



Music at Noon Notes

A publication for friends, supporters, and collaborators of the
Logan Music at Noon concert series at Penn State Erie
and Diehl Elementary School.

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The second half of our season begins this Thursday, February 7, with a performance by Darkwood Consort. They are truly a unique ensemble, and I believe we are in for a special treat when they present their creative mix of music and history this week.

Darkwood Consort Lights Up Lunch Hour

ERIE, Pa. – January 8, 2008 – Darkwood Consort, the world’s only touring viola and bass clarinet duo, brings an impressive repertoire spanning ten centuries of music to its February performance at Penn State Erie, The Behrend College.

Darkwood’s concert takes place at noon on Thursday, February 7, in the McGarvey Commons of the college’s Reed Union Building. The performance is sponsored by Music at Noon: The Logan Series, and admission is free to the public.

Drawing music from lands as exotic as Iceland, Greece, and Idaho, Darkwood Consort promises to “soothe the soul and invigorate the spirit while maintaining a fabulous sense of humor and living up to our educational mission of converting concert halls to classrooms and classrooms to concert halls.” The Boise-based duo cites Danish author Hans Christian Andersen as its inspiration for “transforming orchestral ugly ducklings into swans.”

Darkwood Consort is Aage Nielsen, one of a handful of bass clarinet specialists worldwide, and violist Jennifer Drake. After several years of “serious” study as an oboist, Nielsen gravitated back to his true voice, culminating in a recent performance at the first World Bass Clarinet Conference in The Netherlands. He has been the bass clarinetist with the Boise Philharmonic since 1988, and since 1998 with the internationally acclaimed Sun Valley Summer Symphony under the direction of Alasdair Neale.

Drake is principal violist with Boise Baroque and a section violist in the Boise Philharmonic. In addition, she maintains an active freelance schedule as a performer and adjudicator, and tours as a performer with her husband, Christian pop artist Chad Marvin.

We will also be joined this semester by the Aspen Ensemble, Thursday, March 6, and Percussion Group Cincinnati on Thursday, April 24. I hope that you will be able to join us each of these afternoons to share in the greatness of chamber music.

Cordially,
Gary

Please direct any comments or questions to:

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The Logan Series presents diverse, world-class chamber music in approachable, informal settings in order to cultivate new audiences for the arts among students at Penn State Erie and Diehl Elementary School and the Erie community. All artists on our series engage in educational residency activities, which are integrated into the curricula at both schools and considered of equal importance to the public performances.