



AMELIA ISLAND
CHAMBER MUSIC
FESTIVAL

*Expect the
Unexpected
in our 13th Season*



WinterFest: February 2014

SpringFest: May 2014

Christopher Rex, General and Artistic Director

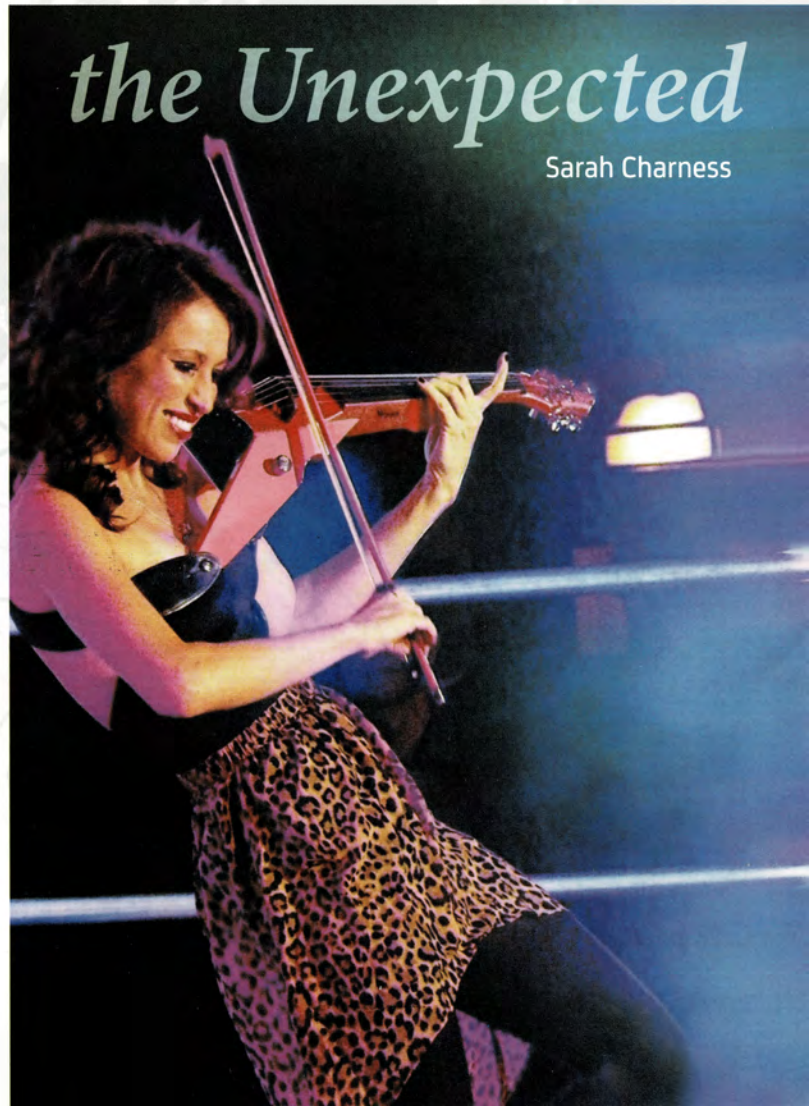
www.aicmf.com

Jean-Yves Thibaudet

Expect

the Unexpected

Sarah Charness



To Our Friends and Supporters



On behalf of our board of directors, I want to extend a warm welcome to the 13th season of your Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival. Through our "Expect the Unexpected" theme, you will be treated to an eclectic range of music at 19 exciting performances. Our star-studded line-up includes such internationally renowned classical artists as pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet, violinist Anne Akiko Meyers and members of the former Guarneri String Quartet. Exciting, less traditional fare will include a pops concert by Brandon and Rich Ridenour; Brazilian music by the Assad Family, a Latin Grammy winner; and the Brooklyn Rider quartet, classically-trained musicians who perform with the energy of young rock stars. And at our final concert on June 1, we will hold a fundraiser by selling the artwork of our first-ever visual Artist in Residence, Nadine Terk, an accomplished painter from Jacksonville and New York.

The AICMF is your festival, and because of you, we are recognized today as one of our region's premier cultural events. We thank you for your support and look forward to seeing you at our exciting **WinterFest** and **SpringFest** performances.

