

May 7- May 30, 2010

2010 FESTIVAL PROGRAM

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CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL



Christopher Rex, General and Artistic Director

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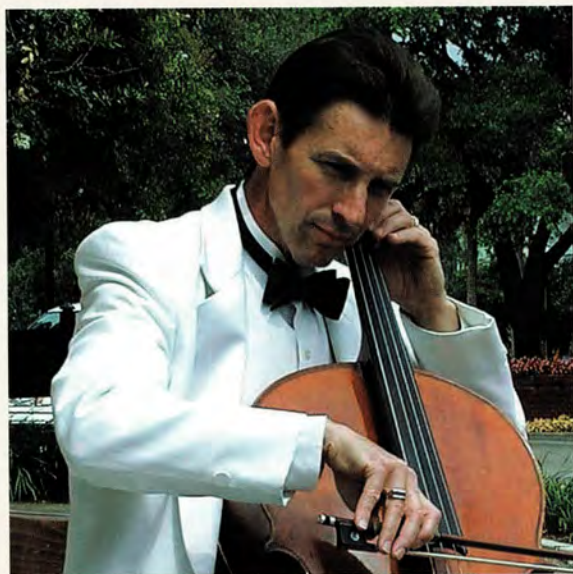
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A Warm Welcome from the Artistic Director:

I want to personally welcome you to the ninth season of the Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival.

Our nationally recognized Festival, one of the largest classical music events in the Southeast, has grown steadily in stature and importance since its inception in 2002. This year we are featuring over 50 internationally renowned artists in 18 performances. The galaxy of stars that you will be hearing include piano virtuosos Andre Watts, Valentina Lisitsa and Wendy Chen; master violinists Robert McDuffie and Karen Gomyo; cellist Andres Diaz; soprano Jessica Rivera; the Eroica Trio and St. Lawrence String Quartet; and fiddler Jay Ungar and



guitarist Molly Mason, who are famous for their music from the PBS series, *The Civil War*. In addition, Arnold Steinhardt, formerly first violin with the Guarneri String Quartet, will pay a special tribute to Beth Newdome, our long-time friend and Festival performer, who passed away earlier this year.

As part of our education mission, we will present several concerts by our Resident Fellowship Artists, composed of promising students from the nation's leading conservatories, who will perform with some of the great artists that appear throughout the festival. In addition, we will continue reaching out to our community with several free concerts, including the "String Fling" concert in Central Park on May 16.

Adding to your musical enjoyment are the variety of intimate and historically significant settings for our performances. These include beautiful churches throughout Amelia

Island, Fort Clinch—one of the best-preserved Civil War forts in the nation—and the historic Nassau County Courthouse. We thank all those who have made these beautiful venues available to the Festival.

As evidenced by our growing base of financial support, The Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival has become a firmly established part of the cultural fabric of this region. Since we are a not-for-profit, tax-exempt arts organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, the great music you are about to hear is made possible by the generosity of our sponsors and donors. In addition to our many valued individual donors, the 2010 Festival has benefited from grants provided by the National Endowment for the Arts, the State of Florida, First Federal Bank of Florida, Rayonier Corporation, Target, Bank of America and First Coast Community Bank. We also have continued to receive generous financial assistance from the Amelia Island Tourist Development Council. To all of our donors and supporters, we extend our heartfelt thanks.

It also is important to realize that The Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival is a volunteer organization. We depend upon the skills, enthusiasm and commitment of dozens of area residents, who freely give their time to ensure our continued success. Without their help, this Festival would not be possible, and we thank our volunteers for their dedicated efforts.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, I extend our warmest welcome to you. And now, sit back and enjoy some wonderful music.

Sincerely,
Christopher Rex
General and Artistic Director



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The Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival gratefully acknowledges our many contributors for their financial support. Since ticket sales account for only 25 percent of the total Festival costs, the generosity of our individual, corporate and public sector sponsors enables us to bring world class chamber music to Amelia Island. Without you, the Festival would not exist. Thank you for your support.

