



LIGHTHOUSE OF COLLIER'S **EYE ON EXCELLENCE** 2017 SIGNATURE EVENT

DATE: NOVEMBER 13, 2017

TIME: 6-9:30 PM

LOCATION: VINEYARDS COUNTRY CLUB

400 VINEYARDS BLVD, NAPLES FL

COME AND *SEE* WHAT LIGHTHOUSE OF COLLIER HAS ACCOMPLISHED THIS YEAR AND BE SURROUNDED BY MUSICIANS, BOTH LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL, SHARING THEIR MUSICAL EXCELLENCE WITH US, ALL THROUGHOUT THE EVENING.

\$200/person

Dress: Elegantly casual (no ties necessary)

What: Cocktail reception, sit down dinner, stories of LOC's progress and plans; music, music and more music (!!)& enjoy your friends, all sharing in the joys of impacting the lives of the visually impaired and blind in our community

Questions?? Call 239-354-0143



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MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT WILL INCLUDE...

During Cocktails: *ROB MEADES (KEYBOARDS)*

During Dinner: *TW WEST (GUITAR)*

And After Dinner:

***CLASSICAL CONCERT* by renowned artists:
*Max Rabinovitsj, Milana Strezeva and Thoma
Mesa***

***Reservations should be made by November 2, 2017
By Charge Card (call LOC at 239.430.3934)
OR by Check, made out to:
LIGHTHOUSE OF COLLIER,
2685 Horseshoe Drive South, Suite 210, Naples FL***



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MAX RABINOVITSJ

Max Rabinovitsj started playing the violin at the age of 8 while in hiding during WWII. By the time the war ended in 1945, Rabinovitsj had become an accomplished violinist. He showed so much promise that at the age of 12, six years earlier than normal, he was accepted into the Royal Brussels Conservatory. At 17, his family immigrated to the US. In spite of his talent, Rabinovitsj didn't play his violin very much. It was a chance encounter several years later that resulted in an impromptu audition that so impressed the conductor that he was given the job as second violin in the New Orleans Symphony. At the end of the season, the conductor introduced Rabinovitsj to Efreim Zimbalist, who was the director of The Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia and who accepted Rabinovitsj as a student.

Upon graduation from Curtis, Max began what was to become a very long and successful professional career as a solo violinist, the concertmaster and/or conductor of several major orchestras including the Ottawa (Ontario) Philharmonic, the New Orleans Symphony, the Cincinnati Symphony, the St. Louis Symphony, the Nice (France) Orchestra and the Gulbenkian (Portugal) Orchestra.

Although Max loved performing and conducting, it is teaching that is his passion. He once stated, "You play a concert and it's over with the moment you leave the stage. But I still hear from students 40 years after I taught them." Max was a Professor of Violin at Washington University, the University of Texas and the University of Evora (Portugal). He has also taught at the Nice Conservatory (France) and Edgecliff Academy in Cincinnati.

Since moving to Naples a little over two years ago, Max and his wife, Mary, a harpist, who met when they were both students at The Curtis Institute of Music, have been active in the Naples music community. He has performed at the Cultural Russian Center many times and continues as violinist in "The Trio da Vinci," which he founded. The other "Trio da Vinci" members are Dror Biran, piano, and Paul York, cello. At present, Max is enjoying making music as Artistic Director and Conductor of The Naples Orchestra & Chorus.



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Milana Strezeva

Praised by the critics for her “technically fluid, dramatically convincing, and sonically full-bodied supportive collaborations” (Boston Globe) - Milana Strezeva is a Moldovan-American pianist. At the age of 11 she began playing chamber music with her clarinetist father and her mother, a renowned soprano. Milana's love for family collaboration eventually grew into a passionate advocacy of vocal and instrumental chamber music.

A founding member of the award-winning Manhattan Piano Trio, one of the most creative and dynamic young ensembles in America, Milana has performed with them in over 30 American states, in Australia, South Africa and Italy, and in venues such as Alice Tully Hall, Merkin Hall, and the Ravinia Festival. The Washington Post described the Trio as "impressive" and "outstanding", while the Sarasota Herald Tribune said "one seldom is privileged to enjoy music of such a wide range of styles performed with self-effacing skill and relaxed assurance." A CD of Schumann and Chopin trios in honor of the composers bicentennials, was successfully released on the Marquis Classics label in 2009.

Milana's most enduring and treasured collaboration is with her mother, the renowned Soprano, Svetlana Strezeva (a.k.a. "The Russian Nightingale" and winner of the 1982 Tchaikovsky Competition). With programs that reflect their love of Russian vocal literature, they have given recitals across the US as well as in Italy, Denmark, Germany, Ukraine, Romania, Moldova, and China.

Milana received her Bachelor and Master degrees from The Juilliard School on a full scholarship. Currently, Milana lives in Naples, FL and is an Artistic Director at Grand Piano Series.



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Thomas Mesa, Cuban-American cellist, is quickly establishing himself as one of the most charismatic and engaging performers of his generation with solo engagements across the United States. Thomas is the Winner of the 2016 Sphinx Competition, Thaviu Competition for String Performance (Chicago, 2013), and the Alhambra Orchestra Concerto Competition. As a soloist, Thomas' most recent past and present engagements include the Mainly Mozart Festival, Bargemusic, Myra Hess Memorial Concert Series, Columbia University, Carnegie Hall, The Supreme Court of The United States, The Heifetz Institute (guest artist), Meadowmount School of Music, Strad for Lunch Series in NYC, International Beethoven Project, Perlman Music Program Alumni Recital as well as universities across the United States. His concerto engagements for this season and future seasons include The Cleveland Orchestra, Erie Chamber Orchestra, Firelands Symphony, and Elgin Symphony Orchestra.

