



Kate Ransom and Timothy Schwarz, *violins*

Ana Tsinadze, *viola* and Lawrence Stomberg, *'cello*

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SERAFIN STRING QUARTET ANNOUNCES CD RELEASE AND OVERSEAS DEBUT CONCERT

(WILMINGTON, DEL.) June 9, 2010 – The first commercial recording of the Delaware-based [Serafin String Quartet](#) has been released on the Centaur Records label. The disc, considered an “American Tapestry,” features works by American composers, and composers influenced by American sounds, including Barber, Dvořák, Gershwin and Still. The disc is now available for purchase on the Centaur Records website www.centaurecords.com and will be internationally released in September 2010.

The CD is the Quartet’s first major recording project, and was recorded in Gore Recital Hall on the University of Delaware campus in September 2009. The Quartet decided together upon the repertoire for the disc, intending their first release to present their interpretations of standard and lesser-known literature, and reflecting the theme of American influence and diversity.

Serafin String Quartet will present its overseas debut concert at St. John’s, Smith Square in London, England on September 25, 2010. The concert will feature selections from their recent Centaur release and “Amazing Grace” by Jennifer Higdon, the Philadelphia-based Pulitzer Prize and Grammy Award – winning composer. For tickets to the London debut concert, please visit www.sjss.org.uk.

“This is an exciting year for the Quartet with our overseas debut, another recording project in preparation and concerts in the southeast and at the Annenberg Center in Philadelphia,” comments Serafin violinist, [Kate Ransom](#). “We’ve made significant progress in our development as a quartet and are reaching the next level in our performing. We look forward to broadening our horizons on the international level to start the new season.”

This summer the Quartet is preparing and starting to perform selections by Jennifer Higdon in advance of a planned recording of her un-recorded chamber works for strings. This project will feature Higdon’s “Sky Quartet,” “Amazing Grace” for string quartet, “String Trio,” “Sonata for Viola and Piano,” and a work for strings, piano and bassoon. They expect the project to take at least a year to complete.

About the Serafin String Quartet

Hailed by the *New York Concert Review* for its “excellent music making... uncommonly fine interpretation,” the Serafin String Quartet debuted to a sell-out crowd at New York City’s Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall in 2004. Serafin String Quartet takes its name from master violin maker, Sanctus Serafin, who in 1728 crafted the violin currently played by Kate Ransom. This program is made possible in part by Dr. William J. Stegeman, the University of Delaware and the Delaware Division of the Arts, a state agency dedicated to nurturing and supporting the arts in Delaware, in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts. For more information, please visit www.serafinquartet.org.

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