



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Press Contact:** Michael Fila  
(301) 581-5194  
mfila@strathmore.org

**STRATHMORE PRESENTS  
SPRING PERFORMANCE CALENDAR**

*Events from February through June 2012*

*Season Centerpiece*

**DISCOVER ELLINGTON**  
with performances by  
**Brian Stokes Mitchell**  
**Robert Glasper**  
**Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Orchestra**  
**Afro Latin Jazz Orchestra led by Arturo O’Farrill**  
**Paquito D’Rivera**  
**Morgan State University Choir**  
**Tap dancing Manzari Brothers**  
**Allan Harris**  
**Kehembe Eichelberger**  
**Julia Nixon**

*Classical Highlights Include*

**Joshua Bell and Academy of St. Martins in the Field**  
**Tchaikovsky Competition winner, cellist Narek Hakhnazaryan**  
**All-Debussy concerts with Katie Mahan and members of the National Philharmonic**

*Popular Music Highlights Include*

**Incomparable soul diva Patti LaBelle**  
**Sultry Valentine’s Day concert from Ladino singer Yasmin Levy**  
**Pint-size prodigy Ethan Bortnick, youngest headliner to perform at Strathmore**  
**Hollywood heartthrob turned country crooner Kevin Costner**  
**Residency and concert with Dallas Brass and 120 local high school musicians**

*Jazz Highlights Include*

**John Pizzarelli and Kurt Elling**  
**Paco de Lucia**  
**Connaitre Miller, director of ensemble Afro-Blue, which competed on NBC’s *Sing-Off***

***Other Highlights Include***

**Strathmore Launches its five-part *Arts and the Brain* lecture series**  
**Host of NPR's "Fresh Air" Terry Gross**  
**Poets Mary Oliver and Billy Collins**

**Strathmore Venues**

**Mansion at Strathmore**  
**10701 Rockville Pike**  
**North Bethesda, MD 20852**

**Music Center at Strathmore**  
**5301 Tuckerman Lane**  
**North Bethesda, MD 20852**

**Tickets and Information**

**(301) 581-5100**

**www.strathmore.org**

While current at time of publication, this calendar is subject to change. For the most recent version, please contact Michael Fila at (301) 581-5194 or mfila@strathmore.org. Ticket prices listed represent single, not Strathmore Stars, prices. Strathmore Stars receive a 10% discount on all listed prices.

*Artist in Residence*

**ELLEN CHERRY, SINGER-SONGWRITER**

Wednesdays, February 1 and 22, 2012

7:30 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$12

Emmy-nominated ellen cherry is a full-time touring and working performer based in Baltimore. The performances will feature songs from her album (*New*) *Years*, as well as tracks from her upcoming spring 2012 release, *Please Don't Sell the Piano*, featuring the debut of her upcoming Strathmore-commissioned work, "Pickett's Charge." She has licensed her music to the Oxygen Network, MTV and Soap.net. In 2009, she composed the score for the shadow puppet play *Alonzo's Lullaby*, which received the prestigious UNIMA Citation of Excellence. ellen has been the recipient of a Baker Artist Award "b" Grant, the Semmes G. "Buck" Walsh Award for Music and Maryland State Arts Council Individual Artist Awards for Vocal Performance and Music Composition.

*Arts and the Brain lecture series*

**THE MATURE AMATEUR: CREATIVITY AND THE AGING BRAIN**

Thursday, February 2, 2012

7-8:30 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$21

Dr. Bruce L. Miller of the University of California Memory and Aging Center and Gay Hanna, PhD, Executive Director of the National Center for Creative Aging, will explore if the creative function of the brain changes with age and if the brain benefits from creative activity. They will discuss case studies that reveal new understanding of the aging brain and research that shows degeneration in certain areas of the brain revealing previously unknown abilities, such as patients suffering from Alzheimer's or dementia developing new gifts for drawing, painting or sculpture,

even as they lose their capability for verbal communication.

