

FALLS VILLAGE

Shanghai String Quartet featured at Music Mountain

Labor Day weekend celebration includes benefit concert

FALLS VILLAGE » Music Mountain continues its 88th season with a holiday weekend of music this weekend with performances by the Shanghai String Quartet.

The Shanghai String Quartet's Saturday night performance will include Mendelssohn: String Quartet in E Flat Major, Opus 12; Yi-Wen Jiang: Selections from Chinasong; and Brahms: String Quartet in C Minor, Opus 51 #1. The quartet's most popular disc, Chinasong, is a collection of Chinese folk songs arranged by Violinist Yi-Wen Jiang reflecting on his childhood memories of the Cultural Revolution in China.

On Sunday, join the Shanghai String Quartet with guest artist Qing Jiang, piano, as they present a special concert featuring Beethoven: String Quartet in B Flat Major, Opus 18 #6; Beethoven: String Quartet in E Minor, Opus 59 #2; and Brahms: Piano Quartet in G Minor, Opus 25. Renowned for its passionate musicality, impressive technique and multicultural innovations, the Shanghai Quartet has become one of the world's foremost chamber ensembles. Its elegant style melds the delicacy of Eastern music



The Shanghai String Quartet performs this weekend at Music Mountain in Falls Village.

with the emotional breadth of Western repertoire, allowing it to traverse musical genres including traditional Chinese folk music, masterpieces of Western music and cutting-edge contemporary works. Formed at the Shanghai Conservatory in 1983, the Shanghai Quartet has worked with the world's most distinguished

artists and regularly tours the major music centers of Europe, North America and Asia. The Quartet has been regular performers at many of North America's leading chamber music festivals. Additionally, the Quartet has an extensive discography of more than 30 recordings, ranging from the Schumann and Dvorak piano quintets

with Rudolf Buchbinder to Zhou Long's Poems from Tang for string quartet and orchestra with the Singapore Symphony (BIS). The Shanghai Quartet currently serves as Quartet-in-Residence at the John J. Cali School of Music, Montclair State University, Ensemble-in-Residence with the Shanghai Symphony Or-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Shanghai String Quartet performs this weekend at Music Mountain in Falls Village. The quartet is joined on Sunday by pianist Qing Jiang.

chestra, and visiting guest professors of the Shanghai Conservatory and the Central Conservatory in Beijing.

Praised by the New York Times as a "fiery musician" whose playing is "vigorous and passionate," pianist Qing Jiang enjoys a diverse career in solo, chamber, and contemporary music. A dynamic chamber musician, Ms. Jiang has collaborated with many leading artists and chamber ensembles and has worked directly with contemporary composers. She has appeared in Lincoln Center, Carne-

gie Hall, Jordan Hall, Steinway Hall, and the Isabella Gardner Museum, as well as in the UK's Snape Maltings Hall, and China's Central Conservatory in Beijing. Committed to educating the next generation, Ms. Jiang is currently Assistant Professor of Piano at Bucknell University. Chamber music concerts continue with Amernet String Quartet with Vivek Kamath, Viola on Sept. 10, and the Juilliard String Quartet on Sept. 17.

To download a ticket order form visit www.musicmountain.org or call 860-824-7126.

WARNER THEATRE

See Martina McBride in concert Sept. 14

TORRINGTON » The Warner Theatre will welcome award-winning country superstar Martina McBride to the Main Stage on Thursday, Sept. 14.

A multiple Grammy Award nominee, McBride has sold more than 18 million albums to date, including 20 Top 10 singles and six No. 1 hits. She released her first single, "Reckless," the title track from her latest studio album available now, in 2016.

McBride has earned more than 15 major music awards, including four wins for the Country Music Association and won three Academy of Country Music awards for Top Female Vocalist.

McBride has been awarded 14 Gold Records, nine Platinum honors, three Double Platinum Records, and two Triple Platinum Awards. McBride was awarded the Covenant



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Country superstar Martina McBride is scheduled to perform at the Warner Theatre on Sept. 14.

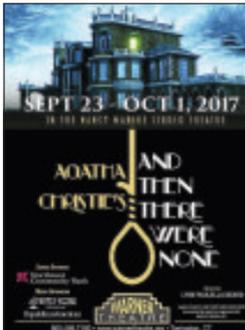
House Beacon of Hope Award and Music Business Association's prestigious 2015 Harry Chapin Memorial Humanitarian Award for her philanthropic efforts on behalf of domestic violence. Through her Team Music Is Love charity initiative, McBride partners with non-profit causes to help many of the town's she's performing in.

The concert begins at 8 p.m. To purchase tickets, call the Warner Box Office at 860-489-7180 or visit warnertheatre.org.

WARNER STAGE COMPANY

'And Then There Were None' opens Sept. 23

TORRINGTON » The Warner Stage Company will present Agatha Christie's "And Then There Were None" in the Warner Theatre's Nancy Marine Studio Theatre this September! "And Then There Were None" is the world's best-selling mystery ever, with 100 million sales to date. Widely considered to be Christie's masterpiece, her own stage adaptation of this dark and captivating tale will thrill and enthrall, as murder unfolds. A group of 10 strangers is lured to a remote island off the coast of Devon. Upon arrival it is discovered that their host, an eccentric millionaire, is missing. At dinner a recorded message is played accusing each of them in turn of having a guilty secret and by the end of the evening the 10 guests become nine. Stranded on the island by a torrential storm and haunted by an ancient nursery rhyme, one by one the guests be-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Warner Stage Company will present Agatha Christie's "And Then There Were None," opening Sept. 23.

gin to die.

One of Christie's darkest tales and a masterpiece of dramatic construction, its growing sense of dread and unflinching tension will keep you guessing to the very end.

Christie's play has been performed successfully all over the world

since its premiere in 1943 with an ending which is unique to the play and is not that of the novel on which it is based. There is much evidence that this was not her initial intention but was instead the result of what was perceived to be the needs of audiences at a very dark time in history. She never shied from taking notice of others' input and the success then and since of the play vindicates her approach and their views. In recent years, enterprising producers presenting to, perhaps, more inquiring audiences have experimented with incorporating the novel's ending in the play.

This, too, has been well received leading to a controversy as to which is the "real" ending. On the 125th anniversary of her birth, Matthew Pritchard (Agatha Christie's grandson) made the choice available to all producers and directors to express

their views as to the writer's intention by enabling us to choose from the 1943 (play) ending and the 1939 (novel) ending - allowing us to face the same choice his grandmother faced.

The Warner Stage Company production of "And Then There Were None" is directed by Lynn Paulella Beard with John Ozerhoski as assistant director and features Nicholas Bourne, Tony Enright, Roger Grace, MayTae Harge, Eric Lindblom, Scott Murphy, Lana Peck, Thursday Savage, Anthony Stachowitz, Payton Turpin and Mike Zizka. Performances are Sept. 23, 29 and 30 at 8 p.m., and Sept. 24 and Oct. 1 at 2 p.m.

To purchase tickets, call the Warner Box Office at 860-489-7180 or visit warnertheatre.org. The Nancy Marine Studio Theatre Series is sponsored by Northwest Community Bank.

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