



## News Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### *Chagrin Arts announces its 2011 Winter Series*

**November 1, 2010** - *Chagrin Arts* is pleased to announce the 2011 Winter Series, which will bring nationally recognized performers to Chagrin Falls for programs of dance, music, and theater. Featured performers include the classic and contemporary big band sounds of the Cleveland Jazz Orchestra, Inlet Dance – one of the region’s most exciting professional dance companies, a multi-media performance by The Musical Theater Project, and critically-acclaimed Apollo’s Fire, which will mark its fourth performance in Chagrin Falls.

The *Chagrin Arts 2011 Winter Series* features a variety of programs, highlighting celebrated genres of the performing arts: Jazz, Modern Dance, Musical Theater, and Classical Music.

The complete schedule for the *Chagrin Arts 2011 Winter Series* is as follows:

#### **Cleveland Jazz Orchestra**

**Saturday, January 29, 2011 – 7:30 PM**

**Federated Church, 76 Bell Street, Chagrin Falls**

**\$28/preferred seating; \$20/general; \$5/students**

Performing big band jazz for more than 25 years with legends such as Arturo Sandoval, Tony Bennett and Mel Torme, the Cleveland Jazz Orchestra kicks off the Chagrin Arts winter series. Associate Director Paul Ferguson, Director of Jazz Studies at Case Western, will conduct the lively program which will combine tributes to jazz virtuosos like Duke Ellington and the work of contemporary masters.

For 26 years, The Cleveland Jazz Orchestra has been Northeast Ohio's premier jazz voice. Under Artistic Direction of Sean Jones, the CJO promotes jazz, in its historical and contemporary forms, through concerts with gifted jazz musicians, arrangers, composers and educators in northeast Ohio. The CJO aims for worldwide recognition in cooperation with guest artists, and looks to shepherd young musicians toward the future of jazz.

This program will be conducted by Associate Director Paul Ferguson. Paul is Director of Jazz Studies at Case Western Reserve University, a position he has held since 1988. As a trombonist, Paul has toured with the Glenn Miller and Tommy Dorsey Orchestras and currently performs and writes arrangements for the Cleveland Jazz Orchestra and the Cleveland Pops. Active as a composer, Paul is the recipient of the 1995 Gil Evans Fellowship in jazz composition and has three CDs featuring his compositions—“Blue

Highways," recorded with Jiggs Whigham and the Berlin Radio Jazz Orchestra, "Friends," and "Live At The Bop Stop" recorded with his own band. Paul is also Director of the Settlement Jazz Orchestra, a high school all star band sponsored by the CJO. He has a B.M. from the University of Akron and an M.M. from the Eastman School of Music. Paul recently was named Associate Artistic Director of the Cleveland Jazz Orchestra.

### **Inlet Dance Theatre**

**Sunday, February 27, 2011 – 3PM**

**Performing Arts Center, Chagrin Falls High School, 400 East Washington Street, Chagrin Falls, OH**

**\$28/preferred seating; \$20/general; \$5/students**

Inlet Dance makes its Chagrin Falls debut with an inspiring program for the entire family choreographed by Artistic Director/Founder Bill Wade. Now celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Inlet embodies his longstanding belief that dance viewing, training and performing experiences serve as tools to bring about personal growth and development. Dedicated to performing with a high level of quality, skill, innovation and purpose, Inlet utilizes the art form of dance to bring about personal development in the lives of individuals through training and mentoring, and to speak creatively about life and the issues we all face.

Inlet Dance Theatre's impact has grown locally to internationally. The company's concerts, special events, Inflow and Outflow education programs began as local initiatives and now reach regional and international markets. Inlet's diverse base of work includes concerts such as part of Cleveland Public Theatre's DanceWorks series and international exchanges to Easter Island (a commonwealth of Chile). Inlet's education programming includes teaching dance in its home studio, attracting students from as far away as Central America to its Summer Dance Intensive, and conducting residencies throughout Ohio as part of the Ohio Arts Council's Artist in Residence Program.

Artistic Director and Founder Bill Wade (a Chagrin Falls resident) formerly worked as an artist in residence for the Cleveland School of the Arts (CSA) where he founded the nationally-recognized and awarded after school program the YARD – Youth At Risk Dancing. He received the Coming Up Taller Award at the White House by the National Endowment for the Arts and the President's Committee for the Arts and Humanities. Prior his eleven year CSA residency, Wade served as an Artistic Director and dancer with Footpath Dance Company. Wade's work also includes collaborations with STOMP, Major League Baseball, Sea World of Ohio and the 1992 Winter Olympic Games and has been recognized both regionally and nationally on television, radio, magazines and newspapers.

