

Eclectic, dazzling Quartetto Gelato comes to FEC



CALENDAR OF EVENTS APRIL

- 10-12 CROW's "Once Upon a Mattress"
- 11 Monkey Bugs
- 11-12 Early Rhododendron Show
- 15 FACC Volunteer recognition
- 17-19 Florence Health Fair
- 17 Quartetto Gelato
- 24 PeaceHealth Benefit Concert
- 25-26 "It's About Time" Auditions

MAY

- 3 Community Chorus
- 6 Rhododendron Court Showcase
- 9 Jazz Kings
- 15 Eugene Symphony
- 16 ARS Rhody Show
- 22-23 FRAA Arts Festival
- 22-23 Read for the Need
- 29-30 FloTones

Rotary Club meets every Tuesday at noon.
Box Office Hours: 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. weekdays
and 1 hour before major events



ONGOING EVENTS:
Florence Rotary Club luncheon -
Tuesdays at noon

Quartetto Gelato.

Though it sort of sounds like a four-pack of Italian ice cream, this quartet of world-class performers may be as cool as gelato but sizzles hot on stage. Classical in training, eclectic by design, this dazzling ensemble has become an international favorite with sold-out repeat performances in New York, Washington, Chicago, Dallas, Los Angeles, Toronto, Calgary, Tokyo, Seoul, Hong Kong, and elsewhere.

They'll bring their world-class talents to the Florence Events Center Friday, April 17, at 7 p.m. For nearly two decades, Quartetto Gelato has won the hearts of audiences worldwide with their unique blend of musical finesse, pyrotechnical solos, blazing gypsy show pieces, multi-instrument mastery, and dynamic humor. Their musical repertoire spans the globe to include Russian, Irish, South American and Italian influences as well as classical masterworks, operatic arias, the sizzling energy of tangos, gypsy and folk songs.

As a bonus, the group's theatrical stage presence and relaxed humor establishes an intimate rapport with their audience.

As if that weren't enough, the group boasts a World Accordion Champion and a brilliant operatic tenor. Quartetto Gelato has been featured on PBS Television and has won the honor of Best Classical Ensemble at Canada's 2010 Indie awards. In winning National Public

Radio's "NPR Performance Debut Artist of the Year," the group was celebrated as an ensemble that achieves the nearly impossible, mixing salon music with real style, and classical music with real precision; great chops and a commitment in all that they play.

The sheer variety of musical instruments on stage will impress any concertgoer: accordion, piano, bandoneon, oboe, violin, viola, cello, clarinet, English horn, five-string banjo, acoustic/electric bass, piano, saxophone, flute, guitar, mandolin and musical saw all make appearances in the show.

The group will also give a pre-concert talk at 6:15 p.m. the evening of the show, giving the public an opportunity to meet the members.

SEACOAST's sensational season of seven high-caliber performances wraps up Friday, May 15, at 7 p.m., when the Eugene Symphony returns to present a special Florence-only "Orchestra Showcase." This

unique, one-time concert will include the music of Barber, Haydn and Strauss, and features symphony principal cellist Anne Ridlington.

The symphony will host a pre-concert talk at 6:15 p.m.

Individual tickets for concerts are \$30 for adults and \$10 for those age 18 and under.

Tickets are available online at SEACOASTEA.org, at the Florence Events Center box office at 715 Quince Street, or by phone by calling 541-997-1994.



Quartetto gelato

FRAA art exhibit featured in Gallery One through April

The Florence Regional Arts Alliance (FRAA) will be exhibiting during the month of April at the Florence Events Center in Gallery One. A large variety of media and techniques will be on display, both on the gallery walls and in the display case. Photography, paintings, mixed media, jewelry, torn paper designs, encaustic, and scratch board are just a few examples of what the public will see in this eclectic display.

FRAA members support the organization's purpose of unifying and supporting all the arts, enriching cultural life, and stimulating economic vitality in the Florence area. One member whose work will be on display is Karen Nichols, who creates art in many media.

Her favorite is a unique three-dimensional style she calls Paper Painting Collage.

She uses fibrous rice paper, watercolors it to the desired tones then tears it into interesting shapes.

An art reception will be held for the public, as well as exhibiting artists, friends and family at FEC Gallery One on Saturday, April 18, from 5 to 7 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

Paper Painting Collage "Stars and Stripes Forever" by Karen Nichols.



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