*Strathmore Presents*

**ALL I DID WAS ASK: AN EVENING WITH NPR'S TERRY GROSS**

Friday, February 3, 2012

8:00 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore

Tickets: \$35-\$55

NPR *Fresh Air* host Terry Gross's interviews are heard by more than 4.5 million people daily. Her guests have included celebrated artists, writers, actors and musicians as varied as Philip Roth, James Brown, John Travolta and Triumph the Insult Comic Dog. Fans get a peek behind the mic at some of the most fascinating conversations ever recorded as this popular journalist plays sound bites and discusses interviews that went especially well (or especially badly), and answers audience questions.

*Strathmore Presents*

**DISCOVER ELLINGTON**

Though he is one of America's most legendary composers, the incomparable Edward "Duke" Ellington has retained a mystique that has musicologists filling gaps in his history more than a quarter century after his death. Strathmore's *Discover Ellington* festival, from February 3-20, 2012, will examine Ellington's contributions to American music by tracing the unparalleled composer's dynamic career through performances of hallmark Ellington compositions and seminal works, as well as lectures with experts. The festival is part of Strathmore's Celebrating American Composers series.

*Sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts, Delia and Marvin Lang, Strathmore's Jazz Society and Artistic Initiatives Fund.*

***ELLINGTON STANDARDS***

**Chris Vadala Trio**

Friday, February 3, 2012

11:00 a.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$15

Former Strathmore Artist in Residence mentor Chris Vadala, professor of saxophone and Director of Jazz Studies at the University of Maryland, is joined by former U.S. Air Force Airmen of Note guitarist Rick Whitehead and Landon School bass instructor John Previti performing instrumental Ellington standards.

***"THE DUKE"***

**Lecture/Demonstration by Rusty Hassan**

Monday, February 13, 2012

7:30-9:30 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$15

Jazz musician, historian and educator Rusty Hassan will demonstrate how blues, spirituals, work songs, ragtime and indeed, New Orleans “jazz,” were incorporated into Ellington’s compositions. The film short *Symphony In Black* will be shown as a part of Mr. Hassan’s examination of the Duke’s music.

***MOSTLY ELLINGTON***

**Robert Glasper, piano**

Thursday, February 16, 2012

7:30 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Admission: \$30

An artist who “unfailingly gets the feeling right” (*New York Magazine*), this uniquely gifted pianist performs the music of Duke Ellington along with his own original works and music by Thelonious Monk and other jazz legends. This concert is part of Strathmore’s Music in the Mansion series, sponsored by Asbury Methodist Village.

***CHANNELING DUKE ELLINGTON***

*Presented by the Levine School of Music*

Friday, February 17, 2012

7 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore, room 309

Admission: \$15 online, \$20 at door

The famous improvisations of the Duke Ellington/Jimmy Blanton duo are transcribed note for note and lovingly performed by Karine Chapdelaine, bass, and Bob Sykes, piano, alongside the performers’ own original improvised ideas. Tickets may be purchased by visiting [www.levineschool.org](http://www.levineschool.org).

***BRIAN STOKES MITCHELL SINGS ELLINGTON AMERICAN SONGBOOK***

**Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Orchestra**

**David Baker, conductor**

**Julia Nixon, vocalist**

**Manzari Brothers, tap dancers**

Friday, February 17, 2012

8:00 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore

Admission: \$39–\$79

Tony Award winner Brian Stokes Mitchell flexes his jazz chops singing selections from the Ellington musicals *Sophisticated Ladies*, *Play On* and selections from Ellington’s last, unfinished musical, *Queenie Pie*. Stokes will perform favorites including “Satin Doll,” “A Train” and “Don’t Get Round Much Anymore.” He’ll be joined by the amazing talents of singer Julia Nixon and the dazzling tap footwork of D.C.’s own Manzari Brothers, all backed by the incomparable Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Orchestra.

