



San Luis Obispo's Festival Mozaic Announces Classics with a Twist

WinterMezzo Chamber Series provides intimate introduction to music, performers and culinary craftsmanship with unique "Notable Encounters"

San Luis Obispo, CA, October 1, 2009 -- Festival Mozaic (formerly the San Luis Obispo Mozart Festival) has announced its WinterMezzo Series, the well-known summer festival's chamber concert series that takes place in October 2008 and January 2009.

Now in its fourth year, the WinterMezzo Series brings together artists from across the country, this year including members of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Alabama Symphony, the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra and internationally-known pianist John Novacek. For the October 2008 performances, the festival's executive director, Curtis Pendleton, a former professional flutist and current member of the music faculty at Cal Poly, will make a rare appearance as a performer.

The series, "Bloodlines and Bandits," showcases musical flattery and outright thievery in some of the world's greatest chamber music pieces. "Bloodlines" (October 17 and 19, 2008) illuminates the musical genealogy between works by Beethoven, Brahms and Dvorak and the second, "Bandits," (January 30 and 31, 2009) features music that was blatantly 'stolen,' by composers Poulenc, Beethoven and Georgy Sviridov, a contemporary of Shostakovich.

Each concert cycle has two components, which take place on different days -- a Notable Encounter, which is an educational 'musical tasting menu' in which the festival's guest artists present lively commentary, musical excerpts and insider observations accompanied by dinner and wine -- and then the full concert program.

"The format of this series is a completely unique way for both newcomers to classical music and experienced listeners to get closer to this great music," says Curtis Pendleton, the festival's executive director. The innovative format, begun in 2007, was an immediate success, selling out in the last season.

Through performances of five centuries of classical music presented in unique combination with art-music traditions from around the world, the 37-year-old Festival Mozaic creates engaging live music experiences in the most charismatic venues on California's Central Coast. Led by New York-based music director and virtuoso violinist Scott Yoo, the festival creates over 30 world-class performances and events throughout the year for residents and visitors to San Luis Obispo County.

Rabobank, AT&T, the law firm Saqui and Raimondo, and Blakeslee & Blakeslee are title sponsors for the 2008-2009 WinterMezzo season.

For more information, visit www.festivalmozaic.com

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