



February 11, May 20 - June 19, 2011

AMELIA ISLAND
 CHAMBER MUSIC
FESTIVAL

A Decade of Musical Excellence



To Our Friends and Supporters:

It is hard to believe that 2011 marks the 10th anniversary of the Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival.

Going back to our beginnings, I had long thought about starting a chamber event on our beautiful island. To get the ball rolling, I teamed with violinist Beth Newdome, my dear departed friend, to perform a demonstration and present a strategic vision before a small group on Amelia Island in the summer of 2001. The interest generated by that event led to an invitation to perform at a meeting of Centred Women, a group engaged in the civic life and activities of Amelia Island. The individuals who attended that and subsequent meetings formed the nucleus of what became the AICMF later that year. We raised \$50,000 by the end of 2001, and backed by that seed money, we launched the Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival in the summer of 2002. The rest is history.



Our festival has grown steadily since that first wonderful summer, and we always will be a work in progress as we strive continually for ever-greater success. However, it is no exaggeration to say that the AICMF is now recognized as one of the nation's premier classical musical events. For our growing national stature, we owe our heartfelt thanks to our founders, our corps of dedicated volunteers, our loyal financial supporters, the many extraordinary musicians who have performed here, and, of course, the thousands of music lovers who have attended our concerts over the years.

To celebrate our first "Decade of Musical Excellence," the tenth season of the AICMF will feature the most expansive and varied program in our history, ranging from chamber ensembles, tango and flamenco to American roots music, jazz and contemporary. You also will hear four concerts originally performed at our festival during the past decade. Our line-up of recognized world class artists includes the Tokyo String Quartet, violinist Rachel Barton Pine, guitarist Sharon Isbin, pianist Valentina Lisitsa, Native American flutist R. Carlos Nakai and Brazilian jazz vocalist Luciana Souza. These artists will be joined by such rapidly emerging stars as the Linden String Quartet, the contemporary music group eighth blackbird, and David and Julie Coucheron.

The 2011 Festival runs from May 20 through June 19, and tickets can be purchased today at our website, www.aicmf.com, or by calling 904-261-1779. However, don't forget about our special Valentine's Day concert on February 11, which will feature three of your favorite performers over the past decade: Andres Diaz, cello; Wendy Chen, piano; and Anne Akiko Meyers, violin. We hope you won't miss this very special concert.

The AICMF is your festival. As such, our exciting 2011 program is designed to satisfy a wide range of musical tastes and interests. Please review the following pages to see which performances you wish to attend. And be sure to take advantage of the special discounts we are offering on ticket packages for multiple performances.

We look forward to seeing you in February and then later this spring.

Christopher Rex
General and Artistic Director

*About the Cover:
Rachel Barton Pine;
and bottom photo, Tokyo String Quartet.*



Rayonier



AMELIA ISLAND
TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

2011 Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival

Buy Your Tickets Today
On-line at www.aicmf.com
or 904/261-1779

Since the following performance schedule is subject to change, please check our website for the latest details on the Festival. Also, take advantage of the special discounts that we are offering on performance packages. See our website for details.



February 11

The Sounds of Romance

Anne Akiko Meyers, violin; Andres Diaz, cello; Wendy Chen, piano;
Christopher Rex, cello
Amelia Plantation Chapel, 36 Bowman Road
7:30 PM
Tickets: \$40

Anne Akiko Meyers is celebrated as one of the world's premiere violin soloists, chamber musicians and recording artists. It has been written that "through her peerless mastery and vivid imagination, there seems to be no limit to the colors she can draw from her instrument." Cellist Andres Diaz, awarded the prestigious Avery Fisher Career Grant in 1998, has made many orchestral and recital appearances with symphonies throughout the world. Pianist Wendy Chen has garnered critical acclaim for her recitals and engagements with leading orchestras worldwide, with reviewers exclaiming that "having pianist Wendy Chen on the program is a guarantee that sparks will fly."



May 20

Latino Romantica: Sizzling and Passionate Dance Music of Latin America

Amelia Island Tango Orchestra
Amelia Community Theatre, 209 Centre Street
7:30 PM
Tickets: \$35

The Amelia Tango Orchestra consists of David Halen, violin (concertmaster of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra); Amy Schwartz Moretti, violin (Director of the Robert McDuffie Center for Strings at Mercer University); Kurt Muroki, bass (internationally renowned bassist now serving on the faculty of New York University and the McDuffie Center); Christopher Rex, cello (principal cellist of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and general and artistic director of the AICMF); Stephen Moretti, percussion (among the most sought after young drummers of his generation); students from the Robert McDuffie Center for Strings at Mercer University.