***DISCOVER ELLINGTON: PANEL DISCUSSION***

Saturday, February 18, 2012

5:00 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Free, no tickets required

Panelists John Edward Hasse, curator of American Music at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History, Davey Yarborough, Director of Music at the Duke Ellington School, and composer and author David Schiff (whose book, *Ellington Century* will be released in February) will explore the influences, relevance and legacy of Duke Ellington in a discussion moderated by Strathmore CEO Eliot Pfanstiehl.

***BIG BAND ELLINGTON:***

***DUKE GOES LATIN***

**Afro Latin Jazz Orchestra]**

**Arturo O'Farrill, Music Director**

**Special guest: Paquito D'Rivera, alto saxophone/clarinet**

Saturday, February 18, 2012

8:00 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore

Admission: \$29–\$69

Fresh from their regular gig at New York's famed Birdland and appearances on NPR's *JazzSet*, the Grammy-winning Afro Latin Jazz Orchestra directed by Arturo O'Farrill, with NEA Jazz Master and 10-time Grammy Award winner Paquito D'Rivera, recreate the sound of the fabled Duke Ellington big band in such classics as "Caravan" and "In a Sentimental Mood," and perform new pieces inspired by Ellington.

***ELLINGTON: A SACRED CONCERT***

**Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Orchestra**

**David Baker, conductor**

**Morgan State University Choir**

**Eric Conway, director**

**Allan Harris, vocalist**

**Kehembe Eichelberger, vocalist**

**Manzari Brothers, tap dancers**

Sunday, February 19, 2012

4:00 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore

Tickets: \$30–\$59

In his last years, Ellington wrote three "sacred concerts," performed live in New York City with a hand-picked group of masterful musicians and recorded for posterity. The compositions and performances remain some of the most revered in American music, and Ellington himself called them "the most important thing I have ever done." Strathmore recreates historical moments from these legendary concerts, including "Come Sunday," "David Danced Before the Lord" and "Something 'bout Believing."

*Free Open House!*

***DISCOVER STRATHMORE: DUKE ELLINGTON***

Monday, February 20, 2012

11:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Music Center and Mansion at Strathmore

Free, no tickets required

Strathmore's annual family festival explores the wonders of all things Ellington in a free, all-day celebration for all ages. Live multi-media performances, participatory concerts and workshops, including the Hot 8 Brass Band and JazzReach, will demonstrate how Ellington's influence has been adapted into varying musical styles and makes the composer's legacy relatable to young musicians.

*Strathmore Friday Night Eclectic*

**EDUCATED CONSUMERS**

Friday, February 3, 2012

Doors at 8:00 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$10 online, \$12 at the door

Producer T.E.C.k! and MC SeezMics throw an album release party for *Winning Winter*, featuring singer/songwriter Kokayi, with old-school beats and intensely creative freestyle rhymes.

*Strathmore and AM Productions Present*

**WANDA SYKES**

Friday, February 10, 2012

8:00 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore

**SOLD OUT**

This fearlessly funny and edgy stand-up comic Wanda Sykes is also an Emmy-winning actress ("The New Adventures of Old Christine") and featured player in popular films (*Monster-In-Law*), but she returns to her first love, the comedy stage, in the city where she got her start during her Strathmore debut. Audience members will find out firsthand why *Entertainment Weekly* calls her "one of the 25 funniest people in America!"

*Strathmore Friday Night Eclectic*

**THE GREY AREA and 19<sup>th</sup> STREET BAND**

Friday, February 10, 2012

Doors at 8:00 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$10 online, \$12 at the door

This D.C. indie rock duo evokes The White Stripes and The Black Keys.

*Strathmore Fine Art*

**YOU ARE WHAT YOU EAT**

February 11 - March 17, 2012

Mansion at Strathmore

*Gudelsky Gallery Suite*

Taste...the final frontier. The multi-media exhibition *You Are What You Eat* explores the relationships between what we eat and who we are, the way it triggers memory and desire and how food is connected to beauty, pleasure, excitement, regret—and our perception of self and others.