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Concerts of the 2010 Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival

Friday, May 7, 7:30 PM

"Masterpieces of Struggle and Joy I"

Celebrating the 200th Birthdays of Schumann and Chopin

Valentina Lisitsa, piano
Alexei Kuznetsoff, piano
David Coucheron, 1st violin
Rebecca Anderson, 2nd violin
Reid Harris, viola
Christopher Rex, cello

*Chopin Sonata, Op. 35 for 2 Pianos 4 Hands.....Chopin/
Saint-Saens*

Valentina Lisitsa, Alexei Kuznetsoff

Intermission

Piano Quintet Schumann

Valentina Lisitsa, David Coucheron, Rebecca Anderson,
Reid Harris, Christopher Rex

Friday Musicale - 645 Oak Street, Jacksonville

Tickets: \$25

This concert is underwritten in part by Dr. Mitchell and
Nadine Terk

Thursday, May 13, 7:30 PM

"The Four Seasons Times Two"

Robert McDuffie, violin
David Halen, violin
Sarah McElvray, violin
Christopher Rex, cello
Elizabeth Pridgen, piano and harpsichord
Kurt Muroki, bass
McDuffie Center Students
Conrad Thomas, violin
Melissa Ake, violin
Damian Nelson, viola
Karl Mitze, viola
Elaine Shim, cello
Miranda Henne, cello

Four Seasons Vivaldi

Four Seasons of Buenos Aires Piazzolla

Amelia Community Theater - Fernandina Beach

Tickets: \$40

This concert is underwritten in part by
Tom and Jeanette Pippin and Jack and Beverly Keigwin

Friday, May 14, 11:00 AM

McDuffie Center Showcase

Showcasing young artists and faculty from the McDuffie
Center for Strings, Mercer University
Conrad Thomas, violin
Melissa Ake, violin
Damian Nelson, viola
Karl Mitze, viola
Elaine Shim, cello
Miranda Henne, cello

Program to be announced

Historic Nassau County Courthouse - Fernandina Beach

Free event, no ticket required

This concert is underwritten in part by the Board and Staff
of the Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival

Friday, May 14, 7:30 PM

Andre Watts, piano
Helen Nightengale, violin
Sabina Thatcher, viola
Christopher Rex, cello

*Two Sonatas, F Minor, L. 187 and D. Minor,
L. 422 Scarlatti*

Sonata No. 58 in C Major Haydn

Piano Quartet in G minor Mozart

Intermission

from Moments musicaux, D. 780 Schubert

*Nocturne, Op. 27, No. 1, C-sharp minor
Etude, Op. 25, No. 1, A-flat Chopin*

*Etude de concert No. 3, "Un Sospiro"
Hungarian Rhapsody No. 13 in A minor Liszt*

Amelia Plantation Chapel - Amelia Island

Tickets: \$60

This concert underwritten in part by Sally Hill Buck

Saturday, May 15, 7:30 PM

"Masterpieces of Struggle and Joy II"

Robert Spano, piano
Jessica Rivera, soprano
David Halen, violin
Christopher Rex, cello
Elizabeth Pridgen, piano
Sabina Thatcher, viola
Kurt Muroki, bass

Frauenliebe und Leben Schumann
Selected Songs Debussy

Robert Spano, Jessica Rivera

Intermission

"Die Forelle" Schubert

Robert Spano, Jessica Rivera
Piano Quintet "The Trout" Schubert
David Halen, Sabina Thatcher, Christopher Rex,
Kurt Muroki, Elizabeth Pridgen

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church - Fernandina Beach

Tickets: \$25

This concert is underwritten in part by the Board and staff of
the Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival

Sunday, May 16, 2:00 PM

"String Fling...Concert in the Park"

Philip Pan, violin
Rebecca Anderson, violin
Alicia Hui, violin
Roberto Papi, viola
Natalie Helm, cello
Christopher Rex, cello

Light classics and string quartet "pops"

Central Park - Fernandina Beach

Free event, no ticket required

This concert is underwritten in part by Rayonier Inc. and its
employees; First Coast Community Bank; The State of Florida
Division of Cultural Affairs; The Florida Arts Council; and the
National Endowment for the Arts

Sunday, May 16, 7:30 PM

"Masterpieces of Struggle and Joy III"

Valentina Lisitsa, piano
William Preucil, violin
Christopher Rex, cello
Elizabeth Pridgen, piano