May 21

McDuffie Center Showcase: Young artists from the McDuffie Center for Strings, Mercer University
Historic Nassau County Courthouse, Fernandina Beach
11:00 AM
Free Concert/no ticket required

The Robert McDuffie Center for Strings is a highly selective program that is a special institute within Mercer University's Townsend School of Music. Young artists study with some of the nation's renowned string musicians, receiving music instruction of conservatory quality.

May 22

Splendor in the Brass

Air National Guard Band of the South
Amelia Park Concert Pavillion
2:00 PM
Free Concert/no ticket required



The Air National Guard Band of the South provides music for military ceremonies, official functions, recruiting and retention events and community relations. The band averages fifty performances a year and performs regularly throughout its area of responsibility as "Goodwill Ambassadors" for the Georgia Air National Guard.



May 25

From Russia With Love: Retro Concert I (from June 2, 2002)

Zuill Bailey, cello; Orli Shaham, piano; Amy Schwartz Moretti, violin; Sabina Thatcher, viola; Christopher Rex, cello; Kurt Muroki, bass; and the Linden String Quartet

St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 801 Atlantic Avenue

7:30 PM

Tickets: \$50

Champagne reception to follow performance

Zuill Bailey is widely considered one of the premiere cellists in the world. His artistry, technical wizardry and engaging personality have secured his place as one of the most sought-after cellists today. A consummate musician recognized for her grace, subtlety and vitality, Orli Shaham has established an impressive reputation on four continents as one of today's most gifted pianists. Sabina Thatcher has been principal violist with the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra since 1989.



May 27

Tokyo String Quartet

with Christopher Rex, cello

Amelia Plantation Chapel, 36 Bowman Road

7:30 PM

Tickets: \$40

The Tokyo String Quartet has captivated audiences and critics since it was founded 40 years ago. Renowned as one of the supreme chamber ensembles of the world, the Tokyo Quartet—Martin Beaver and Kikuei Ikeda (violins), Kazuhide Isomura (viola) and Clive Greensmith (cello)—has collaborated with a remarkable array of artists and composers and built a comprehensive catalogue of critically acclaimed recordings. The ensemble performs over 100 concerts worldwide each season. In this performance of music by Shostakovich and Glazunov, The Tokyo String Quartet will be joined by the Linden String Quartet.

May 28

Bringing Home the Gold

Linden String Quartet, with Christopher Rex, cello
Memorial United Methodist Church, 601 Centre Street

7:30 PM

Tickets: \$20

The Linden String Quartet—Sarah McElvray, violin; Catherine Cosbey, violin; Eric Wong, viola; and Felix Umansky, cello—is one of the country's premier young string quartets. The ensemble was the gold medal winner of the 2009 Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition and winner of the 2010 Concert Artist Guild Competition. The ensemble is in residence at Yale University. This concert is presented by the Beth Newdome Fellowship.



June 2

Grass Roots Song and Dance: A Hoedown

Jay Ungar, violin and Molly Mason, guitar

Walker's Landing, OMNI Amelia Island Plantation

7:00 PM

Tickets: \$30

Their performance of Ashokan Farewell, Jay's haunting composition that was the musical hallmark of the Ken Burns PBS series *The Civil War*, earned the couple international acclaim. Since joining forces in the late 1970s, Jay and Molly have become one of the most celebrated duos on the American acoustic music scene with their repertoire of Appalachian, Cajun and Celtic tunes, Civil War classics, sassy songs from the golden age of swing and country waltzes.



June 4

An Evening with Gabriela Montero

Gabriela Montero, piano; Christopher Rex, cello
Amelia Plantation Chapel, 36 Bowman Road
7:30 PM
Tickets: \$40



Venezuelan-born superstar pianist Gabriela Montero has been called the “queen of improvisation.” Her visionary interpretations and unique improvisational gifts have won her a rapidly expanding and devoted following around the world. Ms. Montero, who often invites her audience to participate by asking for a melody for improvisations, will present a recital of classical masterpieces as well as present her artistry through her trademark improvisations.

