

'Barrage' brings style, flair and energy to FEC stage

Barrage 8 Review

By VICKIE KENNEDY

The auditorium at the Florence Events Center was chilly on Wednesday night, April 26.

But, when Barrage 8 hit the stage, things warmed up quickly as Seacoast Entertainment Association delivered another amazing show.

Barrage 8 was ending a 50-concert tour right here in Florence. They saved the best until last. The group was organized 20 years ago by Dean Marshall. The musicians are all

college educated graduates. In their twenties, the members of Barrage 8 take this highly energetic performance on the road across the continent and around the world.

The members of Barrage 8 include Tim Kampen, cello; Ellie Krasner, violin; Kayleigh Moyer, drums and percussion; Eve Panning, violin; Kyle Pudenz, violin and guitars; Deena Rizkalla, violin; Kathryn Severing, viola; Natalie Wilson, violin; and Heran Yang, double bass.

This was a high energy concert. The group played and danced and sang all at the same time. Many of the pieces they played were written and arranged by Marshall.

Those pieces included

"Chopsticken," which had a definite Asian flavor, and "Mountain Spring," a calm, serene piece that featured Pudenz on guitar.

Another piece that showcased this multi-talented group was one of Marshall's creations, "Road to Russia;" with the lyrics sung in Russian. Everyone knew their part and put their whole soul into this song.

The band included some well-known pieces. "Classical Gas," written by the American classical guitarist Mason Williams, received wild applause. The synchronized stomping in this song was accentuated by Moyer on drums. Bruno Mars and Mark Ronson's "Uptown Funk" never

sounded better. The main instruments were their voices as they danced to that classic funk piece.

The second half of the program began with Pudenz showcasing his other stringed instruments. During the evening he played mandolin, electric guitar, and seven stringed electric violin which has a very deep voice. He played each instrument with great flair.

All of the musicians were highlighted in snippets of solos throughout the night. Panning was smooth as she tap danced across the stage. Both Kampen, cello and Yang, double bass were featured as soloists.

As Kampen played the theme song of The Flintstones, the audience roared. Then they

were pleasantly surprised by the other musicians dancing the can can at the end of the song.

Moyer is a premier percussionist, who loves her art. She spoke about beating and tapping on everything as she was growing up.

All the musicians played the spoons to Etienne's tune "La Salle de Classe" using every part of their bodies as the drum.

A favorite piece performed was, "Stand By Me," written by American singer and songwriter, Rachel Platten. The words to this song describe true friendship. At this emotional concert, it sounded like the musicians were singing to each other.

Towards the end, Marshall came down to the stage and

sagely quoted the English proverb, "All good things must come to an end," as he reiterated that this was the last concert for the group this year.

Marshall alluded to the fact that it may be one or two more years before auditions would be held again for Barrage 8. He hoped that they would be invited to back to Florence.

You have one more chance this season to catch one of Seacoast Entertainment Association's masterful musical productions.

The final performance will be Wednesday, May 24, when the Piano Caméléons take the stage at 7 p.m. at the Florence Events Center.

Call the FEC box office at 541-997-1994 for tickets.

Day of 'self-care' focus of spa event at Lake Woahink

Spoil your favorite mom and experience the healing power of nature with a luxurious afternoon of self-care, pampering and organic refreshments during Rose & Crown Apothecary's "Soak, Steam, Spritz & Smile" event on May 13 from 1 to 3:30 p.m. at the Woahink Meeting Hall.

"Our goal is to help you expand your knowledge of self-care to keep you and those you love healthy," said apothecary manager and co-founder Sarah Butte.

Self-care is different for

everybody. It's a conscious activity (or non-activity) that a person engages with intention to foster health and well-being.

Recently, self-care has become an increasingly important practice to help manage the reality of modern life, such as stress and toxic exposure.

"We look to the wisdom of nature for self-care," said apothecary co-founder & herbalist Patricia Immel. "Whether it's taking a walk in the fresh air, appreciating nature's healing abundance or pampering your body and soul

with beautiful botanicals."

Rose & Crown Apothecary's "Soak, Steam, Spritz & Smile" is a special event that elevates self-care to a spa afternoon party.

This celebration of self-care for women will feature many Rose & Crown specialty products to sample, use and enjoy.

Participants will also learn a gentle facial massage to promote relaxation and a mini-acupressure foot treatment.

This fun event also includes a 'Pop-Up Boutique', which will feature special gift-packing

and pricing. The boutique opens to the public between 3:30 to 5 p.m..

Attendees will need to bring one bath towel, one hand towel, one washcloth, one small tub for soaking both feet and one small-medium sized heat-resistant bowl.

The Rose & Crown Apothecary is an expansion of the Wellspring Clinic. It is a place to learn about herbs, medicine making and to enjoy a hand-selected variety of organic bulk herbs and teas.

This working apothecary

also specializes in custom tea blends and herbal consultations with Immel and Butte.

You'll also find handcrafted organic skin-care products and distinctive gift items.

At the heart of the apothecary are Immel and her daughter, Butte. Together, they create botanically-based products to enhance health, beauty and vitality.

Immel and Butte personally grow and carefully wildcraft many of the medicinal plants used in Rose & Crown products.

To reserve your space at this special event, call Rose & Crown Apothecary at 541-902-8860.

Cost is \$45 per person and \$40 for Rose & Crown Herb Society members.

The Rose and Crown Apothecary is located inside the Wellspring Clinic located at 1845 Highway 126 at Park Place, Suite H

For workshop information and to ask questions, please call the apothecary at 541-902-8860.

FRAA to host Rhody Days Art Festival

Florence Regional Art Alliance (FRAA) has announced that a new Rhody Days Arts Festival is going to be held for two days over Rhody Weekend at the Florence Events Center.

The art festival will take place Friday, May 19, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Saturday, May 20, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

This year's show and sale will be overflowing into the FEC lobby with unique works of art and fine craftsmanship by local and coastal artisans.

In the tradition of the Arts Festival, visitors will have the opportunity to experience the latest artistry in artistic genres of all types. Including glass works, textiles for the home, wearable art, a variety of jewelry treasures, paintings in various media, photography and more.

This is also an opportunity to meet the artisans who have crafted these works of art and watch live demonstrations from the artists.

Bring a friend, shop for some unique treasures and support the arts.

The show's participants will be donating 10 percent of their sales to support the FRAA Art Center, 120 Maple St. in Old Town.

Admission to the art festival is free.



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