*Strathmore Presents in association with the DCJCC*

**YASMIN LEVY WITH SPECIAL GUEST OMAR FARUK TEKBILEK**

Tuesday, February 14, 2012

8:00 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore

Tickets: \$38

Hearts will flutter at the sight and sound of the smoky-eyed Yasmin Levy during this Valentine's Day concert. The seductive singer blends the purity of Ladino—the Judeo-Spanish music of Spain—with the fiery heart of flamenco, using “every colour and pitch in her remarkable range...the resulting vocal pyrotechnics are unforgettable” (*Songlines*). Sharing the stage with this extraordinary performer is the legendary Turkish artist Omar Faruk Tekbilek, whose music promotes peace and unity in diversity.

*Strathmore Music in the Mansion*

**NAREK HAKHNAZARYAN, CELLO  
NOREEN CASSIDY-POLERA, PIANO**

Thursday, February 23, 2012

7:30 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore

Tickets: \$30

This 22-year-old cello virtuoso has critics reaching for new superlatives to describe his “commanding...gorgeous” performances of “daredevil verve,” “intense focus and expressive artistry” (*The New York Times*). Narek Hakhnazaryan captured First Prize and the Gold Medal at the XIV International Tchaikovsky Competition in June 2011, and at Strathmore will lend his mastery to works by Stravinsky, Grieg and Franck. Strathmore's Music in the Mansion series is sponsored by Asbury Methodist Village.

*Strathmore Friday Night Eclectic*

**JUNKYARD SAINTS MARDI GRAS PARTY**

Friday, February 24, 2012

Doors at 8:00 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$10 online, \$12 at the door

This seven-piece zydeco band with a full horn section brings the party for Mardi Gras. Fat Tuesday meets Friday night in a blaze of Cajun glory.

*Strathmore Presents*

**LILY TOMLIN**

Sunday, February 26, 2012

7:00 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore

**SOLD OUT**

The incomparable Lily Tomlin takes audiences on what *The Washington Post* calls a “wise and howlingly funny” trip, revisiting more than a dozen of her timeless characters, from Ernestine and Sister Boogie Woman to Mrs. Beasley and Edith Ann. It's no wonder *Newsweek* says Tomlin has “made the one person show the daring, irreverent art form it is today.”

*Artist in Residence*

**CONNAITRE MILLER, JAZZ VOCALIST AND ARTIST IN RESIDENCE MENTOR**

Wednesdays, February 29, 2012

7:30 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$15

Connaitre Miller is Associate Professor of Music and Vocal Jazz Coordinator at Howard University, where she directs the award-winning vocal jazz ensemble Afro Blue, which was seen by millions on NBC's *Sing-Off* in 2011. She also teaches vocal improvisation, vocal jazz arranging and applied lessons in jazz voice.

*Strathmore and Maestro Artist Management Present*

**MAX RAABE UND DAS PALAST ORCHESTER**

Thursday, March 1, 2012

8:00 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore

Tickets: \$28-\$58

Mesmerizing adoring audiences around the world, Max Raabe embodies the high style and musical glory of the Cabaret era during the turbulent Weimar Republic, performing favorites like "Night and Day," "Cheek to Cheek" and "I Got Rhythm" along with lost songs from the period. "Exhilarating... spotlessly urbane virtuosity... polishing their act to a razor's edge, a scalpel dashingly, lethally sharp" (*Boston Globe*).

*Strathmore Fine Art*

**A SINGULAR VIEW:**

**THE ART AND WORDS OF JOHN PATON DAVIES, JR**

March 3 – April 14, 2012

Mansion at Strathmore

*Lockheed Martin Conference Room*

Strathmore will present *A Singular View: The Art and Words of John Paton Davies, Jr*, an exhibit of monoprints from the archives of the American diplomat and artist, in conjunction with the publication of his posthumous memoir, *China Hand*. Davies was driven from the State Department under McCarthyism following an illustrious career in the Foreign Service, after which he began exploring artistic pursuits. Inspired by the cultures and traditional arts of China and South America, he translated these images to massive wood blocks and then into intriguing prints. A selection of Davies' monoprints prints will be on view.