Most recently, Thomas was one of the featured instrumentalists on The Crossing Choir's album called "Bonhoeffer" that was nominated for a Grammy. Led by Donald Nally, this multiple award-winning ensemble has invited Thomas as the featured soloist at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Longwood Gardens, The Winter Garden (broadcast on WNYC) and the Theological Seminary in New York City. Additionally, Thomas and The Crossing Choir collaborated on the American Premiere of "Astralis" (Choir and Solo Cello) composed by Wolfgang Rihm, one of the most important composers of this generation. As a chamber musician, Thomas has toured with Itzhak Perlman and Proteges, both nationally and internationally, and is a member of the St. Petersburg Piano Quartet who is in high demand for the most important series across the nation.

Thomas is also in high demand as a teaching artist for his innate ability to connect with students and teach them to teach themselves. Future and past masterclasses include institutions such as U.C Berkeley, University of Nevada – Las Vegas, University of Miami, and Meadowmount School of Music. Thomas is a graduate of The Juilliard School (B.M. 2012) where he received various scholarships; and Northwestern University (M.M. 2014) where he was the recipient of the Richard and Helen Thomas Fellowship and Graduate Program Honors for extraordinary contributions to the String Department. Currently, he is a doctoral candidate at the Manhattan School of Music in New York City where he studies with Julia Lichten.

Thomas plays on a Richard Tobin cello, dated 1826.



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Rob Meads Biography Rob's versatile background in the field of music, acting and emcee work covers more than thirty years. His music experience ranges from years of playing in stadiums and arenas for professional sports teams to pianist for private, corporate and charity events. His acting career includes TV commercials, video owners manuals, co-hosting Steinway Piano Showcase and infomercials. His professional emcee work continues to score high marks at every venue culminating with the Lincoln Center in New York City.

T.M.West T.B.West- Singer/Songwriter/Guitarist/Pianist. Originally from the Boston area. Attended the New England Conservatory, pianist and vocalist. Performed in Jordan Hall –jazz duo and Bulgarian music. Performed extensively throughout the United States at universities, restaurants, cafes, fundraisers, weddings, church cantor, San Francisco City Chorus, private venues. Recipient of many honorable mentions from numerous national and worldwide competitions for popular song contests.



LIGHTHOUSE OF COLLIER'S EYE ON EXCELLENCE

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

BRIGHT EYES Sponsor \$30,000

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Lead placement in the event program
Lead placement on event collateral
Lead placement on Lighthouse of Collier website
News release announcing premier sponsor
Lead placement in e-marketing, event publicity & advertising
Limousine Transportation to event
Designated Top Star Sponsor Table for 10

EYE IN THE SKY Sponsors \$10,000

Prominent placement in the event program
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Reserved table for 10

EYE OF THE BEHOLDER Sponsors \$5,000

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Recognition in e-marketing, event publicity & advertising
Recognition on the Lighthouse of Collier website
Reserved table for 10

SMILING EYES Sponsors \$2,500

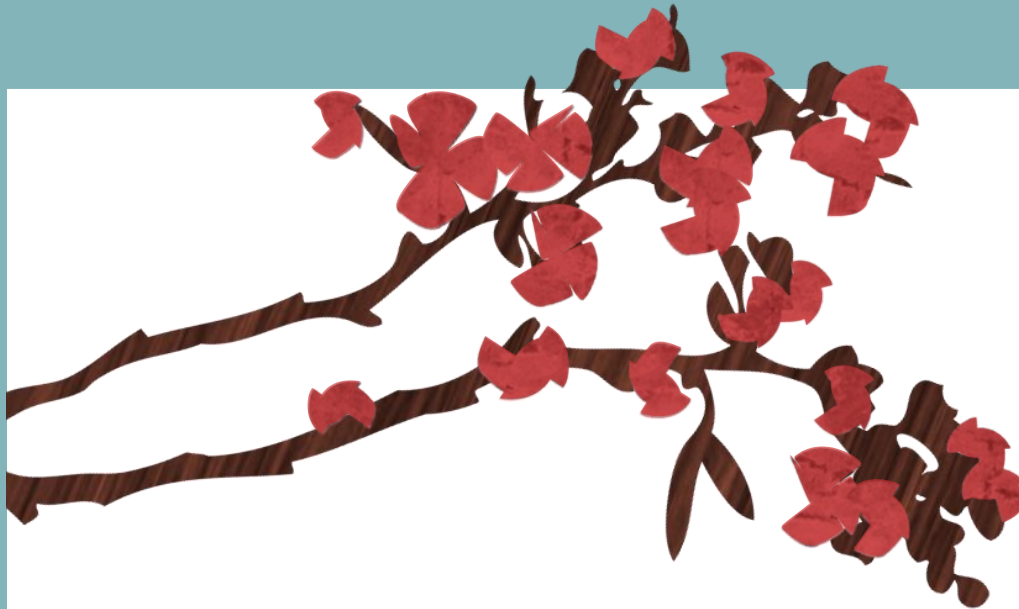
Option for recognition in program
Reserved table for 10

FOR YOUR EYES ONLY Sponsor \$1,000

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Sign recognition at the Valet station



LIGHTHOUSE OF COLLIER'S "EYE ON EXCELLENCE" SPONSORSHIPS

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Sponsorship Selected Amount Total
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Please make checks payable to Lighthouse of Collier

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