

Sherman Chamber Ensemble Presents Music of the French Impressionists and More
September 22nd in New Milford

The Sherman Chamber Ensemble is pleased to announce its return to New Milford under the auspices of the New Milford Commission on the Arts, with a program on Saturday, September 22 at 7:30 PM at the Railroad Station in the heart of the downtown dining and entertainment district. The program will feature music for harp, flute and cello, including “Afternoon of a Faun” and “Children’s Corner Suite” by Claude Debussy, “Sonatine en Trio” by Maurice Ravel, “The Swan” from Saint-Saens’ “Carnival of the Animals”, and Sonata for flute and harp by Nino Rota. The concert is free, thanks to the support of the New Milford Commission on the Arts.

Performers for this concert include SCE Artistic Director Eliot Bailen on cello and his wife, flutist Susan Rotholz, who co-founded the Sherman Chamber Ensemble in 1983 and have performed in virtually every concert for the 30 years since then. Joining them will be frequent guest artist and harp virtuoso Stacy Shames. Mr. Bailen and Ms Rotholz are well-known locally for their world-class musicianship and their many artistic and educational activities throughout the region. In addition, they are much in demand as soloists, chamber musicians and orchestral principals in New York City and across the country in venues ranging from the Cape May Music Festival to the Orpheus Chamber Ensemble to Broadway.

Stacey Shames is widely recognized as one of today’s outstanding harpists. With performances as soloist, chamber musician, and orchestral principal, she has appeared throughout the United States, Europe and the Far East. In recent concerto performances, Ms. Shames appeared with the Riverside Symphony at Alice Tully Hall, The Munich Chamber Orchestra, the Saint Louis Symphony, and the National Chamber Orchestra. She has been heard in recital at Jordan Hall, in Boston, at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, and in New York, at Weill Recital Hall, Merkin Concert Hall, and Bargemusic. As principal harpist of the Saint Louis Symphony, Miss Shames performed, recorded and toured under the direction of Leonard Slatkin. She has also been principal of the Chamber Orchestra of Europe, under the baton of Claudio Abbado, Mostly Mozart Orchestra, the New York Chamber Symphony, St. Luke’s Chamber Ensemble, and the American Symphony Orchestra. She enjoys a busy schedule of performances, recordings and tours as the harpist with the Orpheus Chamber Ensemble. As a chamber musician, Ms. Shames has concertized extensively with Aureole, her trio of flute, viola and harp. Recently, Ms. Shames

has been accompanist for Renee Fleming, Andrea Bocelli, Gil Shaham, and Joshua Bell in numerous recording and television appearances.

Celebrating its 30th anniversary season in 2012, the Sherman Chamber Ensemble was founded to bring world-class live classical music performance to Western Connecticut. Its signature summer chamber music series has been described in *The New York Times* as "about as close as it gets to the Platonic ideal of a chamber music concert." Other performances during this anniversary season have included a new winter Baroque program, a joint concert with The Kent Singers featuring the Faure Requiem, and appearances at the Jewish Community Center in Sherman, the Brookfield Library, and The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum in Ridgefield, along with bluegrass, coffeehouse and other programs of popular and crossover appeal. Upcoming events include Thanksgiving weekend free jazz matinee performances; a Messiah Sing-in at St. Andrew's Church in Kent. Support for this season comes from many generous individual donors, the Connecticut Office of the Arts, private foundations and local businesses.

The site for the concert on September 22 is the historical New Milford Railroad Station, located on Railroad Street in New Milford. Seating is limited on a first-come-first-serve basis. Doors will open around 7 pm.

For more information, contact ddubreuil@charter.net or by phone at 860-354-7558.

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