

From: **Coastal Concerts**
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tom Gallant & Tesla Quartet in 100th Coastal Concert

Performance Insights talk to precede Jan. 18 concert

On Saturday, January 18, 2020, Oboist Thomas Gallant and the Tesla String Quartet will perform the 100th concert in Coastal Concerts' 21 years of bringing world class music to Southern Delaware. The concert will take place at 2 p.m. in the Bethel United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 4th & Market Streets, Lewes, DE.

The concert will be preceded at 1 p.m. by a 30 minute presentation of Performance Insights by Lani Spahr, professional oboist and bagpiper, internationally acclaimed audio remastering engineer, and CoCo board member who, employing audio and visual elements, will examine and illuminate the detail and nuances embedded in the music.

Immediately following the Gallant/Tesla concert will be a reception to celebrate the first hundred Coastal Concerts. Audience members who wish to participate will be joined by the performers. Refreshments will be served.

In addition to the concert on the 18th, Tom Gallant and the Tesla Quartet will conduct an outreach event for the music students of Mariner Middle School and their parents and teachers. This special, interactive musical event will take place at 12:50 p.m. on Friday, January 17, at the school, which is located at 16391 Harbeson Road, Milton, DE.

Thomas Gallant is one of the world's few virtuoso solo and chamber music oboists. The oboe, considered by many to be the most difficult of all the musical instruments, is often called the "ill wind that no one blows good," elevating to particularly high praise The New Yorker magazine's characterization of Gallant as "a player who unites technical mastery with intentness, charm and wit." He is a First Prize Winner of the Concert Artists Guild International New York Competition and one of very few musicians ever to win this competition as an oboe soloist.

In addition to his stellar performance career, Mr. Gallant has been a managing agent for numerous classical musicians and groups, playing a signal role in Coastal Concerts' inaugural season of 2000 as the first agent CoCo worked with when he was representing the Chicago String Quartet who performed in October of that season.

Equally renown, the **Tesla String Quartet** is praised for their "superb capacity to find the inner heart of everything they play, regardless of era, style or technical demand" (The International Review of Music). Tesla Quartet is dubbed "technically superb" by The Strad, and, in 2016, took Second Prize as well as the Haydn Prize and Canadian Commission Prize at the 12th Banff International String Quartet Competition.

The Tesla Quartet, Ross Snyder, violin, Michelle Lie, violin, Edwin Kaplan, Viola, and Serafim Smigelskiy, cello, was formed at the Juilliard School in 2008 and quickly established itself as one

of the most promising young ensembles in New York, winning Second Prize at the J.C. Arriaga Chamber Music Competition only a few months after its formation.

The **Program** that the group has put together for this concert is extraordinary:

- Luigi Boccherini's *Oboe Quintet No. 17 in E-flat Major, Op. 55, No. 5*;
 - Edward Elgar's *Andante and Allegro for Solo Oboe and String Trio*;
 - Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's *Oboe Quartet in F Major, K. 370*;
- INTERMISSION
- Ludwig van Beethoven's *String Quartet No. 8 in E Minor*.

General Seating tickets are still available for \$35 online at www.coastalconcerts.org or at the door the day of the concert. Coastal Concerts offers free admission to ages 18 and under and one accompanying adult. Reservations are required and may be obtained by calling 888-212-6458. Discounted \$10 admission is available at the door for students 19 and older and for active duty military, military veterans and first responders. Valid IDs are required.

The engagement of Tom Gallant and the Tesla String Quartet is made possible through the Special Presenters Initiative of the Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation with support from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Delaware Division of the Arts.

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