

THURSDAY

JUNE 19, 2008

POETRY & PASTRIES

9 a.m., Arcola Mills
Free

Join Cynthia Gustavson for engaging conversation and fantastic poetry by the side of the St. Croix River, continuing one of the festival's best-loved traditions. With its natural beauty and breathtaking river views, Arcola Mills is equally well suited for deep philosophical discussions or easygoing chats. Either way, the conversation's course will be determined by its participants. Breakfast pastries and coffee will be provided.

MEET THE MIRÓ QUARTET

10 a.m., Boutwells Landing
Free

Get a sneak peek at the dynamic and versatile Miró Quartet in this free performance at Boutwells Landing. The string quartet will play an abbreviated musical program, and following their performance the artists will field questions from the audience.

WALKING TOUR: ARCOLA MILLS

10 a.m., Arcola Mills
Free

Experience the present-day beauty of Arcola Mills' St. Croix riverfront setting while hearing tales of its richly storied past on this guided walking tour on Arcola's woodland trails and historic Greek Revival mansion. Comfortable walking shoes are recommended. The route will be tailored to accommodate the abilities and interests of those present.

ADVANCED POETRY WORKSHOP WITH MARIE HOWE

10:15 a.m., Arcola Mills
\$50 , \$50 (students)

Serious poetry students have the chance to learn from one of the country's most respected poets and teachers in this intimate three-hour workshop, set amid the natural beauty of Arcola Mills. Space is limited, so reserve your place early. A box lunch will be provided.

TALK: EXPLORING SLAM POETRY

3:30 p.m., Ruby Begonia's
Free

Whether you are a longtime fan of performance poetry, a potential participant in the late-night poetry slam, or just someone wondering what all the fuss is about, there is no better guide than Roger Bonair-Agard. In this informal talk, the former national champion slam poet will discuss what it means to be a slam poet, how that relates to the written word, and where the art form fits in to poetry's long tradition as a performance art.

SIPS & SOUNDS: CONVERSATIONS ABOUT MUSIC

5 p.m., Ruby Begonia's
Free

Grab a drink, pull up a chair, and join fellow art lovers for an informal discussion of music and everything that flows from it. Those leading the discussion will provide plenty of food for thought, but that shouldn't stop you from ordering something to munch on, if you're feeling peckish.

OPENING NIGHT: THE MIRÓ QUARTET

7:30 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church
\$18 , \$12 (students)

The award-winning Miró Quartet kicks off the festival's evening performances with a diverse and inspiring program that explores the ideas of loss, hope, and transformation as expressed in powerful works by Felix Mendelssohn, Charles Ives, and Twin Cities composer Brent Michael Davids.

WHITE PINE POETRY SLAM

10 p.m., Ruby Begonia's
Free

Extend your White Pine Festival experience well into the evening by joining Roger Bonair-Agard for a late-night slam poetry exhibition that promises to be as fun as it is funky. Last year's energetic slam was one of the festival's highlights, and this year's should be every bit as exciting.

FRIDAY

JUNE 20, 2008

POETRY & PASTRIES

9 a.m., Arcola Mills

Free

Join Cynthia Gustavson for engaging conversation and fantastic poetry by the side of the St. Croix River, continuing one of the festival's best-loved traditions. With its natural beauty and breathtaking river views, Arcola Mills is equally well suited for deep philosophical discussions or easygoing chats. Either way, the conversation's course will be determined by its participants. Breakfast pastries and coffee will be provided.

WALKING TOUR: ARCOLA MILLS

10 a.m., Arcola Mills

Free

Experience the present-day beauty of Arcola Mills' St. Croix riverfront setting while hearing tales of its richly storied past on this guided walking tour on Arcola's woodland trails and historic Greek Revival mansion. Comfortable walking shoes are recommended. The route will be tailored to accommodate the abilities and interests of those present.

PAINTING THE ST. CROIX WITH KAMI POLZIN

10:15 a.m., Arcola Mills

\$20 , \$20 (students)

See how master oil painter Kami Polzin captures the beauty and vitality of the St. Croix River. The Stillwater native has earned a national reputation for her lush landscapes and vivid still lifes. She takes special joy in painting outdoors, en plein air, and has taught several workshops on the subject. In this intimate event, she will describe her artistic process as she paints the St. Croix River, one of her favorite subjects, from the Arcola Mills shoreline. By the end of this three-hour demonstration, she will have a completed work. A box lunch will be provided. (In case of rain, the demonstration will be moved indoors.)

STRING QUARTET MASTER CLASS

2 p.m., Croixdale
Free

Get a better sense for how professional musicians approach their craft and see some of the region's most promising musicians when the Miró Quartet instructs local quartets in the art of ensemble playing.

