

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## The Serafins present Songs of Norway live on August 22 with a virtual broadcast August 25

(Wilmington, Del.) July 15, 2020 – The Music School of Delaware presents <u>Scrafin Ensemble</u> in a one-of-a-kind live and virtual concert titled *Summer Surprise – Songs of Norway!* LIVE – on Saturday, August 22, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. The performance will broadcast in a virtual event on Tuesday, August 25, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. Live and virtual tickets are \$20, available for purchase at www.musicschoolofdelaware.org.

Concertgoers will travel to the magical and majestic land of Norway when Norwegian virtuoso siblings, Julie and David Coucheron (piano and violin), take the stage on Saturday, August 22, in Wilmington. The siblings will be joined by a line up of superb chamber musicians to present repertoire by Grieg, Halvorsen, Lalo, and Sinding. Selections include works for violin and piano, piano four-hands, violin and viola, violin and cello, and the supercharged and colorful String Quartet in G Minor by Grieg.

- <u>Julie Coucheron</u>: The Atlanta-based pianist hails from Norway and is a sought-after collaborating artist, teacher and pedagogue who serves on the faculty at Kennesaw State University.
- <u>David Coucheron</u>: The Norwegian-born virtuoso violinist was the youngest concertmaster appointed to a major U.S. orchestra when he joined the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra in 2010. He and his pianist sister, Julie, are favorite stars of the Kon Tiki festival in Norway.
- <u>Kate Ransom</u>: A distinguished violinist, chamber musician, recitalist and teacher who has
  performed hundreds of concerts in major concert halls around the globe, Ransom serves as artistic
  director of Serafin Ensemble and Serafin Summer Music, and is president of The Music School of
  Delaware
- <u>William Ransom</u>: Pianist, artistic director, master teacher, editor and judge, Ransom serves on the faculty at Emory University and as artistic director of the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival.
- <u>Charae Krueger</u>: The principal cellist for Atlanta's Opera & Ballet Orchestras, Krueger is a Serafin Roster Artist, member of the Summit Piano Trio, Peachtree String Quartet, Leaptrott Piano Trio, KSU Faculty String Trio, and is artist-in-residence in cello at Kennesaw State University.
- <u>Julianne Lee</u>: A talented musician, both as a violinist and violist, Lee frequently appears as a soloist, chamber musician and orchestral player. She has served as principal second of the Atlanta Symphony and is currently a violinist with the Boston Symphony Orchestra.
- <u>Augustine Mercante</u>: The talented countertenor enjoys an active career performing repertoire from the Baroque to the newly-created. He completed his Artist Diploma in Germany as a Fulbright Scholar and holds degrees from the University of North Texas and the University of Delaware.

Serafin Ensemble performs Summer Surprise—Songs of Norway! Live concert on Saturday, August 22, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. - Virtual concert on August 25 at 7:00 p.m.



Featuring the Norwegian virtuoso siblings Julie and David Coucheron (piano and violin) joined by Charae Krueger (cello), Julianne Lee (viola), William Ransom (piano), Kate Ransom (violin) and Augustine Mercante (countertenor).

Works by Grieg, Lalo, Halvorsen, and Sinding

The concert will be held at The Music School of Delaware - Wilmington Concert Hall, 4101 Washington Street, Wilmington, DE.

Tickets are \$20. Live tickets are limited and include the virtual broadcast. Virtual tickets are available for purchase up until August 25 at 4:00 p.m. Purchase tickets online at <a href="mailto:musicschoolofdelaware.org/event-ticketing">musicschoolofdelaware.org/event-ticketing</a>.

Note: COVID-19 precautions are in place for the safety and comfort of concertgoers.

## **About Serafin Ensemble**

Serafin Ensemble, "The Serafins," is a group of internationally acclaimed performing artists (string, wind, piano and vocalists) devoted to collaborative chamber music performances of repertoire for up to eight players. The ensemble evolved from the former Serafin String Quartet and continues the nearly two-decade-long Serafin legacy of passionate commitment to presenting exceptional performances of small ensemble repertoire. Serafin Ensemble artists have been heralded around the globe for concerts and recordings, acclaimed in the press, and received international prizes and awards. Their current and former affiliations and distinctions are impressive and include: "official Steinway artist;" Fulbright scholar; performances with Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Alexander, Attacca, Oxford, Serafin and Vega String Quartets, "Alarm Will Sound," Boston Chamber Orchestra, I Musici de Montreal, Del'Arte Wind Quintet; prizes from the London String Quartet Competition and Concert Artists Guild; participation in summer programs such as Aspen, Aria, Banff, Brevard, Casals, Chatauqua, Ravinia, Spoleto and Tanglewood; appearances on NPR's Performance Today, St. Paul Sunday Morning, WQXR, WRTI, Radio France, and National Radio of China; and degrees from major music schools including Juilliard, Peabody, Yale, Indiana, New England and Boston Conservatories, Royal Academy of Music, Mannes, Michigan, Eastman, and the Longy School. Serafin Ensemble takes its name from master violin maker, Sanctus Serafin, who in 1728 crafted the violin currently played by Serafin founder and Artistic Director, Kate Ransom. The Serafin String Quartet thrived for over two decades thanks, in part, to generous support from Dr. William J. Stegeman, Ph.D. For more information, please visit <a href="https://www.serafinensemble.org">www.serafinensemble.org</a>.