



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Press contact:

Terry Schommer / 845-782-7015 (not for publication)

WeekendofChamberMusic@gmail.com

17th Chamber Music Season Begins

Weekend of Chamber Music (WCM) is pleased to announce the first three dates for its 17th season of world-class chamber concerts in the Catskills. Colorful programming designed to stimulate the listeners' imaginations; a focus on high quality performance, a wide range of instrumentation, and lively communication with the audience through the spoken word, are features of every event. We invite you to mark your calendars now. All events are open to the public.

I

Brooklyn Benefit, the annual musical soiree to benefit WCM's work with the Sullivan County public school music students is at 4pm **March 14** at a private home in Brooklyn. The evening features a mix of music for flute, harpsichord and violin, followed by wine with a light buffet supper of gourmet delights and dessert, all set to a backdrop overlooking the city lights of Manhattan and New York Harbor. WCM musicians include **flutist Judith Pearce** and **harpsichordist Kenneth Hamrick**.

Reservations are required for this important fundraiser, and the suggested donation is \$75 per person. Seating is limited so please call early. To reserve a seat and get directions, call 718-638-8962.

II

"BOLD BAROQUE – Secrets from a Musical Volcano!" launches the Weekend of Chamber Music's 17th season in the Catskills at **2:30 pm March 21**, at Hortonville Presbyterian Church on Hankins Road (directions are online at WCMconcerts.org).

As the title suggests, WCM's first concert focuses on music of the period that represents "a bold new direction in contemporary Baroque music." Jean-Féry Rebel's "Chaos," for example, is the striking first movement from his last work, the ballet suite "Les Eléments." Aware of the shocking sound of the work for the time, the composer wrote his own explanatory program notes, cautioning listeners that "I hazarded to make heard first all sound together or rather all of the notes of the octave united as a single sound." Other avant-garde works by Bach, Rameau, Vivaldi, Telemann and Haydn are also on the program. The performers include **flutist Judith Pearce**, **harpsichordist Kenneth Hamrick** and **cellist Nina Lee**.

Reservations are not necessary. Tickets are \$20 at the door; cash or check only please. Admission is free for students 18 and under. For more information, visit our web site at WCMconcerts.org; email info@WCMconcerts.org, or call 845-932-8527.

III

The annual early summer benefit, **"Music in the Barn"** is at **6pm June 12**, at the Bethel country home of one of WCM's patrons and board members. This popular evening begins with an *al fresco* supper of home-cooked dishes with wine, a concert in the restored barn, and it ends with coffee & dessert on the terrace. Reservations are required, and are \$75 per person. Additional details will be announced as they become available online at WCMconcerts.org.

- 30 -

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