*Strathmore Education*

**VOCAL JAZZ INTENSIVE: TALKIN' TO THE BAND**

Saturday, March 3, 2012

10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tuition: \$65

After a review of such basics as key, tempo, how a song begins and ends, assigning solos and how to communicate all of the above to a band, this indispensable class for jazz vocalists also explores

such advanced concepts as conveying the feel of the tune, signaling reduced instrumentation, indicating vamps and learning options for solos.

*Strathmore Music in the Mansion*

**BEN BEILMAN, VIOLIN**

Sunday, March 4, 2012

4:00 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$30

After winning the top prize at the eminent 2010 Montréal International Musical Competition at the age of 20, Benjamin Beilman has set about beguiling critics and audiences with his exceptional technique. “Sleek, elegant...a performance brimming with imaginative touches and exquisite control...pure poetry” (*The Strad*). Strathmore’s Music in the Mansion series is sponsored by Asbury Methodist Village. The concert is part of Strathmore’s Celebrating American Composers series.

**PROGRAM**

W. A. Mozart: Sonata for Violin and Piano in B flat major K 378

Richard Strauss: Sonata for Violin and Piano in E flat major Op. 18

Chris Rogerson: Sonata for Violin and Piano (2011)

Sergei Prokofiev: Sonata for Solo Violin in D major Op. 115

Jeno Hubay: Carmen Fantasie Brillante Op. 3 No. 3

*Strathmore Education*

**INTRO TO JAZZ SIGNING**

Mondays, March 5-April 9, 2012

7:30-9:30 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tuition: \$275 (for six classes)

Jessica Boykin-Settles from the faculty of Howard University leads this popular class, introducing participants to elements of jazz rhythm, harmony and inspiration. The class concludes with a cabaret performance with a full rhythm section.

*Artist in Residence*

**NATE FOLEY, SOUL ELECTRIC GUITAR**

Wednesdays, March 7 and 28, 2012

7:30 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$12

An avid student of guitar technique, 17-year-old guitar virtuoso and Silver Spring native Nate Foley is adept at playing funk, blues, rock, soul, gospel and jazz. He will unveil songs from his band’s untitled forthcoming sophomore album at the concerts. He has performed at the Kennedy Center, Library of Congress and the famed Apollo Theater, and is endorsed by Paul Reed Smith guitars. Nate has the distinction of being the only person in the history of the Apollo Theater’s Amateur Night competition to win eight consecutive first place victories. He is a two-time gold medal winner in the NAACP ACT-SO contemporary instrumental music competitions and was selected by the Grammy Foundation to participate in its 2011 Grammy Camp in Los Angeles. His

debut EP, *Introducing Nathan Foley*, is available on iTunes.

*Strathmore Music in the Mansion*

**MICHAEL THOMAS QUINTET**

Thursday, March 8, 2012

7:30 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$30

This power-packed swinging hard-bop and blues quintet bring exciting musical virtuosity to the D.C. jazz scene. “The first moments proclaim something special...[Thomas] is a dynamic force, rolling along, bopping and weaving. He can be aggressive...rollicking...soulful—you name it” (*Cadence Magazine*). Strathmore’s Music in the Mansion series is sponsored by Asbury Methodist Village. The concert is part of Strathmore’s Celebrating American Composers series.

*Strathmore Presents*

**SPIRIT OF UGANDA: A PROJECT OF EMPOWER AFRICAN CHILDREN**

Friday, March 9, 2012

8:00 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore

Tickets: \$28-\$48

This irresistible troupe of “young, proud and marvelously spirited musicians and dancers...send a message of courage and hope” (*Village Voice*). The inspiring celebration of African culture is full of life with bright, layered rhythms, dramatic choreography and gorgeous call-and-response vocals. Ambassadors for Uganda’s 2.4 million orphans, these children personify the promise of Africa’s next generation and raise funds to support themselves and others displaced in their homeland.

