

Free Live Music @ Your Library

Rock Island Public Library

July 20, 2009

Live! @ Your Library: New Music Series Starts August 11



The Rock Island Public Library will offer a brief series of free live music concerts this fall, with the support of grant funding from a U.S. recording industry settlement.

Classical guitarist and recording artist Peter Fletcher will play at the Rock Island Public Library, 401 19th Street, at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, August 11. The concert, which is free to the public, features selections from Fletcher's 2008 CD release on Tower Hill Records, *Music of the Baroque*. Other pieces in Fletcher's repertoire include *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* from Cantata No. 147 and the *E minor Lute Suite*, both by J.S. Bach. Fletcher will also play his transcriptions of Erik Satie and Edvard Grieg, as well as *Usher-Waltz*, an unusual and intense piece by Russian guitarist and composer Nikita Koshkin; the always popular *Cavatina* from the movie *Deer Hunter*, composed

by Stanley Myers, and the music of composers Weiss, Albeniz, Villa-Lobos and Reusner. The concert culminates with *Koyunbaba*, by composer/guitarist Carlo Domeniconi, one of the most unique and exciting works in the classical guitar repertoire.

Fletcher began guitar study at age seven under classical guitar instructor John Sutherland. He made his formal debut at age 15 under the auspices of the Brasstown Concert Association in North Carolina. A master's degree graduate of the Eastman School of Music, Fletcher has appeared numerous times at Carnegie Hall and has produced six recordings: *The Art of Classical Guitar*, *A Peter Fletcher Recital*, *Federico Mompou: Guitar Works: Music of Four Centuries*, *Peter Fletcher Plays Erik Satie* and his most current release, *Peter Fletcher Plays Baroque Music for Guitar*. A fifth project, an all-Grieg album, is scheduled for release in Winter 2010.

"Mr. Fletcher is one of the finest and most accomplished guitarists now appearing before the public." Nylon Review

"With a natural and genuine classical sound, Peter Fletcher leaves the listener begging for more with the release of a CD from Centaur Records celebrating the work of Federico Mompou." Southeast Performer, Shawn M. Haney

Fletcher's playing exhibits an impressive command of the considerable dynamic range which is possible with just one guitar, and the flow is uniformly effortless and occasionally breathtaking. John. C. Falstaff, Atlanta.creativeloading.com

In September, the series brings Klezmer music back to the Quad Cities, as the Rock Island Library hosts Madison's favorite world music band, "Yid Vicious," at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 9. The concert is at the Main Library downtown, 401 19th Street.



Yid Vicious formed in 1995 in Madison, Wis. "to ameliorate the woeful dearth of Klezmer in America's otherwise pleasant heartland" according to www.yidvicious.com. Klezmer is Yiddish folk music for dancing and celebrating, with Eastern European roots. The Yid Vicious appearance at the Rock Island Library is presented in conjunction with the Jewish Federation of the Quad Cities.

Yid Vicious music runs the gamut of styles from the raucous to the delicate. The band honors the rich traditions of Yiddish dance music, while celebrating the long-standing tradition of klezmer, incorporating new musical ideas into an organic and ever-evolving art form. Members include **Greg Smith**, clarinets; **Daithi Wolfe**, fiddle; Geoff Brady, percussion; **Kia Karlen**, horns and feral accordion; **Melissa Reiser**, saxophones; **Matt Appleby**, guitars and bass; and **Dave Spies**, tuba. The band's musical influences include Celtic, classical, country, country-rock, Dixieland, jazz, Latin-jazz, hillbilly, dancehall, avant-garde, swing, rock, church rock, brain rock, reggae and ska. Among many honors, Kia Karlen won the 2009 Madison Area Music awards as brass instrumentalist of the year. Yid Vicious was also a 2009 finalist for World Song of the year (*The Breathless Terk*) and World Album of the Year (*Dollars to Doinas!*). They were previously voted Best World Music Artists in 2004 and 2005 and Best World Music Album in 2006.

"Klezmer acts on the coasts get far more play than Yid Vicious, but few can claim to have produced a collection this inventive, varied and vivacious." Tom Laskin, *Isthmus* (review of *Dollars to Doinas!*)

"Few bands, regardless of genre, make music as celebratory as Yid Vicious ... Yid Vicious flavors Eastern European and Russian Jewish musical traditions with contemporary spices and serves it to the masses." Michael Popke, *Shepherd Express*

"Brainy and fun...this is music that thinks on its feet." Paul Wieder, *Jewish World Review*

Recordings: *Dollars to Doinas* - Giant Clam Records, 2008
The Seventh Schlemiel - Giant Clam Records, 2005
Forverts! - Knitting Factory Records, 2001
Klez, Kez, Goy Mit Fez - Uvulittle Records, 1998

Both concerts are free and open to the public. For more details about the wide variety of events, resources and materials the Rock Island Library offers for the whole family, go to www.ripl.lib.il.us or www.rockislandlibrary.org.