Christopher Rex, General and Artistic Director

Festival At A Glance

WinterFest

January 27	7:30 PM	Natasha Paremski - Chopin and Franck
February 9	7:00 PM	Beer & G-Strings I - Vega String Quartet
February 11	7:30 PM	Chamber Pops I - Trumpet Invasion
February 15	7:30 PM	Chee-Yun, Andres Diaz, Wendy Chen - Romantic Virtuosi
March 2	7:30 PM	Jean-Yves Thibaudet - Debussy

SpringFest

March 31	7:30 PM	Assad Family - Brazilian Songbook
May 2	11:00 AM	McDuffie Center Showcase - Students and faculty
May 6	7:30 PM	Zuill Bailey, Linden String Quartet
May 7	1:00 PM	Zuill Bailey - Luncheon Cellobration
May 8	4:30 PM	Free Family Concert - Brooklyn Rider
May 9	7:30 PM	Brooklyn Rider - Newly commissioned work
May 10	2:00 PM	Free Concert in Amelia Park - Classic and folk
May 11	5:00 PM	Christiana Trio - Schubert and Mendelssohn
May 13	1:00 PM	Beth Newdome Fellowship Artists
May 16	7:30 PM	Members of former Guarneri Quartet
May 17	1:00 PM	Beth Newdome Fellowship Artists
May 18	5:00 PM	Anne Akiko Meyers, Anton Nel
May 27	7:00 PM	Beer & G-Strings II - Gypsy Sparks
June 1	6:00 PM	Chamber Pops II - Violin Divas, from Bach to Beatles

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The Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival is a volunteer organization. Without the energy, expertise and enthusiasm of our dedicated corps of volunteers, this Festival would not be possible. We sincerely thank every person who has given their time and talent to this year's Festival. If we have inadvertently left anyone off this list, we apologize and ask you to contact the Executive Directors.

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WinterFest Series

The 2014 performance schedule of both WinterFest and SpringFest is subject to change. Please go to www.aicmf.com for the latest details.

January 27

7:30 PM

Chopin and Paris



Natasha Paremski, piano
Christopher Rex, cello
Members of the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra
Philip Pan and Aurica Duca, violin
Merryn Corsat, viola
John Wieland, bass

Chopin's Ballade and Piano Concerto No. 2 and Franck's Sonata for Cello and Piano

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church,
2600 Atlantic Avenue, Fernandina Beach
\$25

With her consistently striking and dynamic performances, 26-year-old pianist Natasha Paremski has displayed astounding virtuosity and interpretive abilities at performances around the world. Born in Moscow, she moved to the U.S. at the age of eight and was awarded the prestigious Gilmore Young Artists prize in 2006 and the Prix Montblanc in 2007. She was named Young Artist of the Year by the Classical Recording Foundation in 2010. Her first recital album was released in 2011 and debuted at No. 9 on the Billboard Traditional Classical chart. Christopher Rex, the Festival's general and artistic director, is principal cellist of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra.

February 9

7:00 PM

**Beer & G-Strings I:
It Takes a Thief!**

Igor Stravinski once observed, "A good composer does not imitate, he steals."

Vega String Quartet

Domenic Salerni, Jessica Shuang Wu, violin
Yinzi Kong, viola
Guang Wang, cello
William Ransom, piano
Christopher Rex, cello

Works of Beethoven, Schubert, Delibes, Mendelssohn, Enesco
Sliders Seaside Grill, 1998 S Fletcher Ave, Fernandina Beach
\$50

The Vega is on the cutting edge of a new generation of chamber music ensembles. After the group's Lincoln Center debut in 2001, the New York Times wrote "their playing had a kind of clean intoxication to it, pulling the listener along...the musicians took real risks in their music-making." The Vega tours throughout North America, Europe and Asia. Pianist William Ransom, director of piano studies at Emory University, has soloed with orchestras and performed in chamber ensembles around the world. He is artistic director of the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival in North Carolina.



February 11

7:30 PM

**Chamber Pops I:
Trumpet Invasion**

Brandon Ridenour, trumpet
Rich Ridenour, piano

Light classical works of Gershwin, Gottschalk, Piazzolla, Rossini, Dinicu/
Heifetz, Bernstein

Amelia Baptist Church, 961167 Buccaneer Trail, Fernandina Beach
\$30



Father and son team Rich and Brandon Ridenour have been entertaining on stage together since Brandon was 7. Their first recording collaboration came in 2005 with the release of *Trumpet Invasion* that showcased creative adaptations of world favorite works not originally written for trumpet. In 2006, at the age of 20, trumpeter Brandon Ridenour became the youngest member to ever join the prestigious Canadian Brass and won the International Trumpet Guild solo competition. Pianist Rich Ridenour has built a grand career performing concerts ranging from classical masterworks to American ragtime, jazz and rock & roll.