*Strathmore Friday Night Eclectic*

**STONE KAWALA**

Friday, March 9, 2012

Doors at 8:00 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$10 online, \$12 at the door

D.C.-based super-soulful singer/songwriter Stone Kawala performs his unique brand of acoustic-country-folkblues, tinged with the inescapable funky beat he’s developed as a member of hip-hop group The Trees.

*Strathmore Music in the Mansion*

**PAUL GALBRAITH, GUITAR**

Sunday, March 11, 2012

7:30 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$30

Renowned as a brilliant innovator of the classical guitar, Paul Galbraith has been working since the 1980s towards expanding the technical limits of his instrument, in addition to augmenting the quantity and quality of its repertoire. These efforts have already resulted in a series of critically acclaimed recordings of works by Bach, Haydn and Brahms, along with his own arrangements of

folk songs from various countries. By exchanging the traditional guitar for the eight-string Brahms Guitar, which he helped to develop, Galbraith found the ideal instrument with which to interpret the challenging classical transcriptions from his highly personal repertoire.

*Arts and the Brain lecture series*

**THE THEATER OF THE BRAIN**

Thursday, March 15, 2012

7-8:30 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$21

The brain is constantly processing multi-dimensional stimuli, whether it is music, painting or theater. Cognitive neuroscientist Michael Posner and his son Aaron Posner, a Helen Hayes Award-winning theatre director, will explain how the cogs and synapses of the brain work to perceive, synthesize and make sense of art – and how that process differs when creating, rather than observing, art. They will also discuss if involvement or training in the arts improves brain function in other areas.

*Strathmore Presents*

**REEL AROUND THE SHAMROCK - ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION  
FEATURING EILEEN IVERS WITH IMMIGRANT SOUL**

**Culkin School of Irish Dance**

**Brendan Mulvihill and Bill McComiskey**

Thursday, March 15, 2012

8:00 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore

Tickets: \$25-\$55

Eileen Ivers has earned the title “the Jimi Hendrix of the violin” (*The New York Times*), and her band Immigrant Soul, “rocks the house everywhere it plays” (*The Boston Globe*). This St. Patrick’s Day dance and celebration joins Ivers, her champion players and a host of gifted guests in a jig-worthy party on stage at Strathmore.

*Strathmore Friday Night Eclectic*

**ST. PATRICK’S DAY A CAPPELLA CELEBRATION**

**Vox Populi**

**Euphonism**

Doors at 8:00 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$10 online, \$12 at the door

Grab a green beer and celebrate St. Patty’s Day early with the sonic power of D.C.’s best a cappella groups, together for an evening that’s vocal and local.

*Strathmore Music in the Mansion*

**BRASIL GUITAR DUO**

Thursday, March 22, 2012

7:30 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

**SOLD OUT**

This extraordinary duo has won international acclaim for its illuminating renditions of the classical repertoire as well as the traditions of their native Brazil, with its rich history and links to ancient Europe, Africa and the Americas. “It would be hard to imagine a better performance... This is wonderful music played at the highest interpretive level” (*Classical Guitar Magazine*). Strathmore’s Music in the Mansion series is sponsored by Asbury Methodist Village.

*Strathmore Presents*

**ETHAN BORTNICK AND HIS MUSICAL TIME MACHINE**

Friday, March 23, 2012

8:00 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore

Tickets: \$18-\$38

He learned to play the piano at the age of three, and now—at age 11—Ethan Bortnick is the toast of the music world, astonishing audiences from major concert halls to *The Oprah Winfrey Show* and *Good Morning America*. This matter-of-fact musical prodigy performs classics from Bach to The Beatles, Billy Joel, Little Richard and more—and shares showbiz stories from his own unique pre-teen perspective.