Sonata for Violin and Piano Saint Saens
William Preucil, Elizabeth Pridgen

Sonata for Cello and Piano Chopin
Christopher Rex, Elizabeth Pridgen

Intermission

Piano Sonata No. 29 in B flat major, Op. 106
"Hammerklavier" Beethoven
Valentina Lisitsa

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church - Fernandina Beach

Tickets: \$25

This concert is underwritten in part by Jane and Jim Flynn and
Sue and Steve Braddock

**Tuesday, May 18, 8:00 PM and
Wednesday, May 19, 8:00 PM**

Fort Clinch Candlelight Concerts
"American Roots Music — Fiddle and Guitar"

Jay Ungar, violin
Molly Mason, guitar

Fort Clinch State Park - Fernandina Beach

Tickets: \$25

This concert is underwritten in part by The State of Florida
Division of Cultural Affairs; The Florida Arts Council; and the
National Endowment for the Arts

Friday, May 21, 7:30 PM

"Masterpieces of Struggle and Joy IV"

Karen Gomyo, violin
Andres Diaz, cello
Wendy Chen, piano
Elizabeth Pridgen, piano
Susie Park, violin
Christopher Rex, cello

Piano Trio Tchaikovsky
Karen Gomyo, Andres Diaz, Wendy Chen

Intermission

"Cafe Music" Paul Schoenfield
Susie Park, Christopher Rex, Elizabeth Pridgen

Amelia Plantation Chapel - Amelia Island

Tickets: \$25

This concert is underwritten in part by Sally and Tom
Henderson

Saturday, May 22, 2:00 PM

Resident Fellowship Artists

Alicia Hui, violin
Rebecca Anderson, violin
Roberto Papi, viola
Natalie Helm, cello
Ran Jia, piano
James Dunham, viola
Christopher Rex, cello

String Quintet in E Major, Op. 13, No. 5 Boccherini
Anderson, Hui, Papi, Rex, Helm

Scene Andalouse for Solo Viola and Piano Quintet ...Turina
James Dunham solo viola, Anderson, Hui, Papi, Helm, Jia

String Sextet Borodin
Anderson, Hui, Papi, Dunham, Helm, Rex

Intermission

Piano Quintet Franck
Hui, Anderson, Papi, Helm, Jia

Macedonia AME Church - Fernandina Beach

Tickets: \$10

This concert is underwritten in part by Nina Houghton of Queenstown, Maryland

Sunday, May 23, 5:30 PM

Ritz Gala: "Chamber Music à la Carte"

Eroica Trio

Erika Nickrenz, piano
Susie Park, violin
Sara Sant'Ambrogio, cello
Christopher Rex, cello

Ritz Carlton Amelia Island

Tickets: \$50/Dinner: \$100

This concert is sponsored in part by 21st Century Oncology of Jacksonville and Regional Consultants Hematology Oncology: Robert A. Joyce M.D., Mathew Luke, M.D., Dimitrios Agaliotis, M.D., Carlos Castillo, M.D., Troy Guthrie, M.D., Jeffrey M. Harris, M.D., Alan R. Marks, M.D., Joseph Mignone, M.D., Augusto Villegas, M.D., Zhen Hou, M.D., William P. Peters, M.D. Radiation Oncology: Joanne Dragan, M.D.: Surgical Oncology: Sadir J. Alrawi, M.D., Michael S. Boyle, M.D.

Monday, May 24, 7:00 PM

Beer and G-Strings I - "Music of Passion and Fire"

Karen Gomyo, violin
Andres Diaz, cello

Wendy Chen, piano
Alicia Hui, violin
Betty Anne Diaz, narrator
Elizabeth Pridgen

Zigeunerweisen Sarasate
Alicia Hui, Elizabeth Pridgen

Polonaise Brilliant Chopin
Andres Diaz, Wendy Chen

Hungarian Dances Brahms
Wendy Chen, Elizabeth Pridgen

Slavonic Dances Dvorak
Elizabeth Pridgen, Wendy Chen

Czardas Monte/Rex
Andres Diaz, Christopher Rex

Duo for Violin and Cello, Mvt. 3 Kodaly
Karen Gomyo, Christopher Rex

Intermission

Hungarian Rhapsody Popper
Christopher Rex, Elizabeth Pridgen

"Of Fables, Foibles & Fancies" Beglarian
Andres Diaz, Betty Anne Diaz

Tangoes Piazzolla
Wendy Chen

Tsigane Ravel
Karen Gomyo, Elizabeth Pridgen

Sandy Bottoms - Fernandina Beach

Tickets: \$40

This concert sponsored in part by Mary and Herb Jervis

Tuesday, May 25, 7:30 PM

St. Lawrence String Quartet

Geoff Nuttall, violin
Scott St. John, violin
Lesley Robertson, viola
Christopher Costanza, cello
James Dunham, viola

