

**Access to Art, Inc.**  
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**Cape May Court House, N.J. 08210**

**Press Release/for immediate release**  
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**ACCESS TO ART SUMMER CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL  
SCHEDULED FOR JULY/AUGUST/SEPTEMBER**

**Cape May Court House.** Access to Art will hold its 11<sup>th</sup> annual Sam Maitin Summer Chamber music festival in July, August and September this year featuring The Daedalus String Quartet, former winner of the Lincoln Center Chamber Music 2 residency during 2005-2007, winners of the 2001 International Banff String Quartet Competition, and winners of Carnegie Hall's ECHO award who will perform at the Cape on August 6<sup>th</sup>, the Borealis Wind Quintet, Duo Cantigua, and the Mondrian Ensemble with classical pianist, Aurelia Mika Chang, Philadelphia Orchestra strings, and Michael Ludwig, former associate concert master of the Philadelphia Orchestra, currently concertmaster of the Buffalo Philharmonic. The series will span the summer and early Fall season.



Daedalus String Quartet

The festival's first concert at 8 p.m. will open on July 19<sup>th</sup> in Stone Harbor at St. Paul's R.C. Church parish hall at 9910 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. featuring Duo Cantiga with classical guitarist, Christopher Kenniff and Katherine Harris, soprano. They will perform music for voice and guitar from Elizabethan England, Spain, Germany and the United States including baroque arias from Giovanni Paisello (1740-1816), Allesandro Scarlatti (1660-1725) and George Friederich Handel (1685-1749).

They will also perform a work composed for Cantiga Duo in 2008 written by Matthew Halper called Amin Z'mirot. Lute songs by John Dowland (1523-1626), Spanish Art Songs by Enrique Granados (1867-1916) and Joaquin Valverde (1846-1910), Seguidillas by Fernando Sor (1778-1839) and German Folksongs by Johannes Brahms (1833-1897) will be performed. The evening will finish with Four French Folksongs by Matyas Seiber (1905-1960).

Christopher Kenniff, and Katherine Harris are concert artist faculty at Kean University; Kenniff is the Director, of the ASTA Chamber Music Institute 2008. He has performed for Access to Art's summer chamber music festival as a soloist, and also with Brett

Deubner, violist as Duo Fresco. This is the first time he and Katherine Harris will perform in Cape May County together, although Christopher has performed here often. Enjoying a reputation for her “magnificently rich, controlled soprano” and hailed as “a promising new talent” by the New York Times, Katherine Harris has received praise in a variety of operatic and concert roles. She has been heard in roles such as Amelia in *Un Ballo in Maschera* by Verdi, Mena in Verdi’s *Aroldo*, Gulnara in *Il Corsaro*, Mini in *La Boheme*, Cio-cio San in *Madame Butterfly*, Aldalgisa in *Norma*, Alice Ford in *Falstaff*, among others. She has performed frequently as a soloist with the Brooklyn Philharmonic, the Prague Radio Symphony, St. Petersburg Philharmonic, the Symphony Orchestra of New Haven, etc. She made a solo debut at Carnegie Hall in March ’04 with the Oratorio Society of NY in Mozart’s *Requiem* and Haydn’s *Mass in Time of War* and she toured the Czech Republic and Russia singing solos from Dvorak’s *Stabat Mater*.

A native of Wilmington, Delaware, Ms. Harris pursued vocal studies at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music and Yale University and took part in young artist training programs at the San Francisco Opera Company.

Christopher Kenniff, classical guitarist, first in his class at Southern Methodist University where he holds BM and MM degrees Magna cum Laude, holds an Artist Diploma from Indiana University is a critically acclaimed recitalist and chamber musician who performs throughout the New York metropolitan area and abroad. He was awarded first prize at the Councour de Guitarre (Quebec, Candada,) the Music Teachers National Association Competition and the National Federation of Music clubs Biannual Competition. He was also the winner of the Dallas Classical Guitar Society’s Young Artists Auditions and a prizewinner in the American String Teacher’s Competition. Upon his graduation from SMU, he was awarded the Dallas Music Teacher’s Award which “is presented to an outstanding undergraduate or graduate performer upon graduation from Southern Methodist University.”

The Newark Star Ledger has described him as “a young player with a lush, liquid tone, remarkable clean fingering and a nicely varied touch.” Mr. Kenniff performs frequently with violist Brett Deubner in Duo Fresco and with soprano Katherine Harris in *Cantiga Duo*. Mr. Kenniff is featured in the NJN cable network’s documentary “Morris at the Millennium,” and was appointed to the New Jersey State Council on the Arts Artist in Residence Roster as well as the roster of Music for All Seasons, a non-profit organization that presents live, professional musical programs in all times of facilities where people would not otherwise have access to live music. He has premiered works by composers Samuel Adler, Emma Lou Diemer, Max Simoncic, John Sichel, Matthew Halper, Victor Kioulaphides, Jose Lezcano, Frank Ezra Levy, Sergio Parotu, Paul Mack Somers and Raymond Wojek. Mr Kenniff has performed at the Juneau Jazz and Classics Festival, Juneau Alaska, the Chatauqua Festival, Chatauqua NY, the Bowdoin Festival (New Brunswick, ME), The Crossroads of Tradition Festival (Bloomington, Ind.) and the Access to Art Chamber Music Festival in Cape May.

For additional information on dates and locations, call Access to Art, Inc. at (609) 465-3963. Access to Art’s summer chamber music series is partially funded by the Sacramento Family Foundation, Kyriapolis Tsakapolis Fund of California. Tickets are

\$20. per concert, \$15. students and seniors. The second concert, Wed., August 6<sup>th</sup> will feature the Daedalus String Quartet, former winners of the Bannf International String Quartet Competition, the Lincoln Center Chamber Music 2 Residency, and the ECHO award from Carnegie Hall. **-30-**