



## Cranberry Coast Concerts Celebrates 2010 ~ “The Year of The Piano.”

Season 5 of Cranberry Coast Concerts is “The Year of the Piano” with celebrations of famous birthdays: Samuel Barber’s centennial, the 150<sup>th</sup> birthday of Isaac Albeniz, Frédéric Chopin and Robert Schumann at 200 and Ludwig van Beethoven at 240! The piano – or *two* pianos – will be central to all concerts this summer.

The regional music festival, whose motto is “From Bach to Rock” will present local, national and international touring concert artists in a wide variety of performance environments. Beginning at the end of June and continuing through the middle of August, Cranberry Coast Concerts – or CCC – will offer different concert experiences each week to local audiences.

Founded in 2006 in Onset, CCC is presenting its fifth season of musical and educational events. This will be the first season for the festival in Attleboro. Please note that, except for “Spectacular Night” in Mansfield, all performances will be held at **Murray Unitarian Universalist Church, 505 Main Street.**

The festival opens on Sunday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 p.m., with “**A Celebration of Piano and Voice.**” The Cranberry Coast Concerts Chorale returns after their debut at the Florence H. Sweet House in 2009. International concert artists and festival directors Kirk Whipple & Marilyn Morales will perform Schumann impromptus for piano duet. Featured vocalists include Tenors Steven King and Braden Austin, and Sopranos Linda Westgate and Charissa Hamel. A wide range of other pieces will be presented from classical, romantic, Broadway to popular. Program highlights include Barber’s “Agnus Dei,” a choral transcription of the famous “Adagio for Strings,” original choral works and arrangements by Whipple and, in an audience participation finale, Beethoven’s “Ode to Joy.”

Nearby in Mansfield ~ **Spectacular Night – A Night at the Movies.** As part of the Black Box Theater BackStage Concert Series, CCC stars come out to shine in a tribute to music at the movies. Featured are tenor Steven King, soprano Linda Westgate, and tenor Michael Duarte. Backed up by pianists Whipple & Morales, bassist Albert Ianucilli and drummer Brian Montgomery, the company performs a tour de force concert of songs and instrumentals from old favorite and modern cinema classics. No campiness will be withheld in this fun-filled family show. (You’ll laugh, you’ll cry, you’ll cheer – and want to come back for more!)

There will be two shows for this performance: Saturday, July 10<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 p.m. Please note the special location: **Black Box Theater, 377 No. Main Street, Mansfield.**

The centerpiece of the concert series is the **Weekend of Grand Pianists.** Four concert pianists will perform on each of four dates: July 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>. Festival directors Whipple & Morales will be joined this weekend by Rorianne Schrade, pianist and critic for the New York Concert Review and San Francisco pianist and actor Katie Ketchum.

On Thursday, July 15<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m., Katie Ketchum stars in “An Evening With Clara Schumann,” an original one-woman concert/drama. Through letters, storytelling, costume and piano pieces, Ketchum brings one of the most distinguished pianists of the Romantic era alive. Clara Schumann, a composer

herself, was married to the famous composer Robert Schumann during the 1800's and brought his compositions to the European forefront through her concertizing while raising their eight children. She also brought the work of Johannes Brahms to the public and continued her friendship with him after Robert's tragic death. Ketchum will also play and sing some of Clara's original works that have been rarely performed in concert.

Rorianne Schrade will perform on Friday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. Her program will feature Robert Schumann's "Symphonic Etudes," Sonata in C Major, KV 330 by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Ballade #2 in F Major by Frédéric Chopin, Valse Nobles et Sentimentales by Maurice Ravel and Waltz from Gounod's "Faust" by Franz Liszt.

On Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m., Marilyn Morales performs a program entitled "A Tribute to My Teachers," featuring "Fantasiestücke" by Robert Schumann, one of Morales' original compositions, Preludes, Waltzes and Nocturnes by Frédéric Chopin, selections from Iberia, Book I by Isaac Albeniz and Dances by Ignacio Cervantes.

Kirk Whipple will conclude the weekend on Sunday, July 18<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. in a recital of works entitled "The Ageless Romantic Spirit." His concert features two of his original concert etudes, "Supergietto" and "Sergei of the Serengeti," Beethoven's "Moonlight" Sonata and Chopin's Sonata #3 in B Minor. In 2007 Whipple was awarded the prestigious Individual Artist Fellowship for his original compositions by the State of Florida.

**Chris Brown & Wilson Pedrazas, Piano & Violin Duo** will perform on Sunday, August 1<sup>st</sup> at 4:00 p.m. Pianist Brown, who is also the official master piano technician of CCC returns for his fifth season of summer concerts with violinist Pedrazas in a rich concert of works from the classical repertoire. This enticing duet program will feature Sonata #1 in G Major by Johannes Brahms, Sonata by Claude Debussy and Tzigane by Maurice Ravel.

Kirk Whipple & Marilyn Morales will be joined by the European duo Frédéric Chauvel & Mark Solé-Lerís as **The United Nations Piano Quartet – a.k.a. "The U.N.P.Q."** in a rare concert of works for 2 pianos / 8 hands – that's 40 fingers! Since their 2007 launch, The UNPQ has performed in concert tours and festivals in the U.S. and Europe. In 2008 the worldly ensemble released their debut recording and received rave reviews in English, French and Spanish language newspapers on two continents. Their program on Sunday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 p.m., will consist of arrangements of Beethoven's "Egmont" Overture and the complete Symphony #5 in C Minor, selections from Whipple's now internationally acclaimed work, "Fives, Concerto for 2 Pianos / 8 Hands" and Whipple's arrangement of Ravel's Bolero. This final work will also feature the endurance of Brian Montgomery on the solo snare drum.

**Concertos at Two Pianos** is the title of the final event of the summer concert season. Presented on Sunday, August 15<sup>th</sup>, at 4:00 p.m., the season finale brings Whipple, Morales and Brown back for a final bow in a stellar performance of piano concertos with the orchestral accompaniments performed at the second piano. Local pianist and educator Marilyn Brown makes her return to the concert stage in this Season 5 finale.

The closing program:

Piano Concerto in A Minor, Mvt. 1 by Edvard Grieg, performed by Marilyn Brown

Piano Concerto #1 in E Minor by Frédéric Chopin, performed by Chris Brown

Intermission

Piano Concerto #1 in C Major by Ludwig van Beethoven, performed by Marilyn Morales

## Piano Concerto #2 in F Minor by Frédéric Chopin, performed by Kirk Whipple

Season tickets are available for \$100 each (adults) or \$25 each (children aged 6 – 17) in advance at Jonathan's Coffee Caffe, 68 Union Street, Attleboro. Single event admissions are \$20 general and \$18 students/seniors, which can be applied to the purchase of season tickets. Tickets are available at the door of each performance, 30 minutes before the start of each concert. Season ticket holders will enjoy 10% discount at local restaurants in Attleboro, New Bedford, Onset Bay, and Buzzards Bay.

In addition to the rich offering of concerts, a diverse schedule of educational events will be presented that will target different age groups. Special events will include the annual Outstanding Young Artist Workshop and Concert, weekly "Informances" at the Wareham Free Library, "Rhythm at the Beach" – a "groovy" afternoon for the family. "Music Seminar" events will include a choral music reading workshop, piano ensemble for kids and "Meet Your Local Piano Tuner."

Repeat events will take place throughout the summer at venues in New Bedford, Onset and Wareham. For complete event listings and details, please visit [www.CranberryCoastConcerts.com](http://www.CranberryCoastConcerts.com) or phone (508) 491-8888 or email [CCC@WhipMo.com](mailto:CCC@WhipMo.com)

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