February 15

7:30 PM

Romantic Virtuosi: From France to Russia

Chee-Yun, violin
Andres Diaz and Christopher Rex, cello
Wendy Chen, piano

Works of Saint-Saens and the monumental Piano Trio in A-minor by
Tchaikovsky

Amelia Plantation Chapel, 36 Bowman Road, Amelia Island
\$35



Violinist Chee-Yun's flawless technique, dazzling tone and compelling artistry have enraptured audiences on five continents. Winner of the 1989 Young Concert Artists International Auditions and the 1990 Avery Fisher Career Grant, she performs regularly with the world's foremost orchestras. 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.

March 2

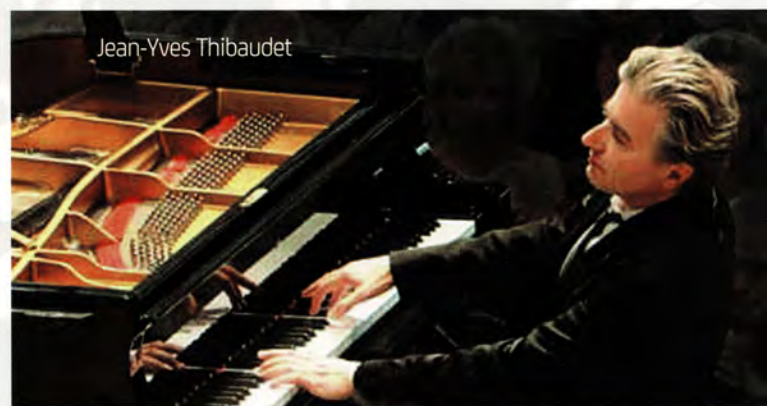
7:30 PM

The Magic of Debussy-The Flamboyance of Thibaudet

Jean-Yves Thibaudet, piano

Works of Debussy

Amelia Plantation Chapel, 36 Bowman Road, Amelia Island
\$50



One of today's most sought-after soloists, Jean-Yves Thibaudet has the rare ability to combine poetic musical sensibilities with dazzling technical prowess. His talent at coaxing subtle and surprising colors and textures from each work he plays led the *New York Times* to exclaim that "every note he fashions is a pearl...the joy, brilliance and musicality of his performance could not be missed." Mr. Thibaudet's musical depth and natural charisma have underlined a career with global impact, including 30 years of performing around the world and over 40 recorded albums. On June 18, 2010, he was inducted into the Hollywood Bowl of Fame.

SpringFest Series

SpringFest has been selected as a Top 20 event for May 2014 by The Southeast Tourism Society.

March 31

7:30 PM

The Assad Family: A Brazilian Songbook

Sergio and Odair Assad, guitar
Badi Assad, guitar
Carolina and Clarice Assad, vocals

Walker's Landing
Omni Amelia Island Plantation
6800 First Coast Highway, Amelia Island
\$40

Brazilian-born brothers Sérgio and Odair Assad have set the benchmark for all other guitarists by creating a new standard of innovation, ingenuity and expression. The Assad Family's repertoire includes original music composed by Sérgio and his re-workings of folk and jazz music as well as Latin music of almost every style. In 2001, Nonesuch Records released *Sérgio and Odair Assad Play Piazzolla*, which won a Latin Grammy. Their seventh Nonesuch recording, released in fall of 2007, was nominated for Best Classical Album and Sérgio went on to win the Latin Grammy for his composition, *Tahhiyya Li Oussilina*.



May 2

11:00 AM

McDuffie Center Showcase

Young artists and faculty from the Robert McDuffie Center for Strings at Mercer University.

Macedonia AME Church, 202 S. 9th Street, Fernandina Beach

Free concert. No ticket required.

May 6

7:30 PM

Cellobration Concert

Zuill Bailey, cello
Linden String Quartet
Sarah McElravy and Catherine Cosbey, violin
Eric Wong, viola
Felix Umansky, cello
Elizabeth Pridgen, piano
Christopher Rex, cello

Works of Mendelssohn, Webern, Popper and the great Schubert Cello Quintet

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 2600 Atlantic Avenue, Fernandina Beach
\$30



Zuill Bailey is 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 concerto soloist, Mr. Bailey has been featured with many of the world's greatest orchestras and has collaborated with such conductors as Itzhak Perlman, Alan Gilbert, Andrew Litton, James DePriest and Stanislav Skrowaczewski. The Linden String Quartet is one the country's premier young string ensembles. Founded in 2008 at the Cleveland Institute of Music, the quartet has enjoyed remarkable success in six short years, winning numerous international competitions. Praised for her "big piano presence" (*American Record Guide*), Elizabeth Pridgen has distinguished herself as a soloist and chamber musician. Ms. Pridgen is Distinguished Artist and Piano Chair at the McDuffie Center for Strings at Mercer University.