Viola Quintet Dvorak

Remaining program to be announced

St. Peter's Episcopal Church - Fernandina Beach
Tickets: \$25

This concert is underwritten in part by the Board and staff of the Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival

Thursday, May 27, 1:00 PM

Resident Fellowship Artists

Alicia Hui, violin
Rebecca Anderson, violin
Roberto Papi, viola
Natalie Helm, cello
Ran Jia, piano

Program to be announced

Savannah Grand of Amelia Island - Fernandina Beach

Free event, no ticket required

This concert is underwritten in part by Nina Houghton of Queenstown, Maryland

Friday, May 28, 6:00 PM

Beth Newdome Memorial Concert

"J.S. Bach and the Mystery of the Chaconne"

Arnold Steinhardt, violin

Chaconne for violin J.S. Bach

St. Peter's Episcopal Church - Fernandina Beach

Tickets: \$15

This concert is underwritten in part by Arnold Steinhardt, Christopher Rex, Lee and Bruce Buchanan, Bob and Janet Ross, the Board and staff of the Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival, and Beth's many friends

Saturday, May 29, 11:00 AM

Family Concert

"Elephants, Djembach, and the Viper"

Stephen Moretti, percussion

Andrew Rangell, piano and narration

Phillip Pan, viper

Djembach.....Woehr

Philip Pan, Stephen Moretti

Barbar the Elephant.....Poulenc

Andrew Rangell

Selections and Improvisations on the Viper

Philip Pan.

Peck Center Gym - Fernandina Beach

Free event, no ticket required

This concert is underwritten in part by The State of Florida Division of Cultural Affairs; The Florida Arts Council; the National Endowment for the Arts; The Target Foundation; and Steve and Jerrie Sell

Saturday, May 29, 7:30 PM

Resident Fellowship Artists

Alicia Hui, violin
Rebecca Anderson, violin
Roberto Papi, viola
Natalie Helm, cello
Ran Jia, piano
Roberto Diaz, viola
Christopher Rex, cello

Sonaten Satz for Violin and Piano Brahms

Alicia Hui, Ran Jia

Piano Trio in C Major Brahms

Rebecca Anderson, Christopher Rex, Ran Jia

Intermission

Viola Quintet No. 1 in F Major, Op. 88 Brahms

Resident Fellowship Artists, Roberto Diiz

Macedonia AME Church - Fernandina Beach

Tickets: \$10

This concert is underwritten in part by Nina Houghton of Queenstown, Maryland

Sunday, May 30, 7:00 PM

Beer and G-Strings II: "Sam's Club"

Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Samuel Barber's Birth

Elissa Koljonen, violin

Elizabeth Pridgen, piano

Rebecca Anderson, violin

Roberto Papi, viola

Christopher Rex, cello

Excursions for Piano Samuel Barber

Elizabeth Pridgen

String Quartet Samuel Barber

Rebecca Anderson, Roberto Papi, Christopher Rex

Intermission

Violin Concerto Samuel Barber

Elissa Koljonen, Elizabeth Pridgen

O'Kane's Irish Pub & Eatery - Fernandina Beach

Tickets: \$40

This concert is underwritten in part by The Bosland Family Foundation

2010 Guest Artists

Rebecca Anderson, a Resident Fellowship Artist, is a student at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia.



Wendy Chen. At the age of fifteen, Wendy Chen debuted with the Los Angeles Philharmonic under conductor André Previn. In 1990 she became the youngest winner ever of the National Chopin Competition,



was one of the inaugural recipients of the Irving S. Gilmore Young Artists Award, and was named a Presidential Scholar by the National Foundation for the Arts. Over the past decade her career has

flourished, adding winner of the Young Concert Artists International Auditions and Washington International Competition to her numerous awards.

