



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Interviews & photos on request

16TH CATSKILLS SUMMER FESTIVAL ANNOUNCED

Weekend of Chamber Music (WCM) makes “The Russian Connection” **July 12 to 26** with its 16th world-class summer music festival in the Catskill region. Ten events over two weeks include concerts, lectures, dinner evenings, free workshops, family programs and more, performed by a distinguished roster of musicians with international careers and acclaim. In 2009, WCM focuses on music by Russian composers such as Prokofiev, Rimsky-Korsakov and Shostakovich. American composers Bruce Adolphe, Irving Berlin, Harry Woods, Lee Hoiby and Andrew Waggoner are also represented in the programs.

Beginning with Downtown Arts Day in Jeffersonville on **July 12**, the first festival event is an official Sullivan County Bicentennial Concert of music by Berlin, Woods and Hoiby, three composers with Sullivan County connections. The free program is outdoors at the Presbyterian Church and immediately follows an invitational artisans’ craft fair across the street. A meet-the-artists reception follows the concert at Global Home, also on Main Street.

For the fourth year, the festival’s Presenting Sponsor is the Eddie Adams Farm in Jeffersonville, where six of the events take place. Home of the feted Barnstorm Photojournalism Workshop, the Adams Farm provides an idyllic setting for the free, Friday night rehearsal workshops **July 17 and 24**; the Saturday main event concerts with gala receptions **July 18 and 25**; the Thursday MusicTalks! lecture performance about virtuoso romantic violin music of Eugène Ysaÿe **July 23**, and the closing day Family Concert on the Lawn, featuring “Zephyronia,” composer Bruce Adolphe’s wind quintet set to a tale of wind and energy by Louise Gikow. Adolphe will be on hand to narrate the story, and his 10-year-old daughter Katja joins him in the festival’s closing day family performance **July 26**.

Harpsichordist Kenneth Hamrick returns to lead the Café Concerts with Panache on **July 14** at Settler’s Inn in Hawley, PA, and on **July 21** at the Villa Roma Clubhouse in Callicoon. A second Thursday MusicTalks! event **July 16** is an illustrated lecture by Nate Randall on Russian music, at the Janice Center in Jeffersonville.

Festival admission ranges from free to \$60 for dinner concerts, and concert admission is always free for students 18 and under. The online box office opens Memorial Day weekend. Details are online at WCMconcerts.org. For information, call 845-932-8527; or 845-887-5803 after Memorial Day.



WCM is a 501(c)3 non profit organization, supported by public funding from the New York State Council on the Arts, a State Agency.