June 5

David and Julie

David Coucheron, violin and Julie Coucheron, piano; Christopher Rex, cello
Memorial United Methodist Church, 601 Centre Street
7:30 PM
Tickets: \$25



Brother and sister David and Julie Coucheron have performed as a duo around the world. David, concertmaster of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, has soloed with many of the world's leading orchestras. Julie has won first prize in all the national competitions she has attended and toured throughout the U.S., Europe South America and Asia. They will perform music by Grieg, Kodaly and Brahms.

June 7

Family Concert: Meet eighth blackbird

eighth blackbird
Peck Center Gym, 516 South 10th Street
11:00 AM
Free concert/no ticket required

Grammy-winning eighth blackbird debunks the myth that contemporary music is only for a cerebral few. The sextet attracts fans of all ages to its performances and recordings, which sparkle with wit and pound with physical energy. eighth blackbird is lauded for its performing style – often playing from memory with theatrical flair – and for making new music accessible to wide audiences. “It’s new music you can bring home to your mother,” observed the Washington Post.



June 8

Soar with eighth blackbird

eighth blackbird
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 2600 Atlantic Avenue
7:30 PM
Tickets: \$30

June 9

Beth Newdome Fellowship Artists

Savannah Grand of Amelia Island
1:00 PM
Free concert/no ticket required

Beer & G Strings I: From Bach to Bossa Nova

Luciana Souza, vocalist; Romero Lubambo, guitarist; Cyro Baptista, percussion
La Tierra Prometida (formerly First Baptist Church), 416 Alachua Street
7:00 PM
Tickets: \$45

Grammy winner Luciana Souza is one of jazz's leading singers and interpreters. Hailing from São Paulo, Brazil, her work transcends traditional boundaries around musical styles, offering solid roots in jazz and a unique approach to classical repertoire and new music. She has performed and recorded with greats like Herbie



Hancock, Paul Simon and Bobby McFerrin. The Boston Globe said "Souza sings in a quiet, throbbing, flamenco-style alto and brings an ineffably serene presence to everything she does." About Romero Lubambo, *Jazzis* magazine wrote that he "may be the best practitioner of his craft in the world today...the guitarist's facility, creativity and energy are in a class all their own." *Time Out New York* wrote that Cyro Baptista is "the man the stars call when they want that other-worldly flavor in the mix."

June 10

Czech it Out!: Masterpieces of Antonin Dvorak

Beth Newdome Fellowship Artists

All-Curtis String Quartet: Ike See, violin; Amalia Hall, violin; Rachel Kulpers, viola, Natalie Helm, cello. Also, Julie Coucheron, piano; James Dunham, viola; Christopher Rex, cello

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 2600 Atlantic Avenue

7:30 PM

Tickets: \$15



June 11

Voices of the Spirit

R. Carlos Nakai, Native American flute; exhibition of Zuni Indian fetish carvings from collection of Christopher Rex

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 2600 Atlantic Avenue

7:30 PM

Tickets: \$30

Of Navajo-Ute heritage, R. Carlos Nakai is the world's premier performer of the Native American flute. Originally trained in classical trumpet and music theory, Nakai was given a traditional cedar wood flute as a gift and challenged to see what he could do with it. Since 1983, he has released over 35 albums. The Los

Angeles Times has written that Nakai "is to Native American flute what James Galway has been to Irish music." This concert also will include a performance of Dvorak's "American Quartet" to illustrate the influence of Native American music on this classical composer during his residency in America.

June 12

The Many Moods of Rachel

Beer & G Strings II: Retro Concert II (from June 10, 2005)

Rachel Barton Pine, violin

Palace Saloon, 117 Centre Street

7:00 PM

Tickets: \$45



This concert will showcase the impressive versatility of Rachel Barton Pine, one of the world's most renowned violinists. She has appeared as soloist with many of the world's most prestigious orchestras and worked with such conductors as Charles Dutoit, Zubin Mehta, Erich Leinsdorf, Marin Alsop, Neeme Järvi, and Plácido Domingo. Her festival appearances include Ravinia, Marlboro, Salzburg and Amelia Island. In this performance, she will perform a wide range of music from Baroque, Classical and Romantic to Appalachian and hard rock. Ms. Pine will be joined by Elizabeth Pridgen, piano; Philip Pan, violin; and Christopher Rex, cello.



