

For Immediate Release

Manchester Music Festival November 27 Concert

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Thanksgiving Concert of String Quartets Scheduled in Dorset

The Manchester Music Festival will present “An Afternoon of String Quartets” on Sunday, November 27 at the Dorset Church. Featured works are by Haydn, Dvorak and Villa-Lobos.

“The Haydn quartet in G major is among the composer’s most ambitious chamber works,” said Ariel Rudiakov, MMF’s artistic director. “The quartet seamlessly passes themes between one instrument and another. Haydn virtually invented the string quartet, and this is one of his best.”

Dvorak’s “American” quartet is one of the most familiar pieces in all of chamber music, with rich, harmonious themes throughout. Composed during a U.S. tour in 1893, and influenced by American folk music, the quartet never strays far from its Bohemian roots. “Listeners may be able to hear the sound of the scarlet tanager in the third movement,” said Rudiakov. Dvorak’s notebooks show his transcription of the bird’s song.

The Brazilian composer Heitor Villa-Lobos is among the best-known Latin-American composers. “The composer loved street music,” Mr. Rudiakov said. “He continually found ways to combine local and popular music with classical traditions.”

Performing in the Thanksgiving weekend concert are Joana Genova and Heather Braun, violins; Ariel Rudiakov, viola; and Benjamin Capps, cello. “We’re very pleased to welcome Heather Braun back to the area,” said Rudiakov. “Heather was one of our Young Artist stars, and she is a member of the Arneis Quartet, a Boston-based group with a growing reputation.”

The concert starts at 4:00 and is sponsored by Casella. The Dorset Church is at 143 Church Street, off Route 30 in Dorset. Tickets are \$25 (\$10 for students, and no charge for children under age 15) and may be purchased through the Manchester Music Festival website, www.mmft.org, at Northshire Bookstore in Manchester, or at the Dorset Church on the day of the concert.