

S O U T H B E A C H
CHAMBER  ENSEMBLE

NEWS

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SOUTH BEACH CHAMBER ENSEMBLE PRESENTS

South Beach Up North

Wausau's 6th annual free chamber music festival

(Wausau, WI) – South Beach Chamber Ensemble (SBCE) is excited to announce three free chamber music concerts and a live radio show this year. On July 22 we will perform the Elgar String Quartet in E minor, Op. 83. Sir Edward William Elgar (1857-1934) was an English composer, many of whose works have achieved enduring popularity. Although Elgar is often regarded as a quintessentially English composer, most of his musical influences were not from England but from continental Europe. It wasn't until near the end of his life that he wrote a string quartet. At its premier it was noted, "this quartet, with its tremendous climaxes, curious refinements of dance-rhythms, and its perfect symmetry, is as perfect an example of chamber music as the great oratorios were of their type." Performing will be Sarah Schreffler, violin-Phoenix, Sara Usher, violin-San Francisco, Dee Martz, viola-Stevens Point, and Michael Andrews, cello-Miami Beach. Cindy Blandino, double bass-Phoenix, and local musicians Katy Jiang, Marguerite Donnelly, Amber Garbe and Amy Raddatz will join us to perform music by Holst, Ireland, Vaughan Williams and Piazzolla.

The July 23 concert in the Garden at the Yawkey House Museum will be an informal family affair. Bring a picnic, spread out your blanket and listen to great songs of the 20th century, from Gershwin and the Beatles to Astor Piazzolla, Jimi Hendrix and Lady Gaga. The Argentine Piazzolla (1921-1992) invented the nuevo tango, incorporating elements of jazz, extended harmonies and dissonance, counterpoint, and ventured into extended compositional forms. Piazzolla's fusion of tango with this wide range of other recognizable Western musical elements was so successful that it produced a new individual style transcending these influences.

The festival closes at the Wausau Conservatory of Music on July 24 with the Joaquin Turina Piano Quartet in A minor, Op.67 and the Franz Limmer Piano Quintet in D minor, Op.13. Pianist Mara Beckman of the Wausau Conservatory of Music will join us. Turina was born in Seville, Spain, and studied in Paris where he met Debussy and Ravel. Much of his work shows the influence of traditional Andalusian music. Austrian composer Limmer (1808-1857) graduated from the Vienna Conservatory and worked most of his life in Timișoara, Romania (then part of Hungary). His Grand Quintet is his most famous work.

Support for ***South Beach Up North*** is provided in part by the Community Arts Grant Program of the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin, with funds provided by the Wisconsin Arts Board, a state agency, the Community Foundation and the B.A. and Esther Greenheck Foundation.

South Beach Up North

Performance Schedule

Thurs., July 21, 2011
5:00pm

Rt. 51 with Glen Moberg, 91.9 WLBL-FM
Live radio show

Fri., July 22, 2011
7:30pm

First UU Church
504 Grant Street, Wausau 54403
Elgar, Holst, Ireland and Piazzolla
Free admission

Sat, July 23, 2011
6:00pm

Yawkey House Museum (in the Garden)
403 McIndoe Street, Wausau 54403
Gershwin, Beatles, Hendrix, Lady Gaga and More
Free admission

Sun, July 24, 2011
2:00pm

Wausau Conservatory of Music
404 Seymour Street, Wausau 54403
Turina Piano Quartet and Limmer Piano Quintet
Free admission

*We envision a world where music inspires and energizes all people, creating peace, harmony,
joy and unprecedented satisfaction in being alive*

South Beach Chamber Ensemble

Brief History

The South Beach Chamber Ensemble (SBCE) was launched in the fall of 1997 with a free concert of Haydn and Dvorak Piano Trios at the Bass Museum of Art in Miami Beach, Florida. The performance was so well received that the Bass wanted two more concerts that season. The ensemble responded with a concert of works for flute, cello and harp in March of 1998 and ended its first season with Bach and Beethoven Sonatas for Cello and Piano in June of that year. Since then, the South Beach Chamber Ensemble has presented a diverse repertoire of music spanning four centuries, performed in a variety of beautiful, intimate settings. Michael Andrews, the ensemble's founder, director and cellist, remains committed to bringing chamber music to all people with the *Music in Beautiful Spaces* and *Music in Motion* series.

