

Amelia Island Happenings

Contact:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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World renowned violinist, Rafael Javadov has a brand new CD release, especially written for Amelia Island, Florida: "The Amelia Island Sun," a wonderfully upbeat and exciting jazz infusion instrumental that reflects our beautiful Amelia Island.

This amazing violinist who studied in Ukraine and Russia came to the United States in 1995. He has performed with many of the Washington D.C. regional symphonies, including the Delaware Symphony, Richmond Symphony, Alexandria Symphony, Arlington Symphony, Philly Pops, Baltimore Symphony, Maryland Symphony, National Philharmonic and the Doc Scantlin Imperial Palms Orchestra, just to name a few. Throughout his career, he has had experience in both performing and overseeing musical groups throughout Russia and the United States.

Most recently, in 2008, Rafael Javadov performed at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Washington, D.C., in the Synetic Theater's new adaptation of the opera "Carmen." Reviewer Debbie Minter Jackson, in the DC Theatre Scene, writes:

The music is an eclectic blend of gypsy folk ballads steeped in Romanian sounding chords tinged with funky Latin rhythms, resulting in a sweet spot of international flavors.

Violinist Rafael Javadov could easily fill Carnegie Hall - he hits unbelievably high notes in the upper register, coaxes out soothing melodies, and strides with the rest of the musicians on the jazzy riffed ballads.

In one pivotal scene, attired in exquisitely cut flamenco waist-coast and wide brimmed hat, Javadov steps into the cage with Carmen, and represents her inner conflicts and repressed turmoil, disappearing into the shadows evading her outstretched hands while playing furtive notes of despair on his violin. Breathtaking!

Imagine Rafael Javadov as a small boy in Ukraine. His mother was a preschool piano teacher who dreamed of a world of music for her only child. At 5 years old, she enrolled him in music lessons, and like any little boy, when asked what musical instrument he wanted to play, Rafael said, "Drums!"

Yes, Rafael began his music lessons with drums; however, he excelled quickly and moved to the piano and what would become his long lasting love, the violin. He credits his loving mother for his ability to learn, love and succeed at the violin.

Unlike the other mothers who sat outside, Mrs. Javadov sat in the room with his teacher when Rafael took his violin lessons, watching his every move and writing his teacher's every word.

"She didn't even know what she was writing because it was violin: how and where to put my fingers, up, down, how to hold the bow, etc.," Rafael proudly explains. "And every day, she and I duplicate my lesson. I loved it. Even when I improved and didn't need that help, I could still hear her voice in my head, helping me. It was beautiful."

At the age of 10, Rafael left Ukraine and began his studies at the Special Tchaikovsky Music School at Moscow Conservatory. The

Tchaikovsky school is considered to be one of the best music schools in the world.

“The school was very difficult. Not only must you be the best violinist, every teacher felt the same: you must be the best mathematician, the best writer, the best everything...it was very difficult, but I did well because I had great teachers who were very intelligent, outstanding musicians and cared so much for me.”

Rafael studied under the world famous musician and teacher Zinaida Gilels at the Moscow Conservatory. Ms. Gilels and Rafael had a strong connection and apart from a close professional collaboration, they also had a profound friendship which unfortunately ended with Ms. Gilels' death in Boston, Massachusetts.

Natalia Viardo, then wife of famous pianist Vladamir Viardo, taught at the Moscow Conservatory and was also one of Rafael's teachers who embraced him. Ms. Viardo is a very highly intelligent musician and currently lives in New York. She and Rafael still remain in contact.

After his studies at the Moscow Conservatory, Mr. Javadov went on to graduate from the Glinka State Music College of the Ukraine and the Rostov-Don Conservatory in Russia, earning his master degree in Violin: Soloist, Performer and Music Educator.

Later, from 1986-1988, Rafael was the Concertmaster of the North Pole Navy Band in Russia. The Band played only for presidents, dignitaries and world leaders throughout Eastern Europe.

In 1994, while chairing a First-Section Violin position in the Dnepropetrovsk Symphony, he also resided as Conductor/Arranger for the Youth Violinist Ensemble "Violino," comprised of twenty of his students, from the ages of 8 to 12. In 1995, they toured in Ukraine, Russia, and Germany and were so successful that the entire ensemble was invited to the United States for a concert tour.

Since his arrival in the United States in 1995, Mr. Javadov has served as the Music Director of the Kol Haruach Klezmer Band. Their CD "In the Beginning" made it to the first 10 Klezmer Music productions in the world that year. He also is a member the Helios string quartet and performs as a String Duo with Sergey Morozov. He performs arrangements of Russian folk themes and romances and the Mediterranean folk music, Gypsy, Jewish, American classics, and also classical music favorites.

Rafael Javadov is a soloist, arranger and the musical director of "Acoustic Machine," a group performing original music, with unique and dimensional compositions, and a real event in the music world today.

It is important to note that Rafael Javadov's ultimate dream is to create a school in the United States that would be just like the schools he attended in Russia, with warm, supportive teachers who expect nothing but the best and teach to ensure that students are the best musicians in the world. These are the lasting and beautiful memories he brings with him as he teaches his current violin students throughout the Washington, D. C. area.

It is this strong commitment to young people that compels Mr. Javadov to visit Amelia Island and generously offer a free concert, in partnership with the Amelia Island Arts Academy, open only to grade school students, already identified by the Amelia Island Arts Academy.

And, there is also more good news!

You are cordially invited to join us for a wonderful *Evening with Rafael Javadov* on Sunday, March 29, 2009, at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, on the corner of Atlantic and 8th Avenue, Amelia Island, Florida. His electric violin performance will focus on his modern arrangements in a variety of genres, including music from around the globe.

And, of course, Rafael will also perform, for the first time ever, his brand new release, written especially for his visit to the Island, “The Amelia Island Sun.” This brilliant new release, “The Amelia Island Sun,” has a unique dimensional style that fluctuates from a tight beat to jazz and elevates to complexity of a classical composition. It’s an absolute joy and a perfect reflection of our beautiful Amelia Island!

Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased from St. Peter’s Episcopal Church Office (904 261-4293) on Atlantic and 8th Street and also from the Amelia Arts Academy's Peck Community Center (904 277-1225) on South 10th Street. - crossroad: Fir Street, Amelia Island, Florida.

Doors open at 7:00 and concert begins at 7:30. Enjoy the cash bar and hors d'oeuvres. Coffee and dessert are provided by the Kofe Hous, Amelia Island, Florida.

For more information, please contact Diann Schindler at Amelia Island Happenings, Amelia Island, Florida, 904 277-3294 or 904 477-4134, diann.schindler@gmail.com.

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