TALK: THE ART OF CHARTRES CATHEDRAL

2 p.m., Ascension Episcopal Church
Free

Internationally known organist Lynne Davis will take attendees on a virtual tour of France's Chartres Cathedral, describing the structure's awe-inspiring artwork, particularly its magnificent stained glass windows. Having spent the majority of her professional life studying and teaching in and around Paris, Davis knows the building and its artistic gems well. Those interested in learning more about local stained-glass standouts should plan to stay for the guided tour following this talk.

TOUR: THE STAINED GLASS OF STILLWATER

3 p.m., Ascension Episcopal Church
Free

One doesn't need to travel far to find fantastic stained glass, and this guided tour will show participants a handful of Stillwater's finest examples. The tour starts at Ascension Episcopal Church, which boasts a collection of incredible Tiffany windows, before making its way to the Church of St. Michael and First Presbyterian Church. Some walking is involved, but participants will drive from site to site. Maps will be provided.

SIPS & SOUNDS: CONVERSATIONS ABOUT MUSIC

5 p.m., Twisted Grille
Free

Jazz trumpeter Charles Lazarus will discuss the art of improvisation in this informal chat, illustrating his point with a mix of music and stories. Questions are not only allowed but encouraged in this highly conversational event, which will give its participants additional insight into the late-night collaboration that will follow later in the evening.

**AN EVENING WITH MARIE HOWE
& ROGER BONAIR-AGARD**

7:30 p.m., The Phipps Center for the Arts
\$10 , \$5 (students)

Two of the nation's finest poets share the stage in this feature event. Roger Bonair-Agard is best known for his commanding stage presence and poignant reflections on identity and home, while Howe's writing finds the profound in the mundane and celebrates the collected moments that make up everyday life. Loss is another major theme in Howe's work, which is equal parts happy and haunting — as accessible as it is astonishing.

**RHYMES & RIFFS:
ROGER BONAIR-AGARD & CHARLES LAZARUS**

10 p.m., Twisted Grille
Free

After the reading, head down the street to the Twisted Bar & Grille to see another side of Roger Bonair-Agard when he teams up with jazz trumpeter Charles Lazarus to trade lines and licks in what will surely be one of the festival's most lively and unique performances.

SATURDAY

JUNE 21, 2008

POETRY & PASTRIES

9 a.m., Arcola Mills, Free

Join Cynthia Gustavson for engaging conversation and fantastic poetry by the side of the St. Croix River, continuing one of the festival's best-loved traditions. With its natural beauty and breathtaking river views, Arcola Mills is equally well suited for deep philosophical discussions or easygoing chats. Either way, the conversation's course will be determined by its participants. Breakfast pastries and coffee will be provided.

TALK: THE ART OF FLY FISHING

10 a.m., Lakefront Park, Free

See a different side of renowned keyboardist Skip James when he explains the art of fly fishing in this riverside talk. Skip will give an explanation of flies based upon entomology of the local streams, a description of tackle, and a demonstration of casting techniques. No previous fishing experience or equipment is necessary.

POETRY WRITING WORKSHOP (TEENS)

10:15 a.m., Arcola Mills

\$10 , \$10 (students)

Teen poets of all experience levels are invited to learn from Roger Bonair-Agard in this two-hour workshop. A gifted teacher, Bonair-Agard has made it a priority to help young poets develop their art. When not writing or performing his own poetry, Bonair-Agard works with several writing centers in New York City, including Urban Word NYC, a writing and performance resource center for teens, where he is a writing instructor and teacher trainer.

LYNNE DAVIS IN CONCERT

1 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church

\$10 , \$5 (students)

Keyboard lovers won't want to miss the chance to see world-renowned organist Lynne Davis put Trinity Lutheran Church's Schantz pipe organ through its paces. Her program includes compositions by Louis Vierne, César Franck, Nicolas de Grigny, Johann Sebastian Bach, Henri Mulet, Jehan Alain, and Charles-Marie Widor.

JOHN RUNK PHOTO CONTEST AWARDS CEREMONY

2:30 p.m., Stillwater Public Library, Free

Come see the winners of the Stillwater Public Library's John Runk Photo Contest, which celebrates one of the St. Croix Valley's most prolific photographers and photo collectors. Winners were chosen by a panel of local photographers in two age divisions and several categories: architecture, people at work and play, landscape, transportation, and historic photos.

POEMS WITH FEELINGS:

A CONVERSATION WITH MARIE HOWE

3:30 p.m., Stillwater Public Library, Free

Though Marie Howe is highly regarded in literary circles, she believes the best poetry is that which comes from the heart, which is why she has chosen to discuss several "poems with feelings" in this moving event. "Poetry belongs to us; it has always belonged to us, the people, not the academics. They stole it for a while but it is not theirs," Howe explains. "Poetry is what we make to express the feelings of the human tribe.... It is the story of being alive."