### **The Musical Theater Project: The Making of My Fair Lady**

**Sunday, March 6, 2011 – 3PM**

**Performing Arts Center, Chagrin Falls High School, 400 East Washington Street, Chagrin Falls, OH**

**\$28/preferred seating; \$20/general; \$5/students**

Broadcaster, Educator, and Chautauqua-in-Chagrin featured speaker Bill Rudman returns to Chagrin Falls with The Musical Theater Project presenting a multi-media performance of the unknown story behind the making of a Broadway legend whose hit score includes "I Could Have Danced All Night," "On the Street Where You Live," and "Get Me to the Church on Time." Hosted by Bill Rudman and Nancy Maier with vocalists Joan Ellison, Jared Leal, Fabio Polanco and George Roth, this performance explores one of the most famous musicals of all time, *My Fair Lady*, and the truly remarkable story behind its creation.

The Musical Theater Project documents and celebrates more than 100 years of America's cultural history tied to musicals in a seamless blend of entertainment and education. Founded in 2000, TMTP produces concerts, in-school residency programs, radio programming and recordings that create personal connections with the songs, characters and themes of the American musical, document the lives of important American musical theater artists, explore the connections between the musical and the rich diversity of the American experience, and examine the relevance of musical theater in contemporary society.

Bill Rudman, founder of The Musical Theater Project, is an educator, a broadcaster, and producer. As TMTP's Artistic Director, he has created more than 40 concerts and cabarets that celebrate and share musical theater as a uniquely American art form. His radio programs, "Footlight Parade" and "On the Aisle," are heard across the country on public radio stations, Public Radio Exchange (prx.org) and Sirius XM Satellite Radio. In 1983, he and New York author Ken Bloom co-founded Harbinger Records, a label that has won critical praise for albums devoted to the American musical and the Great American Songbook. In 2000 he became the first recipient of the Robert Bergman Award for his work in arts education and community outreach.

**Apollo's Fire: Bach, Telemann & the Bohemian Gypsies**

**Wednesday, April 13, 2011 – 7:30 PM**

**Federated Church, 76 Bell Street, Chagrin Falls**

**\$55-21; \$10/students**

Renowned as a "superb ensemble that pairs vigor with finesse, enlisting period instruments to play baroque fare in a rigorously informed style," Apollo's Fire concludes the *Chagrin Arts Winter Series* with a unique program highlighting the music from the Gypsy tradition, a vibrant part of the local color in Germany and Poland. Featuring Artistic Director Jeannette Sorrell on harpsichord, Kathie Stewart on flauto traverso, and German recorder virtuoso Matthias Maute, this performance boldly juxtaposes reconstructed gypsy pieces with the Bach and Telemann concertos believed to influence the music tradition.

Taking its name from the classical god of music and the sun, Apollo's Fire is dedicated to the performance of 17th- and 18th-century music on the period instruments for which it was written. Music Director Jeannette Sorrell gathers a select pool of dynamic and creative early-music artists from throughout North America and Europe. The ensemble has been praised internationally for stylistic freshness and buoyancy, animated spontaneity, technical excellence, and for the creativity of Sorrell's programming.

Hailed as a leading voice in the new generation of early music conductors, Jeannette Sorrell is an award winning orchestral conductor and early music performer. As a conductor, she studied at the Tanglewood Music Festival under Roger Norrington and Leonard Bernstein and served as a conducting fellow at the Aspen Music Festival. As a harpsichordist, she studied with Gustav Leonhardt in Amsterdam, and took First Prize and the Audience Choice Award in the 1991 Spivey International Harpsichord Competition. In 1992 she was a finalist for the Assistant Conductor post with the Cleveland Orchestra, which led to the founding of Apollo's Fire; since then she has enjoyed a busy career touring and recording with this ensemble. Ms. Sorrell is the winner of the 1994 Erwin Bodky Award in early music, the 1995 Noah Greenberg Award from the American Musicological Society, the Cleveland Arts Prize, and a special citation from the Mayor of Cleveland. She holds an honorary doctorate from Case Western University and an Artist Diploma from Oberlin Conservatory.

*To Purchase Tickets*

Tickets for the *Chagrin Arts Winter Series* will be on sale beginning November 1, 2011. A 15% discount is being offered to those purchasing one or more tickets to all four performances in the series. Tickets may be purchased through the Chagrin Valley Little Theatre box office, 440-247-8955, or online at [www.chagrinfoundation.org](http://www.chagrinfoundation.org).

*About Chagrin Arts*

*Chagrin Arts*, created to enrich lives and promote economic well-being in the Chagrin Valley and Northeast Ohio, collaborates with local, regional, and national organizations to present inspiring programs that raise the profile of Chagrin Falls as a highly regarded destination for arts and culture. The organizations most visible programs are its summer *Chautauqua-in-Chagrin* evenings, its *Chagrin Arts Winter Series*, and its annual *Fire Up!* benefit.

*To Obtain Additional Information*

For more information about the *Chagrin Arts* series, or to schedule an interview with the performers, call *Chagrin Arts* at 440-247-9700.

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**Photos:**