May 7

1:00 PM concert

Noon lunch on your own;
reservations suggested

Cellobration Luncheon

Zuill Bailey, cello
Christopher Rex, cello
Elizabeth Pridgen, piano

The two Brahms Cello Sonatas

Café Karibo
27 N. 3rd Street, Fernandina Beach
\$25



May 8

4:30 PM

Free Family Concert with the Brooklyn Rider Quartet

Brooklyn Rider

Johnny Gandelsman, Colin Jacobsen, violin

Nicholas Cords, viola

Eric Jacobsen, cello

Boys & Girls Club, 907 S. 11th Street, Fernandina Beach

No Ticket Required

Hailed as “the future of chamber music” (*Strings*), the game-changing string quartet Brooklyn Rider offers eclectic repertoire that have attracted legions of fans and drawn rave reviews from classical and rock critics alike. National Public Radio credits Brooklyn Rider with “recreating the 300-year-old form of string quartet as a vital and creative 21st-century ensemble,” while the *Los Angeles Times* called the group “one of the wonders of contemporary music.” Equally at home in clubs and concert halls, the quartet has played venues as varied as Carnegie’s Zankel Hall, the San Francisco Jazz Festival, Le Poisson Rouge and Lincoln Center.



May 9

7:30 PM

Brooklyn Rider String Quartet

Walker's Landing

Omni Amelia Island Plantation, 6800 First Coast Highway, Amelia Island

\$35

“They are four classical musicians performing with the energy of young rock stars jamming on their guitars, a Beethoven-goes-indie foray into making classical music accessible but also celebrating why it was good in the first place.” — *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*

May 10

2:00 PM

**Free Concert in Amelia Park:
String Fling and Canary Sings**

Beth Newdome Fellowship Artists

Jessie Fellows and Jecoliah Wang, violin

Nina Bledsoe Ray, viola

Elaine Shin, cello

Christopher Rex, cello •

Program: light classics

Intermission



Canary in the Coal Mine: An American Folk Band

Jessica Pounds, writer and lead vocals

Sandy Wicker, writer and lead vocals

Arvid Smith, multi-instrumentalist

Philip Pan, violin and harmony vocals

Peter Mosely, bass and harmony vocals

Eric Bailey, drums

Amelia Park Concert Pavilion, Fernandina Beach

No Ticket Required

The Beth Newdome Fellowship Artists are composed of outstanding music students from the nation’s premier conservatories. Canary in the Coal Mine is an Americana folk band fronted by songwriters Jessica Pounds and Sandy Wicker. A haunting quality underscores striking vocal harmonies that provide a focal point for the band’s Appalachian folk and country influence. Since its founding in 2009, Jessica and Sandy have joined forces with some of Jacksonville’s finest musicians. Philip Pan is concertmaster of the Jacksonville Symphony.

May 11

5:00 PM

Blockbuster Audio

Christiana Trio

Julie Coucheron, piano

David Coucheron, violin

Christopher Rex, cello

Schubert’s Trio in E Flat Major, Mendelssohn’s Trio in C Minor

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 2600 Atlantic Avenue, Fernandina Beach

\$35



A native of Oslo, Norway, Julie Coucheron is an internationally-established musician, winning first prize in all of the national competitions she has attended. She has toured Europe, America, South America and Asia, playing in such great venues as Verizon Hall, Wigmore Hall, Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center. Her brother David Coucheron joined the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra as concertmaster in 2010. At the time, he was the youngest concertmaster among any major U.S. orchestra.

May 13

1:00 PM

Beth Newdome Fellowship Artists Showcase

Savannah Grand of Amelia Island
1900 Amelia Trace Court, Fernandina Beach

Free Concert/No Ticket Required

May 16

7:30 PM

Cellobration Gala with Guarneri

Members of the former Guarneri String Quartet

Arnold Steinhardt and John Dalley, violin

Michael Tree, viola

Peter Wiley, cello

David Coucheron, violin

Christopher Rex, cello

Brahms's Sextet in G Major and Dvorak's Sextet in A Major

St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 801 Atlantic Avenue, Fernandina Beach

\$45



Guarneri String Quartet

We are honored to host the members of the former Guarneri String Quartet, which performed its final concert at the Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival in 2009. Founded in 1964, the Guarneri was one of the world's most revered string quartets. The ensemble circled the globe countless times, playing in the world's most prestigious halls. The Guarneri has been recognized in documentaries and educational presentations on radio, television and in a full-length, Academy Award-winning film. The Guarneri is the only quartet to receive the Award of Merit from the Association of Performing Arts Presenters. The ensemble also received Chamber Music America's highest honor, the Richard J. Bogomolny National Service Award.

