

From: **Coastal Concerts**
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Coastal Concerts Inaugurates New Series for 2019-2020

Trio Caliente to Perform Free Concert in Georgetown on October 4

Coastal Concerts announces free concerts by Latin-fusion group Trio Caliente on Friday, Oct. 4 as part of a program offering music to diverse Sussex County communities.

Trio Caliente of Bethesda, Md., performs all-original Latin-fusion music that has captivated audiences around the globe. The trio will perform two concerts on October 4 – the first will be held at 2 p.m. for students and teachers at H.O. Brittingham Elementary School in Milton. The second concert, free to the public, begins at 7:30 p.m. at Georgetown Middle School, 301 W. Market St., Georgetown. Doors open at 7 p.m.

Richard Scalenghe, board president of Coastal Concerts, said the Trio Caliente events are possible through a grant from the Longwood Foundation. “We are proud to announce that late last year Coastal Concerts was awarded a generous grant by the Longwood Foundation to support our outreach,” he said. “This grant allows us to share our passion for western classical music and expand our offerings to include music and arts from the communities we are partnering with.”

The Trio Caliente concerts are just the beginning for the new RAVE 2 Series (Rising Artist Venue Expansion), Scalenghe said. “Over the next three seasons, we will be collaborating with organizations that work within diverse communities in Sussex County and will offer at least six events that will include a broad range of musical genres and dance,” Scalenghe said.

Trio features Miguel Bard and Damon Foreman on guitars and vocals, as well as vocalist/percussionist Deborah “Belladonna” Benner. The trio apply their classical backgrounds to their Latin-fusion repertoire.

About the Musicians

MICHAEL BARD, guitarist, pianist, composer, and educator, has performed with musical ensembles in concert venues across 5 continents, before dignitaries and royalty. His classical guitar expertise makes him sought-after as an orchestral soloist, while his Flamenco, Rock, and Pop stylings make him in-demand for studio and session work of all kinds. Michael has served as a musical Ambassador of Goodwill on multiple tours for the U.S. Department of State and is also an accredited guitarist in the ground-breaking “Medical Musician Initiative” at the National Institutes of Health, established at the Berkshire Medical Center in Massachusetts.

Fun Facts: Michael is also an incredible magician. At any moment, expect to see flames flying from his guitar strings!

DAMON FOREMAN is an award-winning recording artist, educator and music producer. He has toured internationally with many high-profile artists, including: The Commodores, Wynton Marsalis, Gladys Knight, Mary Wilson, Jimmy Heath, George Clinton and Ashford and Simpson. Damon has performed internationally at many jazz festivals, including Montreux, Newport, Montreal, Paris, among others. You’ve seen him locally at Blues Alley, The Lincoln Theatre, and The Kennedy Center. Playing all guitar styles, from soul to pop, jazz to R&B, Damon brings the funk to Trio Caliente’s unique Latin sound, igniting joy on the dance floor! Damon’s original compositions (with a catalogue of six CD releases) are featured in film and on TV. A recording engineer and studio-owner (DF Studios) as well, Damon produced Lisa Bellamy for Sire Records (Warner Brothers). He mentors and develops rising young talent at his own music academy, DFMA.

Fun Facts: After Jazz Studies at Rutgers University, this brainy musician secured a degree in engineering! Damon loves pancakes, kick-boxing, and Sci-Fi.

DEBORAH BENNER is the lead singer with Trio Caliente. She is also a professional actress seen in Netflix’s “House of Cards” and voice-over artist heard on hundreds of commercials and in narrations of shows on the Discovery Channel and Nat Geo. Deborah is an award-winning vocalist, composer and educator, with accolades ranging from stage to screen. Her music is inspired by diverse influences ranging from her earliest impressions of familial Puerto Rican salsa roots to the R&B and Rock power of vocal greats, Aretha Franklin and Tina Turner, to the beauty of Brazilian Bossa Nova and Samba, to her study of cante flamenco in San Lucar, Spain.

Fun Facts: Deborah loves Pilates and running with her dog, Banjo. She performed as a classical soloist at Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris at age 16.

The Washington Post told audiences to prepare to “be seduced by [Trio Caliente’s] blend of fiery guitar work ... rumba beats ... flamenco-tinted guitar flourishes and romantic ballads ... evocative vocals ... shimmering guitars ...” in their performance of classic Latin music across multiple genres, generations and styles.

“Trio Caliente’s music is incredibly captivating and original,” Scalenghe said. “This group offers talent, modesty and warmth from the heart.”

Coastal Concerts is a nonprofit organization committed to promoting classical music appreciation by presenting world-class musicians in live concerts, outreach and educational activities. Its programs are made possible in part by a grant from the Delaware Division of the Arts in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts.