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CHAMBER MUSIC AMICI PERFORMS “AROUND THE WORLD” IN FEBRUARY

SPRINGFIELD, OR — Following a sold-out concert in December, Chamber Music Amici takes its patrons around the world in a musical trip to Austria, the United States and Argentina during its first concert of 2020. The February 3 concert features three works for flute and strings as well as a string quartet when guest artists Jacqueline Cordova-Arrington (flute) and Victoria Wolff (cello) join Amici members on stage for a program of Ginastera, Foote, Schubert and Mozart.

The concert, titled “Around the World,” at the Richard E. Wildish Community Theater, includes the performance of “Impresiones de la Puna” by Alberto Ginastera, an Argentine piece with three movements.

“Being married to a South American man, I am always genuinely thrilled to play music from his continent,” Wolff said. “The Qena transports you to the Andes with echoes of bamboo flute dancing, the melancholic Cancion lulls its listener into dream-like nostalgia and sadness, and the Danza is ablaze with syncopated rhythms and florid melodies.”

“Night Piece” and “Scherzo,” two short pieces, were written by U.S. composer Arthur Foote when he was 65 years old. Audiences and critics alike responded enthusiastically during their premiere, praising Foote’s musical imagination and describing “Night Piece” as “plentiful in melody and colored with beauty.”

Artistic Director Jessica Lambert added Franz Schubert’s String Quartet No. 4 in C Major, saying “Schubert’s early quartets are unjustly ignored and always have been. They weren’t even published during his lifetime, and yet they are an amazing record of his early genius for string writing as well as his development as a composer.”

And then there is the Flute Quartet No. 1 in D Major by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. “Mozart may have accepted the commission to write it simply to pay his bills,” Lambert said, “but he never composed carelessly, and this quartet is considered to have one of the most beautiful slow movements he ever wrote, a rapt cantilena for the flute accompanied by delicate pizzicato from the strings.”

Dr. Jacqueline Cordova-Arrington is a fellow of Carnegie Hall’s Ensemble Connect, a recipient of the William D. Ford Fulbright Grant and the first American to study extensively with principal flutists of the Berlin Philharmonic, which led to performances with major orchestras, including the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

“I love Jackie’s sense of shape and color in phrasing; it’s very natural and rhapsodic,” Lambert said.

Victoria Wolff is a graduate of the Juilliard School and the University of Texas at Austin, where she taught privately with the UT Austin String Project, as a chamber music coach, directed her own cello ensemble, and performed regularly with the Austin Symphony as well as many groups both classical and nonclassical.
“Tori brings a dynamic presence to everything she does, and is a sensitive and powerful cellist,” Lambert said. “Both Jackie and Tori are precisely the kind of musicians we Amici musicians love to have alongside us on stage! They are superb players — expressive and compelling.”

The concert begins at 7:30 p.m., is without an intermission and is followed by a complimentary post-concert party, where audience members can meet the musicians and enjoy baked creations from Excelsior Inn & Ristorante.

Concert sponsor is Amici D’Amici, and season supporters include Cascade Manor, Classic Pianos Melinda Handy CPA, George Rode Repair Shops and Isler CPA.


Chamber Music Amici is a resident company of the Richard E. Wildish Community Theatre in Springfield, Ore., that also holds performances at the John G. Shedd Institute for the Arts in Eugene. Made up of a group of five accomplished classical musicians, Amici has as its mission to produce exciting chamber music concerts and to promote a new generation of music lovers. Amici concerts are fun and filled with variety brought by its virtuoso guests. For more information: chambermusicamici.org

Summary:
- Around the World, 7:30 pm, Monday, February 3, 2020; Richard E. Wildish Community Theater, 630 Main Street, Springfield, Oregon
- Pieces performed: Impresiones de la Puna by Alberto Ginastera; Night Piece and Scherzo by Arthur Foote; String Quartet No. 4 in C Major by Franz Schubert; Flute Quartet No. 1 in D Major by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
- Core musicians performing: Jessica Lambert, violin; Sharon Schuman, violin; Lillie Manis, violin
- Guest artists: Jacqueline Cordova-Arrington, flute, and Victoria Wolff, cello

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