David Coucheron.

Recently named Concertmaster of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, David Coucheron boasts an impeccable pedigree, with degrees from Philadelphia's Curtis Institute, New York's Juilliard School and London's Guildhall School of Music and Drama. He has been soloist with the world's top orchestras, including the BBC Symphony Orchestra and Oslo Philharmonic.



Andres Diaz. Born in Santiago, Chile, cellist Andres Diaz won first prize in the 1986 Naumburg International Cello Competition. Since then, he has made many orchestral and recitalist appearances with symphonies in the United States, Europe, the Far East and South America. Awarded the prestigious Avery Fisher Career Grant in 1998, he plays a 1698 Matteo Goffriller cello with a bow made by his father, Manuel Diaz.



Roberto Diaz is former principal violist of the Philadelphia Orchestra and president of the Curtis Institute of Music. As a renowned recitalist, he is frequently heard as a member of the Díaz Trio, with violinist Andrés Cárdenes and cellist Andrés Díaz, with whom he has performed throughout the



United States, Canada, Europe, Mexico and Chile. He has received numerous awards, including prizes at the Naumburg and Munich international viola competitions.

James Dunham. Soloist, chamber musician and teacher, James Dunham is active internationally as a recitalist and guest artist. He has collaborated with such renowned artists as Emmanuel Ax, Joshua Bell, Lynn Harrell, Cho-Liang Lin and members of the American, Guarneri, Juilliard, Takács and Tokyo Quartets.



Eroica Trio.

The Grammy-nominated Eroica Trio, among the most sought-after chamber ensembles in the world, is one of the first all-female ensembles to reach the top echelon of its field. The women of the Eroica Trio electrify the international concert stage with their flawless technical virtuosity, irresistible enthusiasm and sensual elegance. The Trio won the prestigious 1991 Naumburg Award, resulting in a highly successful Lincoln Center debut and has since toured the United States, Europe and Asia. While maintaining its demanding concert schedule, the Eroica Trio has released seven critically lauded recordings for Angel/EMI Classics Records, garnering multiple Grammy nominations.



Karen Gomyo. Recipient of the prestigious Avery Fisher Career Grant in 2008, Canadian violinist Karen Gomyo first caught public attention just one week after

her fifteenth birthday when she won the 1997 Young Concert Artists International Auditions. She became the youngest artist ever to be presented in the Young Concert Artists Series, in a critically acclaimed



New York debut as recipient of the Summis Auspiciis Prize. She since has ever since been heard as soloist, recitalist, and chamber musician across the U.S., Canada, South America, Europe, and Asia.

David Halen is considered one of the nation's finest concertmasters. His concertmaster experience began with the Houston Symphony under Christoph Eschenbach, and he has served as concertmaster with the St. Louis Symphony under Leonard Slatkin, the late Hans Vonk and currently David Robertson. Mr. Halen plays a 1753 Giovanni Battista Guadagnini violin, made in Milan, Italy.



Reid Harris is now in his thirty-first season as principal violist of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. He is a founding member of the Georgian

Chamber Players.

Natalie Helm, cello for the Resident Fellowship Artists, is a student at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia.



Alicia Hui, violin for the Resident Fellowship Artists, is a student at the Cleveland Institute of Music.

Ran Jia, piano, for the Resident Fellowship Artists, is a student at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia.



Elissa Koljonen. Violinist Elissa Lee Koljonen has thrilled audiences and critics in over 100 cities throughout the world. She initially received international acclaim when she became the first



recipient of the prestigious Henryk Szeryng Foundation Award and silver medalist of the Carl Flesch International Violin Competition. As a recitalist, Ms. Koljonen has performed in many musical capitals including London, Amsterdam, Salzburg, Seoul, Washington, D.C., Philadelphia and New York. Also an avid chamber musician, Ms. Koljonen appears regularly at festivals throughout North America, Europe and Asia.

