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Close Encounters With Music

Yehuda Hanani
—ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

800.843.0778
www.cewm.org

“...A stunning, majestic resolution, a brilliant ending to an unforgettable encounter with music. Bravi!”

—THE BERKSHIRE EDGE

2015-2016
24th Season in the Berkshires

C E L E B R A T I O N & D I S C O V E R Y

Where Music Meets Ideas

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS WITH MUSIC stands at the intersection of music, art, and the vast richness of Western culture. Entertaining, erudite, lively commentary puts the composers and their times in perspective to enrich and enlighten your concert experience.

Join our community of friends and patrons as we continue our tradition of bringing together sublime chamber music, distinguished performers, and musical commentary, all in convivial settings.

It's a season of celebration and discovery as we introduce some extraordinary new faces in classical music and bring back CEWM favorites. Returning after a hiatus are pianists **Walter Ponce** (“Delectable playing with a crackle that Liszt himself would have applauded”—*Chicago Tribune*), consummate chamber musician **Michele Levin**, and frequent Boston Pops soloist **Michael Chertock**; violinists **Yehonatan Berick**, **Sarah McElravy** and **Ara Gregorian**; and oboist **James Austin Smith**, already inducted into Lincoln Center's Chamber Music Society (“virtuosic” and “brilliant performances—*The New York Times*—to which we can attest from his past performance!). The **Dover Quartet**, which has risen meteorically to the highest echelons of the string quartet firmament, makes their CEWM debut; and we introduce tenor **Alex Richardson** (“A charismatic Richardson triumphed!”—*Huffington Post*) and duo pianists **Kate Soyeon Lee** and **Ran Dank**, who together and apart garner raves (“Stunning command of the keyboard” —*Washington Post*). The **Acronym Baroque Band** brings its own brand of Baroque glitter to the Mahaiwe stage for the second consecutive year, and we are delighted to welcome **Paul Green**, an extraordinary clarinetist equally at home in classical, jazz and Klezmer music. From October through June, it's a season not to be missed!

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS WITH MUSIC presents six concerts this season at the landmark Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center in Great Barrington.

Join the growing number of culture enthusiasts who converge from the Berkshires, Hudson Valley, Northwest Connecticut, New York City, and Boston for each Close Encounters event! We are pleased to invite all ticket holders to an “Afterglow” reception following each performance October through May, and all season subscribers to a special winter “Fireside Concert.”

Contributing Patrons at all levels are invited to a special Gala reception following the June concert (see *Ticket Order Form*).



CONVERSATIONS WITH... *Intimate & Stimulating Conversations about Music & Ideas*

Sunday **November 15** 2 PM | The Mount | Lenox, MA

Inside the Met's Instrument Collection with Curator Ken Moore

THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM'S collection of musical instruments includes approximately 5,000 examples from six continents and the Pacific Islands, dating from 300 B.C. to the present, and illustrating the development of musical instruments from all cultures and eras. Ken Moore, the Frederick P. Rose Curator of Musical Instruments, will share information about this extraordinary collection and its storied history. Since 1990, he has advocated the application of contextual display methods of non-European instruments and developed educational performance programs that emphasize world music cultures. Outside the Metropolitan, he has made pioneering studies of the music of the Snake Handler cult in West Virginia. Woven into the talk is the story of how, at the end of the 19th century, a forward-thinking woman founded a comprehensive collection of musical instruments rivaling any in the world.

\$15 includes light refreshment



“To experience the finest music presented by the leading musicians of our day, in the inviting atmosphere of the Berkshires, is the best of all possible worlds. . . The quality of Lincoln Center with an intimacy that exceeds it.”

—YEHUDA HANANI | ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Sunday **May 22** 2 PM | Basilica Hudson | Hudson, NY

Making Waves | Sounds of the Future

EDGAR CHOUERI is a professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering at Princeton University and also heads the school's 3D Audio and Applied Acoustics Lab. An avid audiophile and acoustician, over the last decade he has dedicated his time to the development, application, and refinement of a revolutionary, groundbreaking system of audio recording that captures lifelike 3D audio in picture-perfect fidelity. With his binaural audio set-up, he will demonstrate—in Basilica Hudson's post-industrial raw and resonant space—how the brain is tricked into believing the performance being heard is actually live, and not recorded. Binaural recording systems are unique because they emulate the workings of the human head. Prepare to be fooled, says Choueiri: “You can hear a bird flying over your head. You'll hear a whisper in one ear.”

\$15 includes light refreshment



For further information and to make reservations: 800.843.0778 or cewmusic@aol.com



“Must-see concerts, engaging hearts and minds”

—BERKSHIRE LIVING

Saturday **October 24** 6 PM
Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center

Grand Piano Quartets—Brahms and Dvorák

TWO GIANTS whose lives intersected, both nurtured by the traditions of Central Europe; two epic works of symphonic scope, with their unbuttoned, folksy finales; and four superb soloists who convene to play some of the most vivacious and appealing music in the repertoire.

