

Salomé Music Festival Returns to the Hamptons

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by Pat Rogers

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HAMPTONS, NY-

This weekend sees the return of the Salomé Chamber Orchestra of New York City as they present site-specific music at two locations in the Hamptons. The three-concert Salomé Music Festival launches tonight at Nova's Ark Project in Water Mill and concludes there with a family concert on Sunday. Tomorrow, the classical music ensemble performs at a free concert at the Jewish Center of the Hamptons in East Hampton, NY.

Each concert was designed to present "accessible classical music" with a program that relates to the performance space or anticipated audience. The Gala Opening Concert—held tonight amid the sculpture park featuring works by Nova—features works that accentuate the open settings and nature that are just as much a part of Nova's Ark Project as the artworks themselves.

"The programs in the Hamptons are designed to highlight the uniqueness of the space in which we are performing," said Lauren Sarah Carpenter, executive director of Salomé Chamber Orchestra. "Often times in NYC, we don't have the opportunity to leverage our surroundings to create a thematic program, but with the treasure trove of environs on the East End, we're never at a loss for creative ideas."



Salomé Chamber Orchestra.

The series opens with a Gala Opening Concert tonight at 7 p.m. that benefits Nova's Art Project and Terra Nova Foundation. "Music Inspired by Nature" will include music by Vivaldi, Paganini, Piazzolla, Schubert plus work recently commissioned for Salomé.

The family program on Sunday at 3 p.m. at Nova's Ark Project is a world premiere of Jacques Offenbach's one-act operetta, "The Babysitter". Salomé will perform the comic opera with members of Divaria Productions, with dialogue in English and arias sung in French. Tickets are \$20 for both concerts at Nova's Ark Project.

On Saturday, the Music Festival continues at the Jewish Center of the Hamptons. "Music of the Jewish Diaspora" is a program featuring music by Jewish composers. International viola soloist David Aaron Carpenter will accompany Salomé in performing works by Gershwin, Kreisler, Mendelssohn, Klezmer selections by Ljova and Salomé composer-in-residence Alexey Shor. The concert is free and open to the public.



Violist David Aaron Carpenter. Photo by Akos Simon.

This weekend's performances represent the Second Annual Salomé Music Festival. Last year, they also performed at Nova's Art Project and the Jewish Center of the Hamptons plus a few additional venues.

"We love to perform at the Hamptons because it represents the confluence of so many things: philanthropy, natural beauty, and culture," said Carpenter. "At Salomé, we aim to integrate as many of these things into our music and concert experience so the Hamptons were a perfect fit to host the Festival. We love the myriad of unique venues in which to perform."

Salomé Chamber Orchestra was co-founded three years ago by the Carpenter siblings, Lauren, Sean and David Aaron Carpenter. The ensemble is composed of graduates from the Curtis Institute, Juilliard, Princeton University, and Yale University.

Salomé's mission is to present classical music relevant to "younger generations" while partnering with philanthropic organizations to present charity concerts and events.

To date, the Orchestra has performed with leading singers and soloists including Rufus Wainwright, John Legend, Alan Gilbert, Daniel Hope, Sharon Isbin, Natasha Bedingfield, and Christoph Eschenbach.

Most recently, they performed for the Yahoo! "On the Road" concert series with singer/songwriter John Legend and a European tour. Last year, Salomé was in residency at the Metropolitan Music of Art (2012-13). Concerts held at the Met included performances using historic instruments from the museum's collection.

This year, Salomé will perform a holiday concert at the MET Museum on Dec. 20, 2013. They perform at Carnegie Hall on Feb. 21, 2014 with charity concerts already planned for 2014.

“We like to dedicate a good portion of our time to perform at charity benefits so that we fulfill our Orchestra’s mission to collaborate with other non-profit organizations to raise funding and awareness for their global activities,” said Carpenter.



Salomé Chamber Orchestra.

BASIC FACTS: Information and tickets for the Salomé Music Festival can be purchased via Salomé’s website: www.salomechamber.org.

Nova’s Ark Project is located at 30 Millstone Rd Water Mill, NY 11976.

The Jewish Center of the Hamptons is located at 4 Woods Ln East Hampton, NY 11937.

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