FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Tara Hurlebaus, Linkbridge Communications 302-593-8447, thurlebaus@linkbridgecommunications.com

Serafin String Quartet Announces Florida Concerts in February

(Wilmington, Del.) January 12, 2018 - Hailed for "silken finesse and gritty vibrancy" by *Gramophone Magazine*, Serafin String Quartet (SSQ) brings its vibrant sound to Florida in February. The Delaware-based Quartet will perform at the University of South Florida (Tampa) on February 15 at 7:30 p.m. and at Music at St. Paul's (Delray) on February 18 at 3:00 p.m.

Serafin violinist <u>Kate Ransom</u> reunites with long-time colleague and friend, pianist <u>Roberta Rust</u>, on February 18. The two musicians met in the 1990s at The Harid Conservatory of Music (now the Conservatory of Music at Lynn University) where Ms. Ransom served as founding director and Ms. Rust served as artist faculty. Ms. Ransom and Ms. Rust have shared the stage on numerous occasions over the years, both in collaborations of duos and other chamber works.

"I am thrilled to have the chance to play one of the most ravishingly romantic piano quintets in the repertoire—the Dvorak Quintet—with the Serafin String Quartet," comments Roberta Rust. "It will be an inspiring and memorable experience."

The Florida repertoire features:

- **Dvořák Piano Quintet in A Major, Op. 81,** an audience pleasing, "rip roaring" masterwork that is a staple of the piano/string repertoire. This work represents Dvorak's inimitable, folk-derived classical style; bold, characterful rhythmic figures that make one want to dance; and colorful harmonies and bright voicing that add to the overall energy of the piece.
- Haydn String Quartet in G Minor, Op. 74, No.3 "Horseman," the 'galloping' finale theme of this work has given rise to its nickname.
- Still *Danzas de Panama* for string quartet, a delightful set of four movements each drawing from the colorful dance styles from Panama, Central America and Africa.
- Mendelssohn e minor Op. 44, No. 2, a work filled with infectious energy and elegant lyricism.

SERAFIN STRING QUARTET FLORIDA CONCERT DETAILS

Thursday, February 15, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

Rutenberg Series presents Serafin String Quartet

Featuring Haydn String Quartet in G Minor, Op. 74, No.3 "Horseman," Still Danzas de Panama for string quartet and Mendelssohn e minor Op. 44, No. 2

University of South Florida School of Music, Lewis and Enid Barness Recital Hall 3755 USF Holly Drive, Tampa, FL 33620 http://music.arts.usf.edu/rutenberg/

Tickets: \$10 student, seniors & military, \$15 general admission; Purchase by phone (813) 974-2323 or online beginning 2/1/18 at https://www.ticketmaster.com/Barness-Recital-Hall-tickets-Tampa/venue/107522

Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.

Music at St. Paul's presents Serafin String Quartet joined by pianist Roberta Rust Featuring William Grant Still Danzas de Panama for string quartet, Mendelssohn e minor, Op. 44, No. 2, and Dvořák Piano Quintet in A Major, Op. 81

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 188 South Swinton Ave, Delray Beach, FL 33444 music.stpaulsdelray.org Tickets: \$20 adults, 18 & under are free; purchase at the door on the day of the concert.

Please visit www.serafinquartet.org for the complete 2017-2018 season schedule.

About Serafin String Quartet

Hailed for "silken finesse and gritty vibrancy" by Gramophone Magazine and for "playing with style and sophistication" by The Strad Magazine, Serafin String Quartet debuted at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall in 2004 and has consistently received superlatives in the press and ovations by audiences around the nation. The Quartet's highly acclaimed Naxos (2013) release featuring world premiere recordings of early chamber works by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Jennifer Higdon was listed as "Top 10 Classical Albums in 2013" by Philadelphia's City Paper. The Quartet's debut recording on Centaur (2010) is an "American Tapestry" of works by American composers and composers influenced by American sounds, including Barber, Dvorák, Gershwin and William Grant Still. Featured by Strings Magazine for innovative concert programming, Serafin String Quartet has been applauded at performances around the nation. The Quartet serves as Quartet in Residence at the University of Delaware and takes its name from master violin maker. Sanctus Serafin, who in 1728 crafted the violin currently played by SSO violinist Kate Ransom. The other members play Testore instruments from the same era, thanks to generous support from Dr. William Stegeman.. For more information, please visit www.serafinquartet.org.