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**TWO NOTED COMPOSERS APPEAR AT WCM SUMMER FESTIVAL**

Weekend of Chamber Music (WCM) is pleased to announce that two noted American composers, **Bruce Adolphe** and **Andrew Waggoner**, will participate in its 16<sup>th</sup> summer chamber music festival in the Catskills. The festival takes place from July 12 to 26, with six events at the Eddie Adams Farm (home of the Barnstorm Photography Workshop) in Jeffersonville, and four additional events at nearby venues in the region.

A prominent composer whose music is performed throughout the world, **Bruce Adolphe** is also the author several books on music, an innovative educator, and a versatile performer. He is resident lecturer and director of family concerts for the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, the founding creative director of PollyRhythm Productions, and comic keyboard quiz-master of *Performance Today's* weekly radio program, *Piano Puzzlers*. The weekly show presents Adolphe at the piano playing folk tunes and popular songs in the styles of famous Classical composers, and in discussion with host Fred Child about the musical issues raised by Adolphe's comic compositions. The show's popularity has led to its inclusion in the listening options for Delta Airlines, and the program is available as a podcast from iTunes U. Now in its fourth year, *Piano Puzzlers* has moved with *Performance Today* to American Public Media, and is heard in over 200 cities.

Adolphe has written works for artists, orchestras and chamber groups that include Itzhak Perlman, Yo-Yo Ma, the National Symphony, St. Luke's Orchestra, Brentano String Quartet, the Metropolitan Opera Guild and the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, and many others. He is the only composer to have received five commissions from The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, where nine of his works received world premieres. In recent seasons, his music has been performed by orchestras and ensembles in Italy, Germany, Australia, Mexico, and Japan in addition to frequent concerts throughout the United States.

His catalogue includes a variety of chamber works, operas, symphonic pieces, concerti and songs, and a prolific index of music for young people, which have been performed by more than 70 orchestras and ensembles. Weekend of Chamber Music joins the ranks when Adolphe comes to its Summer Festival stage to narrate his wind quintet *Zephyronia*, on **Sunday July 26** at the

Eddie Adams Farm in Jeffersonville. Co-authored with Louise Gikow, the science-fiction parable is about wind energy and the power of imagination. Adolphe's daughter, 10-year-old Katja Stroke-Adolphe, joins her dad to tell the tale about how the Zephyronians learn to take care of their fantastical planet. Performing the music for *Zephyronia* are WCM artists flutist Judith Pearce, oboist Matt Sullivan, clarinetist Maureen Hurd, hornist Daniel Grabois and bassoonist Leonard Hindell, musicians who also have distinguished international performing and teaching careers.

**Andrew Waggoner**, a contemporary born in New Orleans just 5 years after Bruce Adolphe, has been hailed by *The New Yorker* as "the gifted practitioner of a complex but dramatic and vividly colored style." His music has been commissioned and performed by some of the world's outstanding orchestras, artists and ensembles, including the Academy of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Winnipeg Symphony, the Cassatt, Corigliano, Miro, and Degas Quartets, pianist Gloria Cheng, the Bohuslav Martinu Philharmonic of Zlin, Czech Republic, Sequitur, the Empyrean Ensemble, Ensemble Nordlys of Denmark, and Ensemble Accroche Note of France, among many others. In addition to his concert works, Waggoner has composed extensively for theatre and film, and is an active violinist.

Waggoner's work *Catena di cuori*, which premiered in Japan in 2008, will be performed on Saturday **July 18** at the Summer Festival's first Gala Saturday concert, and the composer will be on hand to discuss his music at the free open rehearsal, "At Work & Play Behind the Notes," on Friday **July 17**. Flutist Judith Pearce and pianist Tannis Gibson will perform the work at the Eddie Adams Farm in Jeffersonville.

Among Waggoner's many awards and prizes are the Ettelson Composer's Award from Composers Inc., a Guggenheim Fellowship, and the Roger Sessions Prize for an American composer by the Liguria Study Center in Bogliasco, Italy, where he was in residence at Bogliasco in the spring of 2008. In 2009 he received an Academy Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. He has two CD's on CRI, both now available on the New World label, and can also be heard on the Vienna Modern Masters Music From Six Continents series, as well as on solo CD's by violist Melia Watras and cellist Robert Burkhart.

The Composer-in-Residence at the Setnor School of Music of Syracuse University, Waggoner also teaches at NOCCA Riverfront in New Orleans. He and his wife, cellist Caroline Stinson, recently formed Open End, a quintet devoted to new music and improvisation, which presented concerts during the past three seasons in New York, Syracuse, Strasbourg and Florence.