SIPS & SOUNDS: CONVERSATIONS ABOUT MUSIC

5 p.m., Cesare's Wine Bar, Free

Grab a drink, pull up a chair, and join fellow art lovers for an informal discussion of music and everything that flows from it. Those leading the discussion will provide plenty of food for thought, but that shouldn't stop you from ordering something to munch on, if you're feeling peckish.

COLLABORATIVE PERFORMANCE:

MIRÓ QUARTET & MARIE HOWE

7:30 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church

\$18 , \$12 (students)

Marie Howe and the Miró Quartet will approach common themes from different artistic perspectives when they merge words and music in this innovative performance. With its passion, vitality and interdisciplinary spirit, this unique and exciting event embodies the White Pine Festival vision of collaboration, and it is sure to be a must-see performance for all art lovers.

WHITE PINE ON THE PATIO

10 p.m., Stillwater Public Library
Free

Celebrate the White Pine Festival's second year by joining festival organizers, artists, and audience members at a free reception on the Stillwater Public Library Terrace, which offers a commanding view of downtown Stillwater and the St. Croix River beyond. Hors d'oeuvres will be served and refreshments will be available for purchase. Musical entertainment will be provided by members of the St. Croix Jazz Orchestra, and Roger Bonair-Agard will host a special late-night event in the Margaret Rivers Room starting at 10 p.m.

SUNDAY

JUNE 22, 2008

POETRY READING: CYNTHIA GUSTAVSON COMES HOME

11 a.m., Belwin, Free

A St. Croix Valley native, Cynthia Gustavson has a special connection to the region that comes through in her writing, much of which touches on themes of nature and personal reflection. Her ties to Belwin are particularly strong, having literally grown up on land that has since become part of the conservation and environmental education center. In this very personal setting, Cynthia plans to read works about her childhood, some of which were inspired by her participation in last year's festival.

WALKING TOUR: THE BEAUTY OF BELWIN

noon, Belwin, Free

Following Cynthia Gustavson's reading, Belwin staff will lead guided nature walks throughout the 1,300-acre conservation and environmental education center, which will remain open for exploration and enjoyment until 5 p.m. The expansive property features woods, wetlands, remnant and restored tallgrass prairies, goat prairies, oak savannas, spring-fed cold water streams, marshes, floating bogs, potholes, oak and maple/basswood forests and farmland being restored to prairie.

ACTIVITY: ART CAN COME FROM ANYWHERE

noon, Lakefront Park, Free

Everyone's an artist at this innovative activity presented by The Phipps Center for the Arts. Participants will transform recycled materials into an imaginative project that they will be encouraged to carry in the parade for the Phipps' 25th anniversary celebration on July 19. People of all ages are welcome, and families can work together. Musical inspiration will be provided by the River Falls Brass, which will perform nearby.

MUSIC IN THE PARK WITH THE RIVER FALLS BRASS

12:30 p.m., Lakefront Park, Free

Grab a picnic blanket and head to the Hudson bandshell for a family-friendly lunchtime performance of the River Falls Brass, a quintet composed of faculty from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. The free concert will feature many familiar favorites, and no one will hold it against you if you — or your five-year-old — sing along with the ones you know.

STUDENT POETRY READING

1:45 p.m., The Phipps Center for the Arts

Free

Selected students from Hudson area schools will be invited to share their writing at a special reading and reception at The Phipps Center for the Arts' third-floor River Room. Come to see the kids perform, then stay to admire the center's impressive view of the St. Croix River.

WALKING TOUR: HISTORIC HUDSON

2 p.m., Lakefront Park

Free

Join guides from the St. Croix County Historical Society for a tour of Hudson's historic neighborhoods and picturesque downtown. The tour will depart from the Lakefront Park picnic shelter and end at the unique and charming Octagon House on Third Street, about a half mile away.

CLOSING CONCERT: SKIP JAMES & FRIENDS

4 p.m., Ascension Episcopal Church

\$18 , \$12 (students)

The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra's internationally known harpsichordist Skip James returns to the festival to present a magnificent program of Bach favorites along with two of his friends and SPCO colleagues, violinist Daria Adams and flautist Julia Bogorad-Kogan, who will join him for two duets. For the finale, James will perform Bach's notoriously challenging Goldberg Variations on the harpsichord, giving listeners the rare chance to hear them played live and on the instrument for which they were originally written.

CONCLUDING RECEPTION

6 p.m., Venue TBD

What better way to finish your 2008 White Pine Festival experience than with a bit of bread and a celebratory glass of wine with festival artists and organizers. And if you've got an idea for something you'd like to see at the 2009 festival, there's no better time to bring it up....