The program features Brahms' G minor Piano Quartet Op. 25, with its animated Hungarian idioms and whirlwind coda; and the Piano Quartet No. 2 in E-flat Major Op. 87, one of Dvořák's most sublime works.

The two composers, friends and fellow admirers during their lifetime, stand side by side with these powerful masterpieces that display the seemingly endless inventiveness of both in architecture, melody, instrumental interplay, and sheer sonic beauty.

Walter Ponce, piano;
Ara Gregorian, violin;
Xiao-Dong Wang, viola;
Yehuda Hanani, cello



Ponce

Saturday **December 12** 6 PM
Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center

"DUALY"NOTED Music for Four Hands

DOUBLING the sonorities and dazzle of the piano, and

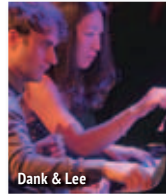
turning the solitary recital into an eloquent dialogue, this duo piano evening features the brilliant husband-wife team of Soyeon Kate Lee and Ran Dank in a panoply of styles together and separately.

In the spirit of the holiday, the program includes Beethoven's ever-popular "Moonlight Sonata" and a bravura arrangement of Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker Suite"—plus Debussy's Preludes, Barber's "Souvenirs," Mozart's Four Hand Variations in G Major K. 501, and Scriabin's mystical Fantasy in B minor.

The precise coordination of four hands is thrilling, the more so with a couple united in music and matrimony!

"Four Hands and Two Hearts Beating as One"
—*The New York Times*

Soyeon Kate Lee and
Ran Dank, piano



Dank & Lee

Saturday **February 20** 6 PM
Ventfort Hall | Lenox, MA

FOR SUBSCRIBERS ONLY

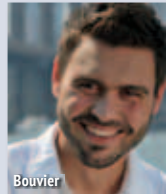
Mid-Winter Fireside Concert

"Some Enchanted Evening"

BARITONE Mischa Bouvier returns for a night of Broadway, opera, and art songs. Lauded by *Opera News* for a "soothing, cavernous baritone that can soar to heights of lyric beauty," and "remarkable technical facility and precision" (*San Francisco Classical Voice*), he has sung roles from Moneybags Billy in Kurt Weill's *The Rise and Fall of the City of Mahogony* at Tanglewood to Leporello in Mozart's *Don Giovanni* to musical theater with the Boston Pops under the baton of Keith Lockhart in Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Carousel*.

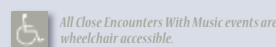
An audience favorite, he has performed throughout the world in such prestigious venues as the Festival Casals de Puerto Rico under the baton of Helmuth Rilling; Lincoln Center with Musica Sacra; in Arvo Part's *Passio* at Carnegie Hall, and with the Orchestra of St. Luke's under the baton of Ivan Fischer.

Mischa Bouvier, baritone;
Yegor Shevtsov, piano



Bouvier

Mischa Bouvier, baritone;
Yegor Shevtsov, piano



All Close Encounters With Music events are wheelchair accessible.

Saturday **March 19** 6 PM
Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center

J.S. BACH & SONS

Legitimate and Otherwise

THE BACH FAMILY tree boasts an illustrious cluster of great musicians who act as a bridge into the Classical style.

Presented with reverence are the works of Johann Sebastian, the Oboe Concerto by Carl Philippe Emanuel, and the Cello Concerto by Johann Christian. Presented with mischievous irreverence is his "illegitimate" son, P.D.Q. Bach (a.k.a. Peter Schickele) in a concerto for "Four Handed Viola" that combines



Acronym Baroque String Band

musicological scholarship, the conventions of Baroque, and slapstick comedy.

The program concludes with the timeless Brandenburg Concerto No. 3.

Acronym is a 12-member string orchestra that is distinguished by an ambitious program to unearth and revive forgotten masterpieces of the Baroque era, often unheard since the 17th Century.

Acronym Baroque String Band;
James Austin Smith, oboe;
Yehuda Hanani, cello

Sunday **April 17** 3 PM
Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center

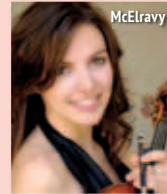
"Fiddler OFF the Roof"

THE FASCINATING phenomenon of Jewish music, spanning multitudes of cultures and centuries—its ancient roots, its meandering trails as it wends its way across continents, and its contribution to the American voice.

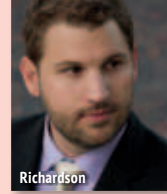
Works by Gershwin, Bernstein, Mahler, Mendelssohn, Milhaud, Bloch, and Max Bruch, who adopted Jewish modes and themes. And of course, a touch of Klezmer, the toe-tapping Eastern European celebratory music imbued with spirituality. Medieval Iberian ballad repertoire meets German Enlightenment (Bruch's *Kol Nidre* and Felix Mendelssohn's Piano Trio in D minor) and a rendition by Maurice Ravel of the ancient Kaddish, which dates back to the 1st century.

A kaleidoscopic exploration of diverse traditions and the symbiosis of East and West, as exemplified in the world premiere of Paul Schoenfield's *Evocation*, an adaptive reshaping of liturgical material to concert hall spirit.

