



# THE MILTON THEATRE

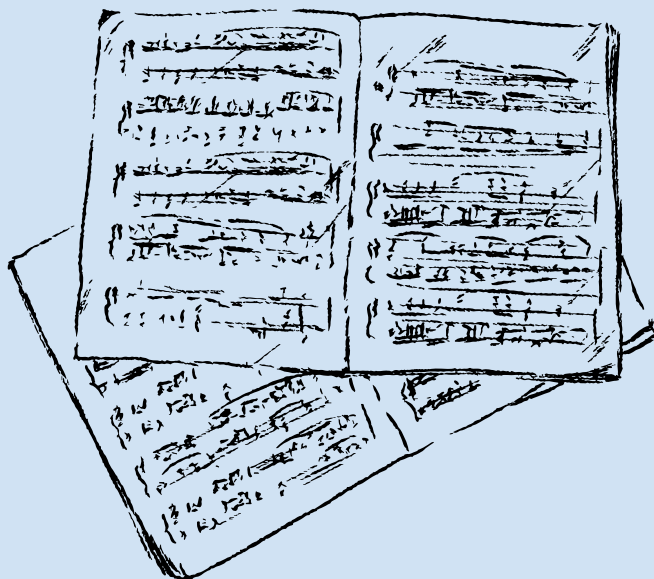
presents

Serafin Four Seasons

AMERICAN SALUTE

Serafin Ensemble

Hal Grossman and Kate Ransom, violin;  
Amadi Azikiwe, viola; Jacques-Pierre Malan, cello



**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2025 AT 7PM**

# ABOUT SERAFIN ENSEMBLE

## SERAFIN ROSTER ARTISTS

**Kate Ransom**, violin & artistic director

**Hal Grossman, Eric Pritchard**, violin

**Amadi Azikiwe, Luke Fleming, Adelya Shagidullina**, viola

**Charae Krueger, Jacques-Pierre Malan, Guang Wang**, cello

**Miles Brown**, double bass; **Eileen Grycky**, flute; **John, Dee**, oboe

**Marci Gurnow**, clarinet; **John David Smith**, horn

**Augustine Mercante**, countertenor; **Gina Perregrino**, mezzo soprano

**Victor Santiago Asuncion, Read Gainsford**, piano

**Gabriel Benton**, harpsichord

**Serafin Ensemble**, “**The Serafins**,” is a group of internationally acclaimed performing artists devoted to collaborative chamber music performances of unconducted repertoire. The ensemble performs great masterworks and lesser-known works for an unconducted ensemble of two to eight players. Occasionally, larger works or solo works are included in their programming.

The individual roster artists of Serafin Ensemble have been heralded around the globe for concerts and recordings, acclaimed in the press, and have received international prizes and awards. Their impressive affiliations and distinctions include: Steinway artist; Fulbright scholar; performances with Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Alexander, Attacca, Ciompi, 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, Chataqua, 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’s Naxos world premiere recording of works by Jennifer Higdon was listed among the “Top Ten Classical Albums in 2013” in Philadelphia’s City Paper. New York Concert Review lauds the Serafin’s live performances for “ensemble and intonation ... above reproach,” and describes their Debussy as “a shapely, finely conceived account” and their Haydn as having “rhythmic vitality and taut ensemble...”

**Serafin Presents is a non-profit organization** that supports the performance and education outreach activities that **Serafin Ensemble** delivers. Serafin concerts feature roster artists and guest collaborators from around the world, and their outreach includes a partnership with Cab Calloway School of the Arts in Delaware, and “informance” and coaching sessions with various community, school, and college-level programs.

**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.

**For individual bios, and information about upcoming performances visit**  
**[www.serafinensemble.org](http://www.serafinensemble.org)**

# PROGRAM

## **Adoration for String Quartet**

Florence Price (arr Linsmeier)

(1887-1953)

*Ms. Ransom, Mr. Grossman, Mr. Azikiwe, Mr. Malan*

## **Little Suite for Autumn**

Peter Schickele

(1935-2024)

Simple, flowing

Bright, smooth

Slow

Fast

Simple, flowing

*Ms. Ransom, Mr. Azikiwe*

## **Danzas de Panama**

William Grant Still

(1895-1978)

Tamborito; Meiorana y Socavon; Punto; Cumbia y Congo

*Mr. Grossman, Ms. Ransom, Mr. Azikiwe, Mr. Malan*

## **Intermission**

## **Amazing Grace for String Quartet**

Jennifer Higdon

(b. 1962)

*Ms. Ransom, Mr. Grossman, Mr. Azikiwe, Mr. Malan*

## **String Quartet in F Major, Op. 96 (American)**

Antonin Dvorak

(1841-1904)

Allegro ma non troppo

Lento

Molto vivace

Finale: Vivace ma non troppo

*Mr. Grossman, Ms. Ransom, Mr. Azikiwe, Mr. Malan*

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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## COMING UP!

**Tuesday, December 9, 2025 from 6-9pm GUEST BARTENDER NIGHT**

BBC TAVERN and GRILL (4019 Kennett Pike – Wilmington)

A night of friends, fans, fun in support of The Serafins!

**Tuesday, December 16, 2025, at 7pm BEETHOVEN'S BIRTHDAY BASH**

GRACE UMC -WILMINGTON

An all-Beethoven program of works for piano, violin, and cello in honor of Beethoven's 255<sup>th</sup> birthday. (Includes cake!) **TICKETS ON SALE NOW!**

**\$20-\$35 (\$10/student or livestream tickets for concerts at Grace UMC)**

**Thursday, February 26, 2026, at 4:30 WONDERFUL WINDS**

STONEGATES RETIREMENT COMMUNITY (includes premium reception)

\*special concert with premium reception - \$35/single ticket

**Friday, February 27, 2026, at 7pm HAPPY BIRTHDAY HANDEL!**

GRACE UMC -WILMINGTON

**Tuesday, March 10, 2026 at 7:30pm**

ARDEN CONCERT GILD – WILMINGTON

**Friday, April 17, 2026 at 5pm REVOLUTION AND INDEPENDENCE**

ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - LEWES

The Serafins pay tribute to the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of our nation. Come hear a quartet by Benjamin Franklin, John Antes, Archangelo Corelli, and more. Learn who Thomas Jefferson's favorite composer was!

*(programs, artists may be subject to change)*

**Program details/ticket links at [www.serafinensemble.org](http://www.serafinensemble.org)**

**Questions, group tickets, packages?** Call Lisa at (302) 373-0968 or email her at [seraфинensemblemarketing@gmail.com](mailto:seraфинensemblemarketing@gmail.com)

## **SUPPORT SERAFIN ENSEMBLE**

**Serafin Presents Inc. is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Contributions are tax-deductible as permitted by law. Your generous support helps us bring Serafin performances and educational outreach programs to communities throughout our region.**

### **Ways to Give:**

**Online: Make a secure credit card donation at  
<https://givebutter.com/serafindonation>**

**By Mail: Send a check payable to Serafin Presents Inc. to:  
1014 Sweet Cherry Court, Wilmington, DE 19809**

**In Person: Donate at the door when attending one of our  
concerts**

**Thank you for helping us share the power of music and  
education. Every gift makes a difference.**