The mission of the SBCE is to promote and perform chamber music in all its diverse forms – from its origins in the distant past to the varied cultural creations being produced today – bringing together performers, composers and audiences to experience the beauty and intimacy of the human spirit. SBCE is one of the only arts organization in Miami Beach dedicated to offering chamber music to new audiences, while showcasing local musical talent.

The ensemble's musicians include a variety of instrumentalists who have performed throughout the United States and beyond: Sarah Schreffler, violin (Doctoral candidate, Arizona State University, Phoenix), Dee Martz, viola (Professor of Viola, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point), Michael Andrews, cello (SBCE Executive Artistic Director) and David Severtson, piano (Assistant Professor of Piano, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay). Additionally, SBCE collaborates with students and faculty from the New World School of the Arts, Florida International University, University of Miami, Barry University and the New World Symphony. These musical partners allow the South Beach Chamber Ensemble to explore and perform a wider variety of standard and unusual chamber music literature.

In the past thirteen years, the ensemble has performed works by Bach, Beethoven, Brahms, Couperin, Dvorak, Golijov, Haydn, Hummel, Mozart, Mendelssohn, Marshall, Miller, Piazzolla, Poulenc, Prokofiev, Rachmaninoff, Saint-Saëns, Schubert, Scriabin, Shostakovich, Turina, Vaughan Williams and Villa-Lobos, with special emphasis on string quartets and piano trios. Our music spans the globe and the centuries, from Pamela Marshall's Quinteto composed in 2009 in Boston to Franz Joseph Haydn's String Quartets composed in Austria in the 18th century to Philip Miller's pieces composed in South Africa in the 1990's.

The Miami Beach Botanical Garden is our home for concerts in Miami Beach. Other past venues include the Jewish Museum of Florida, Wolfsonian Museum, Miami Beach Community Church, St. John's on the Lake United Methodist Church and Performing Arts Network. These *Music in Beautiful Spaces* performances are supported, in part, by grants from the Miami Beach Cultural Arts Council, which has awarded SBCE annual funding since 1999.

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In 2004, SBCE crossed Biscayne Bay to perform for the first time at the Central Presbyterian church in Kendall and at the University of Miami's Clarke Recital Hall, as part of its promise to Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs. In February 2004, SBCE members were very excited to be invited to Budapest, Hungary for an international cultural exchange where SBCE musicians met the brilliant, young, blind pianist Tamas Erdi. Together, they played the spectacular Schumann Piano Quintet in Eb major with Mr. Erdi in early March in Miami Beach and Miami, just before Mr. Erdi's Carnegie Hall debut. This launched our international performance series.

With grant support through the International Cultural Exchange programs of the Miami-Dade Department of Cultural Affairs and the state of Florida's Florida Arts Board ***Music in Motion: Miami to Rio*** was our initial project highlighting the music of Brazil and the United States. The first concert took place at the Villa-Lobos Museum in Rio de Janeiro in September 2005. We returned to South America in 2007. ***Music in Motion: Miami-Argentina-Brazil*** included concerts in Rio de Janeiro as well as in Salvador and Buenos Aires, Argentina. In each city special programs were held for school children.

Additionally, SBCE's executive artistic director developed a summer chamber music festival for his hometown of Wausau, Wisconsin, launched in the summer of 2006. Our first concerts had standing room only attendance and were supported by a broad base of individuals, local foundations and corporations. In 2006 we collaborated with the Wausau Conservatory of Music to relaunch their summer string camp for children and adults. In 2008 we took our chamber music into three assisted living facilities in Wausau, where we had wonderful responses and invitations to return. 2010 marks the 5th annual ***South Beach Up North***.

We were named ensemble-in-residence at Barry University in January 2009. Our November 2009 Sleepless Night collaboration on the Main Stage in Miami Beach with Miami hip hop artist LaGuardia, Nigerian dancer-drummer Vincent Onokurte and Cuban poet Carlos Pintado was a huge success, with several thousand people attending what Miami New Times declared a "Best Bet."

In 2011 the South Beach Chamber Ensemble became a finalist in the Knight Foundation Arts Challenge Miami for our new project ***Mozart on the Move***, 20 minute programs in unexpected venues like Macy's, Whole Foods and the Bass Museum of Art.