Michele Levin, piano; **Paul Green**, clarinet; **Alex Richardson**, tenor; **Sarah McElravy**, violin; **Yehuda Hanani**, cello



McElravy



Richardson

Sunday **May 1** 12:30 PM
Blantyre | Lenox, MA

Annual Luncheon Musicale Benefit

CELEBRATE THE SALON in the incomparable elegance of Blantyre. The scintillating atmosphere of the 19th century institution that helped promote artists, painters and musicians as the intelligentsia gathered to exchange ideas, enhanced by gaiety and ambience.

Savor a superb lunch and support Close Encounters With Music. La vie est belle!!!



Blantyre

"Close Encounters With Music is a chamber music series on a par with anything heard at Tanglewood at the height of the season. For this, we year-rounders are blessed."

—*ROGOVOY REPORT*

Close Encounters With Music is a non-profit organization. Partial funding provided by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.



Saturday **May 14** 6 PM
Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center

The Art of the String Quartet

INTRODUCING a rising quartet—the **Dover String Quartet**—dubbed by *The New Yorker* "the young American string quartet of the moment" and catapulted to international stardom following a stunning sweep



Dover String Quartet

of the 2013 Banff International String Quartet Competition.

The program's triad of Beethoven, Dvořák and Alban Berg offers up the "American" Quartet, a triumph of Dvořák's astonishing melodic vision, disarming immediacy, Beethoven's cosmic "Razumov-sky" Quartet; and Alban Berg's Second String Quartet Op. 3 (1908), written during a turbulent courtship with his wife-to-be Helene. It is the composer at a compositional as well as personal crossroads and, in spite of its rigor, is full of Viennese flavor—somewhat like eating a Sachertorte with cream.

The **Dover String Quartet**:
Joel Link, violin; **Bryan Lee**, violin; **Milena Pajaro-van de Stadt**, viola; **Camden Shaw**, cello

Saturday **June 11** 6 PM
Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center

"Music That Shook the World!"

THE 20TH CENTURY saw a series of cultural earthquakes that shook the music establishment and scandalized audiences.

Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring*, Debussy's breaking through the German hegemony with Impressionism; granting Jazz concert hall respectability; coupling music with film (from "Bad Boy of Music" George Antheil and Fernand Léger's 1924 *Ballet Mécanique*); and the advent of Latin American vernacular—all radically transformed our notion of classical music.

This program brings to the fore some of the direct predecessors of John Cage, Philip Glass and John Adams. Amplifying the music, passages from Igor Stravinsky's and Antheil's memoirs will be threaded through the program. In Paris of the 1920s, Antheil's concerts regularly incited huge riots. Ballet Mécanique is scored for multiple pianos, percussion, electric buzzers and airplane propellers and we offer a segment of the film. (Bring your riot gear!)

Michael Chertock, piano;
Yehonatan Berick, violin;
Yehuda Hanani, cello;
Special Guest Narrator, tba



Chertock

Ticket Order Form

Subscribe now at a **30% savings** and enjoy guaranteed Orchestra seating at the Mahaiwe and a **Free Exclusive-to-Subscriber February Concert**. (If you must miss a concert, tickets make a perfect gift.)

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Subscriptions

6 Concerts plus Feb. 28 Concert, free for subscribers only

PLEASE NOTE: All 6 Mahaiwe tickets include \$2 restoration fee

	NO. OF TICKETS	TOTAL \$
Regular _____	x \$225	= _____
Senior (65+) _____	x \$195	= _____
Sponsor* _____	x \$375	= _____
Patron** _____	x \$725	= _____
Benefactor*** _____	x \$1,000	= _____
Endowers Circle**** _____	x \$2,000 & above	= _____

Individual Tickets

Special Rate Mahaiwe Balcony \$25 | Orchestra & Mezzanine \$45
Student Tickets available at the door \$15

Grand Piano Oct 24 _____	x \$45/\$25	= _____
Dually Noted Dec 12 _____	x \$45/\$25	= _____
J.S. Bach and Sons March 19 _____	x \$45/\$25	= _____
Fiddler April 17 _____	x \$45/\$25	= _____
Dover Quartet May 14 _____	x \$45/\$25	= _____
Music That Shook June 11 _____	x \$50/\$30	= _____

I would like to further support Close Encounters

With Music with a tax-deductible contribution. _____

Total \$ _____

* **Sponsor** receives 1 ticket for Priority Seating at each concert, an invitation to the February exclusive salon event & June gala reception, a gift CD, and recognition in the program.

** **Patron** receives 2 tickets for Priority Seating at each concert, 2 invitations to the February event and the June reception, plus all the benefits above.

*** **Benefactor** receives 4 tickets for Priority Seating at each concert, 4 invitations to the February event and the June reception, plus all the benefits above.

**** **Endowers Circle** receives an invitation to a special Endowers-only event, plus all the benefits above.

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS WITH MUSIC, INC. IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION. YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE TO THE AMOUNT PERMITTED BY LAW.

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS WITH MUSIC

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