



## NEWS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 23, 2012

**WHAT:** The Knights (Chamber Orchestra)  
**WHEN:** Thursday, April 19, 7:30 P.M.  
**WHERE:** Fine Arts Center Concert Hall  
University of Massachusetts Amherst  
**TICKETS:** Call 1-800-999-UMAS or 545-2511 for tickets or go online to  
<http://www.fineartscenter.com/>  
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#### THE KNIGHTS DISPLAY THEIR INNOVATIVE, COLLABORATIVE STYLE WITH A WIDE-RANGING ORCHESTRAL PROGRAM AT THE FAC'S CONCERT HALL

*"Talent for punctuating classics with surprises.... [T]his ensemble... is based on  
balancing new and unusual works with the most basic canonic classics."*

–The New York Times

The Knights are a fellowship of adventurous musicians who cultivate collaborative music making and who creatively engage audiences in the shared joy of musical performance. On Thursday, April 19 at 7:30 P.M., The Knights close the FAC's Center Series with a Concert Hall performance that ranges from well-known pieces like Barber's *Adagio for Strings* and Copeland's *Appalachian Spring Suite* to cutting-edge 20<sup>th</sup>-century compositions by Golijov and Bielawa. The concert will be preceded by a 6:30 P.M. talk at the University Club by New England Public Radio classical host Walter Carroll.

Based in New York City, The Knights expand the orchestral concert experience with their diverse programming, innovative formats, and unique atmosphere of camaraderie that creates the intimacy and immediacy of chamber music.

The Knights have performed in a wide spectrum of concert venues, including Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Tonic, the Brooklyn Lyceum, Le Poisson Rouge, Celebrate Brooklyn, Baryshnikov Arts Center, Central Park, Mass MoCA, and the Whitney Museum. Also in demand on the international stage, they have appeared at the Dresden Musikfestspiele, the National Gallery in Dublin, and Berlin's Radialsystem. Their expanding presence on the music festival scene includes performances at the Ravinia Festival, the International Beethovenfest in Bonn, and at the Caramoor Fall Festival with Yo-Yo Ma.

The Knights grew from informal chamber music readings at the home of brothers Eric and Colin Jacobsen, now the group's conductor and rotating concertmaster, respectively. The collaborative spirit of chamber music continues within the ensemble, which provides a forum for individual ideas and radical inquiry. Members of The Knights are graduates of the Juilliard, Curtis, Manhattan, Mannes, and Eastman music schools. As soloists, members have performed with the New York Philharmonic, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the San Francisco Symphony, the Israel Philharmonic, and Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart orchestra.

Equally successful as chamber and orchestral musicians, they participate in the world's most prestigious music festivals, including Marlboro, Tanglewood, Verbier, Stillwater, Lucerne, Salzburg, and Moritzburg. Many members of The Knights bring talents that go beyond traditional orchestral skills; there are composers, arrangers, singers, songwriters, and improvisers who bring a range of cultural influences to the group from jazz and klezmer genres to pop and indie rock music.

Tickets for The Knights on April 19 at the Concert Hall are \$30, \$25, and \$15 (\$10 for Five College, GCC, STCC students and youth 17 and under). Tickets are available online at <http://www.fineartscenter.com/> or by calling 545-2511 or 800-999-UMAS. The performance is sponsored by Applewood at Amherst, a Member of the Loomis Communities, and by *The Recorder*.

A limited number of press passes are available to credentialed reporters by contacting Shawn Farley, Director of Marketing, at 413-545-4159 or [sfarley@admin.umass.edu](mailto:sfarley@admin.umass.edu).

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