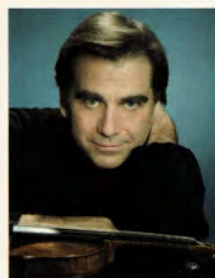


Valentina Lisitsa. Born to a family of non-musicians in Kiev, Ukraine, Valentina started playing piano at age three and performed her first solo

performance at four. She attended the Kiev Conservatory, and while there, met Alexi Kuznetsoff, her future husband and partner in duo-pianism. The couple made their U.S. debut in 1991 at the Mostly Mozart Festival at Lincoln Center. Valentina also has established herself as a soloist, performing at many of the world's most prestigious venues, including New York's Carnegie Hall and Avery Fisher Hall, Vienna's Musikverein and Amsterdam's Concertgebouw.

Robert McDuffie.

Internationally acclaimed violinist Robert McDuffie has appeared as soloist with many of the major orchestras of the world, including the New York and Los Angeles Philharmonics; the



Chicago, Montreal, and Toronto Symphonies; the Philadelphia, Cleveland, and Leipzig Gewandhaus orchestras; the North German Radio and Frankfurt Radio Orchestras; the Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen; and all of the major orchestras of Australia. He returns to Rome each June as the co-founder and artistic director of The Rome Chamber Music Festival. McDuffie also is Distinguished University Professor of Music at Mercer University, where he heads The Robert McDuffie Center for Strings.



Sarah McElvray, a past performer with the Resident Fellowship Artists, is the first violinist in the Linden String Quartet, which is the

most recent winner of the Gold Medal at the prestigious Fishoff Competition. The Linden String Quartet has just been awarded a residency at Yale University.

Steve Moretti

performs extensively throughout the country and is among the most sought after young drummers of his generation. Recognized for his high energy and versatility, Steve has been lauded for his "authoritative command" and hailed as "explosive," "sparkling," "a driving force," and "impressively sensitive." He toured and recorded with the legendary Rosemary Clooney for six years.





St. Lawrence String Quartet.

Having walked on stage together nearly 2,000 times over the last 20 years, the St. Lawrence String Quartet has established itself as one of the world-class chamber ensembles of its generation. Throughout this time, the quartet has delighted audiences with its spontaneous, passionate, and dynamic performances, as well as a more informal style than one might expect from chamber musicians. Alex Ross of *The New Yorker* magazine writes, "the St. Lawrence are remarkable not simply for the quality of their music making, exalted as it is, but for the joy they take in the act of connection."



Kurt Muroki. Double bassist Kurt Muroki, newly appointed to the faculty at New York University and the McDuffie Center for Strings at Mercer

University, has collaborated with the Guarneri, Juilliard, and Tokyo string quartets. A native of Maui, Hawaii, Mr. Muroki plays a double bass once owned by Domenico Dragonetti and attributed to Nicolo Amati circa 1665.

Helen Nightengale.

A graduate of Eastman and Indiana University, Helen Nightengale is currently the



Founding Director of the Angeli Ensemble in Los Angeles. She has held the positions of co-concertmaster of the London Symphony and Associate Concertmaster of the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra. She performs on the 1736 Pollitzer-Koessler Guarneri del Gesù.

Philip Pan.

Having received a Bachelor and Masters of Music from The Juilliard School, Philip Pan has been Concertmaster of the Jacksonville Symphony since 1984.



Roberto Papi, viola, for the Resident Fellowship Artists, is a student at Rice University.



William Preucil was named concertmaster of The Cleveland Orchestra in 1995. Previously, he was

first violinist of the Cleveland Quartet from 1989 to 1995 and concertmaster of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra from 1982 to 1989. Mr. Preucil has appeared frequently as a recitalist, chamber musician and soloist with orchestras and at major chamber music festivals in the U.S. and abroad. He is Distinguished Professor of Violin at the Cleveland Institute of Music.

Elizabeth Pridgen, a past performer with the Resident Fellowship Artists, has just been named Distinguished Artist and Piano



Chair at the McDuffie Center for Strings. A graduate of Peabody and Juilliard, Ms. Pridgen has performed with such artists as Elmar Oliveira, Robert McDuffie, Andres Diaz, Lynn Harrell, Hilary Hahn, Sarah Chang, Peter Wiley, Anne Akikio Meyers, Jennifer Koh and Mark O'Connor.

Andrew Rangell studied at New York's Juilliard School of Music, obtaining a doctorate in



piano. He won the Malraux Award of the Concert Artists Guild, leading to his New York debut. In 1988 he received the Avery Fisher Career Development Grant. He is

best known for his performances of all 32 of Beethoven's piano sonatas and J.S. Bach's Goldberg Variations.

