oboe

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840-1893) -- Souvenir de Florence (arr. for string orchestra)

SATURDAY, MARCH 19 & SUNDAY, MARCH 20, 2022 TWO RIVERS CHAMBER ORCHESTRA • 7:30PM SATURDAY & 3PM SUNDAY Winds for Wolfgang

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791) -- Famous selections from

The Marriage of Figaro and The Magic Flute

Mozart -- Serenade No. 10 in B-flat Major (Gran Partita)

SUNDAY, APRIL 3 & TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 2022 THE VIVALDI PROJECT • 3PM SUNDAY & 7:30 PM TUESDAY From Venice to Vienna

Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741) -- Sonata da Camera a Tre in E minor, Op. 1, No. 2 Maddalena Lombardini Sirmen (1745-1818) -- Sonata, Op. 1, No. 5 in G major Paul Wranitsky (1756-1808) -- Trio Concertant, Op. 3, No. 3 in G major Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827) -- Terzetto, Op. 9, No. 2 in D major

SATURDAY, MAY 21 & SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2022 TWO RIVERS CHAMBER ORCHESTRA • 7:30PM SATURDAY & 3PM SUNDAY Secrets and Surprises

Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924) -- *Masques et Bergamasques*, Op. 112 Camille Saint-Saëns (1835-1921) -- Cello concerto No. 1 in A minor, Op. 33 Christine Lamprea, cello

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847) -- Symphony No. 4 in A major, Op. 90 (Italian)

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