May 17

1:00 PM

Masterworks from Vienna and Leipzig

Beth Newdome Fellowship Artists

Works by Mozart, Beethoven, Schumann

Historic Nassau County Courthouse, 416 Centre Street, Fernandina Beach

Free Concert/No Ticket Required

May 18

5:00 PM

The Artistry of Anne and Anton

Anne Akiko Meyers, violin

Anton Nel, piano

Christopher Rex, cello

Works of Beethoven, Ravel, Corigliano, Faure

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

2600 Atlantic Avenue, Fernandina Beach

\$40

Anne Akiko Meyers is one of today's most sought after violinists. Regularly performing as guest soloist with the world's most prestigious orchestras, she is a top-selling recording artist with 28 highly acclaimed albums to her credit. Her most recent recording, *Air-The Bach Album*, debuted at #1 on Billboard's Classical chart and was one of the top-selling classical albums of 2012. Anton Nel, winner of the 1987 Naumburg International Piano Competition at Carnegie Hall, has enjoyed a four-decade career that has taken him to North and South America, Europe, Asia, and South Africa, his native country. An acclaimed Beethoven interpreter, he has performed the concerto cycle several times.



Anton Nel

Anne Akiko Meyers

Susie Park



May 27

7:00 PM

**Beer & G-Strings II:
Gypsy Sparks**

Susie Park, violin
Elizabeth Pridgen, piano
Christopher Rex, cello

Show pieces of Sarasate, Brahms, Liszt, Kodaly, Ravel

Sliders Seaside Grill, 1998 S Fletcher Ave, Fernandina Beach
\$50

Violinist for the Grammy-nominated Eroica Trio, Australian-born Susie Park is gaining worldwide attention for her emotive range and dynamic stage presence. She was hailed as “prodigiously talented” by the *Washington Post* and praised for her “freedom, mastery, and fantasy” by *La Libre* in Belgium. Ms. Park has performed as a recitalist in many of the world’s greatest venues and music festivals. Recent appearances by pianist Elizabeth Pridgen include concerts at Carnegie Hall’s Zankel Hall, the Tilles Center on Long Island, Spivey Hall in Atlanta, and the “Rising Stars Series” at the Ravinia Festival.

June 1

6:00 PM

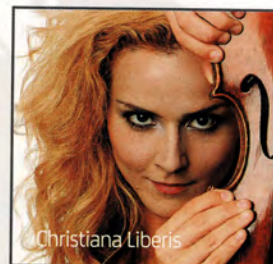
**Closing Gala
Chamber Music Pops II:
Violin Divas**

Christiana Liberis, violin
Mary Jo Stilp, violin
Sarah Charness, electric violin

Works of Bach, Bizet, Batt, Mozart,
Monti, Piazzolla, Hujic.

Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island, 4750
Amelia Island Parkway
\$40

Our final performance of the 2014 season brings classics, pops and artistic virtuosity together in a glamorous experience. Christiana Liberis is a recitalist, chamber musician and orchestral player on violin and viola. A native of Naples, Italy, she has performed in virtually every major concert hall in New York, played in national touring productions of Broadway shows, and performed with artists on tour, including Josh Groban and Tommy Lee. Mary Jo Stilp is comfortable in many musical genres, frequently joining a wide range of groups, spanning the New York Pops Orchestra to Jay-Z. She performs regularly with Dicapo Opera and the Lincoln Center Family Musik Orchestra and is concertmaster of the Brooklyn Conservatory Community Orchestra. Sarah Charness captivates audiences with the vibrant sound of her hot pink, six-string electric violin. Her unique musical style—the fusion of classical, pop and electronic dance music—has thrilled fans around the world.



Christiana Liberis



Mary Jo Stilp



Sarah Charness



Nadine Terk

Prior to the concert and during intermission, a fundraising art show will be held featuring drawings of the Festival’s guest artists by Nadine Terk, our Artist-in-Residence.

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Valid through 6/30/14 based on availability.



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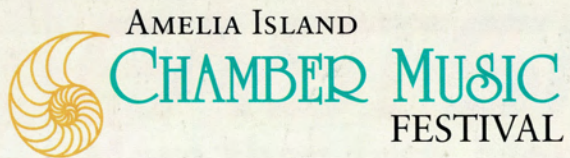
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