Resident Fellowship Artists.

Through our Resident Fellowship Artists Program, promising music students from the nation's top conservatories, are selected each year to participate in the Festival. They are instructed by and perform with Festival guest artists, who guide the residency activities of the RFA students.

Christopher Rex, general and artistic director of The Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival, is principal cellist of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, a position he has held since 1979. Also in that year, he became the first cellist ever to win the string prize in the biennial Young Artists Competition of the National Federation of Music



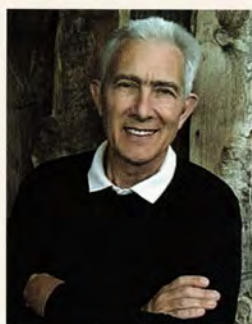
Clubs. Following his studies at the Curtis Institute of Music with Orlando Cole and at the Juilliard School with Leonard Rose, he was a member of the Philadelphia Orchestra under director Eugene Ormandy for seven seasons. An active recitalist and chamber musician at venues around the nation, Rex serves on the board of directors of Chamber Music America.



Jessica Rivera, hailed by the New York Times as a "vocally luminous young soprano," is quickly establishing

herself as one of the most creative vocal artists of her generation. The intelligence, dimension and spirituality that she infuses in her performances on the international concert and opera stages have garnered her artistic collaborations with many of today's most celebrated composers, including John Adams, Osvaldo Golijov and Nico Muhly.

Robert Spano. Now in his fifth season as music director of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, Robert Spano is recognized as one of the most imaginative conductors of his generation. He received his bachelor of music in piano from Oberlin College and then studied conducting at the Curtis Institute of Music. He has played concertos with orchestras around the country, but most of his piano performances have focused on chamber music and lieder.



Arnold Steinhardt made his solo debut with the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra at age 14. He studied with Ivan Galamian at

the Curtis Institute of Music and with Joseph Szigeti in Switzerland in 1962 under the sponsorship of George Szell. Winner of the Philadelphia Youth Competition in 1957, the 1958 Leventritt Award, and Bronze Medalist in the Queen Elizabeth International Violin Competition in 1963, Mr. Steinhardt has appeared throughout North America and Europe as a recitalist and soloist. He was first violinist and a founding member (1964) of the internationally acclaimed Guarneri String Quartet with which he toured the globe and recorded dozens of albums for RCA Victor, Philips, Arabesque and Surrounded By Entertainment.

Sabina Thatcher. A graduate of the Eastman School of Music and The Juilliard School, Sabina Thatcher began her tenure as principal violist of the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra in St. Paul, Minnesota, in 1989. Thatcher is a faculty member at the Aspen Music Festival and School, a



Distinguished Artist of the McDuffie Center for Strings at Mercer University.

Jay Ungar and Molly Mason are extraordinary musicians. If you did not know it before, you certainly did after Ken Burns' *The Civil War* hit the airwaves in 1990. Their performance of Jay's haunting composition *Ashokan Farewell*, the musical hallmark of the PBS series, earned the couple international acclaim.



The Civil War soundtrack won a Grammy and *Ashokan Farewell* was nominated for an Emmy. Since joining forces in the late 1970s, Jay and Molly have become one of the most celebrated duos on the American acoustic music scene. The couple's repertoire includes timeless renditions of hard-driving Appalachian, Cajun and Celtic fiddle tunes, stirring Civil War classics, sassy songs from the golden age of swing and country, stunning waltzes and their own deeply moving compositions.



Andre Watts burst upon the music world in 1963 at the age of 16 when Leonard Bernstein chose him to make his debut with

the New York Philharmonic in their Young People's Concerts, broadcast nationwide on CBS-TV. Two weeks later, Bernstein asked him to substitute at the last minute for the ailing Glenn Gould in performances of Liszt's E-flat Concerto with the New York Philharmonic, thus launching his career in storybook fashion. More than 45 years later, André Watts remains one of today's most celebrated superstars.

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The Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival is made possible by the dedicated efforts of our volunteers. You would not be hearing the wonderful music of the 2010 Festival without the expertise, energy and enthusiasm of the people listed below. Thanks to all of our wonderful volunteers.

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