



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 12, 2010

#### **From Camden to Curtis to Carnegie and beyond!**

*Bay Chamber Concerts presents Curtis on Tour*

Bay Chamber Concerts will present "Curtis on Tour" Saturday, March 20, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at the Rockport Opera House. Each season, Curtis on Tour brings the extraordinary artistry of the world-renowned Curtis Institute of Music to audiences nationwide, with tomorrow's leading musicians performing alongside celebrated alumni and faculty. On the 2009-2010 tour, internationally acclaimed violinist Ida Kavafian and cellist Peter Wiley of the Curtis Faculty will join Curtis students celebrating the centenary year of alumnus Samuel Barber with a performance of his String Quartet (the Adagio is easily recognizable from the soundtrack of *Platoon*). The performance will also feature 2002 and 2003 alumnus of Bay Chamber's Next Generation Program, and rising star violinist, Benjamin Beilman. Don't miss this opportunity to see these extraordinary young musicians as they make their way to becoming the next Yo-Yo-Ma or Wynton Marsalis!

An Ann Arbor, Michigan native, Benjamin Beilman travelled all the way to Rockport to study with Bay Chamber's Next Generation Program in 2002 and 2003. In 2003, he performed with his Bay Chamber trio (comprised of Beilman, violin; Daphne Nichols, piano; and Jeremy Viner, clarinet) on NPR's "From the Top." Beilman began playing violin at the age of five and currently studies with Ida Kavafian (performing with him in Saturday's concert) at the Curtis Institute of Music where he is the William H. Roberts Annual Fellow. He made his Philadelphia Orchestra debut in 2009, in a performance of Beethoven's *Romance No. 2* which the *Philadelphia Inquirer* praised for its "emotional weight" and "distinctive, full-bodied sound." A winner of Astral Artists National Auditions in 2009, Beilman was awarded the Milka/Astral Violin Prize, designated for a violinist invited to join the Astral Artists roster. Beilman is also a 2007 Presidential Scholar in the Arts recipient of a youngARTS Gold Award in music from the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts – one among many awards and accolades this rising Bay Chamber alumnus has received. Curtis on Tour is sponsored by Museum in the Streets.

Beilman's impressive biography is a prime example of the extraordinary artistry of the world-renowned Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, which shares its talented students, faculty members, and alumni with audiences nationwide each season through Curtis on Tour. For Saturday's concert, Beilman will be

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joined on-stage by Curtis students: Hyo Bi Sim, viola and Yekwon Sunwoo, piano; internationally acclaimed violinist, a member of the Curtis faculty and Benjamin Beilman's teacher: Ida Kavafian; and Curtis alumnus, faculty member, and world renowned cellist: Peter Wiley. They will showcase the excellence of the Curtis Institute's composition program with miniatures by Curtis composition students and a centenary year celebratory performance of Curtis alumnus Samuel Barber's *String Quartet in B minor, Op. 11*, which will feature Benjamin Beilman on first violin. They will also perform Dvořák's *Piano Quintet No. 2 in A, Op. 81*.

Coming up next in the 2009-2010 Performing Arts Series: Curtis Institute of Music alumnus and winner of the Andrew Wolf Chamber Music Award: Jonathan Biss is now one of the top pianists in the international circuit. He will perform on Saturday, April 10, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at the Rockport Opera House. A special favorite of Bay Chamber Concerts' audiences, Biss recently appeared with the Boston Symphony Orchestra. He will perform Haydn's *Sonata in A flat Major, Hob. 16/43*; Schoenberg's *Six Little Pieces, Op. 19*; Mendelssohn's *Variations Serieuses* and a selection from "Songs Without Words;" Beethoven's *Six Bagatelles, Op. 126* and "Les Adieux" *Piano Sonata No. 26 in E flat Major, Op. 81a*. A Bixler Family concert, Jonathan Biss performs courtesy of Midori's Partners in Performance.

Most tickets are \$25. Prime seating is \$45, discounted up to 44% with subscription. A limited number of \$8 tickets will be available for youth ages 18 and under. Bay Chamber Concerts is a 501(c)(3) registered non-profit organization. The media sponsor is VillageSoup.com. For more information, or to purchase subscriptions or tickets, contact Bay Chamber Concerts at (207) 236-2823, toll free at (888) 707-2770 or online at [www.baychamberconcerts.org](http://www.baychamberconcerts.org).

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### **Calendar Listings:**

**Date:** Saturday, March 20, 2010

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Location:** Rockport Opera House, 6 Central Street, Rockport, ME 04856

**Title:** Curtis on Tour

**Performers:** Internationally acclaimed violinist Ida Kavafian and cellist, Peter Wiley, of the Curtis faculty will join a select group of Curtis students.

**Program:** Samuel Barber's *String Quartet*, Dvořák's *Piano Quintet*, and miniature by Curtis composition students.

**Description:** Each season Curtis on Tour brings the extraordinary artistry of the world-renowned Curtis Institute of Music to audiences nationwide, with tomorrow's leading musicians performing alongside celebrated alumni and faculty. On the 2009-2010 tour they will be celebrating the centenary year of alumnus Samuel Barber with a performance of his *String Quartet*.

**Price:** Most tickets \$25. Prime seating \$45, discounted up to 44% with subscription. \$8 for Youth ages 18 and under, limited availability.