June 14, 15

Fort Clinch Candlelight Concert: Retro Concert III (from June 11, 2006)

Alison Buchanan, soprano; Philip Pan, violin; Terrance Patterson, clarinet; Elizabeth Pridgen, piano

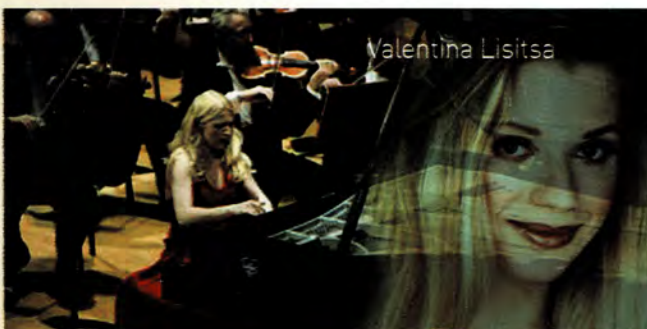
Fort Clinch State Park

7:30 PM

Tickets: \$25

This exciting and wide ranging concert will feature classical music, opera arias, Appalachian tunes and poignant spirituals, in addition to piano solos of works by Louis Moreau Gottschalk, the legendary African-American pianist and composer from the Civil War era.

Renowned British soprano Alison Buchanan has built a strong career on both sides of the Atlantic in repertoire ranging from baroque to contemporary styles. Philip Pan is concertmaster of the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra. Terrance Patterson is the founder and artistic director of the Ritz Chamber Players and performs with the Jacksonville Symphony. Praised for her "big piano presence" (American Record Guide), Elizabeth Pridgen has distinguished herself as a soloist and chamber musician.



June 17

Happy Birthday Franz: Celebrating the 200th Anniversary of Franz Liszt's Birth

Valentina Lisitsa, piano

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 2600 Atlantic Avenue

7:30 PM

Tickets: \$30

Described by critics as a "bona fide angel playing" and an "electrifying pianist", Ukrainian-born Valentina Lisitsa has been receiving rave reviews ever since her debut in Avery Fisher Hall in 1991 at the Mostly Mozart Festival. With her multi-faceted playing described as "dazzling", Amelia Island favorite Valentina Lisitsa is at ease in a vast repertoire ranging from Bach and Mozart to Shostakovich and Bernstein. Her orchestral repertory includes more than forty different concerti.



June 18

Beth Newdome Fellowship Artists

Performing with the ensemble will be Roberto Diaz, viola and Christopher Rex, cello

Macedonia AME Church, 202 South

9th Street

2:00 PM

Tickets: \$15



June 19

Ritz Gala: Retro Concert IV (from May 31, 2004)

Sharon Isbin, guitar

Ritz Carlton/Amelia Island, 4750 Amelia Island Parkway

5:30 PM

Tickets: \$40

This concert of alluring Spanish music features four-time Grammy Award winner Sharon Isbin, who has been hailed as "the pre-eminent guitarist of our time." She is the winner of Guitar Player magazine's "Best Classical Guitarist" award, the Madrid Queen Sofia and Toronto Competitions, and was the first guitarist ever to win the Munich Competition. She has given sold-out performances throughout the world in the greatest halls including New York's Carnegie and Avery Fisher Halls, Boston's Symphony Hall, Washington D.C.'s Kennedy Center, London's Barbican and Wigmore Halls and Amsterdam's Concertgebouw. Ms. Isbin will be joined by Roberto Diaz, viola; Elissa Koljonen, violin; Christopher Rex, cello; and the Beth Newdome Fellowship Artists.



Buy Your Tickets Today On-line at www.aicmf.com

or 904/261-1779

About the Festival

The Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival is a not-for-profit, tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Entering its tenth season in 2011, the nationally renowned Festival is dedicated to bringing classical music at the highest level to the general public, schools and senior centers of Amelia Island and surrounding communities of northeastern Florida.

For more information about the Festival, visit our web site at www.aicmf.com.

AMELIA ISLAND
CHAMBER MUSIC
FESTIVAL

Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival
P.O. Box 15886
Fernandina Beach, FL 32035
www.aicmf.com

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 1111
JACKSONVILLE, FL



Buy Your Tickets Today
On-line at www.aicmf.com

or 904/261-1779

A Decade of Musical Excellence