*Strathmore Friday Night Eclectic*

**PRIMITIVITY**

Friday, March 23, 2012

Doors at 8:00 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$10 online, \$12 at the door

Primitivity is a rock cello quartet that blends elements of classical, post-rock and hard rock music. Consisting of cellists Devree Lewis and Natalie Spehar, and percussionist Robby Burns, the band is directed by cellist Loren Westbrook-Fritts. Playing the music of Led Zeppelin, The Beatles, Muse, Megadeth, Apocalyptica and Metallica, Primitivity also premieres original works.

*Strathmore Fine Art*

**21st ANNUAL STRATHMORE ARTISTS EXHIBITION**

March 24 – April 21, 2012

Mansion at Strathmore

*Gudelsky Gallery Suite*

Forget about birds and baseball—nothing really, truly says spring has sprung like the 21st Annual Strathmore Artists Exhibition. This juried exhibition features works by Strathmore Artists: painters, sculptors, printmakers, photographers, mixed media artists and all manner of regional artisans.

*Strathmore Presents*

**RED STAR RED ARMY CHORUS & DANCE ENSEMBLE**

Wednesday, March 28, 2012

8:00 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore

Tickets: \$25-\$65

Seventy performers strong, this spectacular company of singers, dancers and musicians dazzles crowds with a kaleidoscopic journey to old Russia featuring performances of folk tunes and military music and dance—“a colorful mixture to both eye and ear. Songs of love and melancholy alternate with ones of mischief and comedy, interspersed with wonderful dances of amazing vitality...great leaps and furious, squalling turns, the perfect symphony of the male and female dancers” (*Seattle Post*).

*Arts and the Brain lecture series*

**YOUR BRAIN ON MUSIC: MUSIC COGNITION, PERCEPTION AND IMPROVISATION**

Thursday, March 29, 2012

7-8:30 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$21

In addition to being one of today’s most acclaimed young American jazz musicians, Vijay Iyer also has a PhD from U.C. Berkeley, where he did his dissertation research in music perception and cognition. In this lecture/performance he explores the link between musical cognition and physical action, and the central role of improvisation in daily life. Using musical examples and solo piano performance, Iyer connects musical improvisation to the ways in which people “improvise” their relation to the world every day. The program of solo piano works will draw from Iyer’s acclaimed 2010 album, *Solo*, including his original compositions and creative approaches to pre-existing material.

*Strathmore Presents*

**PATTI LABELLE**

Friday, March 30 and Saturday, March 31, 2012

8:00 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore

Tickets: \$35-\$120

Nobody’s brings a “New Attitude” like two-time Grammy winning superstar and original Lady Marmalade, Patti LaBelle. Back at Strathmore following her blowout performance last season, the pop legend dazzles with pop tunes, jazz standards, blues anthems and spirituals that’ll lift audience members right out of their seats.

*Strathmore Friday Night Eclectic*

**ELIKEH**

Friday, March 30, 2012

Doors at 8:00 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$10 online, \$12 at the door

Elikeh mixes Afro-beat with traditional Togolese polyrhythms to produce captivating tunes that are as listenable as they are danceable. The group’s leader, Massama Dogo, was born in Togo and developed his singing and songwriting ability performing with several local bands. He was musical director of the University Orchestra in Togo from 1998-2000.

*Strathmore Presents*

**COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY WOMEN’S CHORUS**

Saturday, March 31, 2012  
10:30 a.m.-noon  
Mansion at Strathmore  
Free

Founded in 1923, the William & Mary Women's Chorus is making Strathmore a stop for one of only five concert performances this spring. The ensemble consists of 40 undergraduate women, both non-music majors and music majors.

*Artist in Residence*

**MARY ALOUETTE, GYPSY JAZZ VOCALIST**

Wednesdays, April 4 and 25, 2012

7:30 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$12

An intrepid curiosity for music led Django darling Mary Alouette to explore classical vocal performance, opera, electronic and, finally, Gypsy jazz. She will perform tracks from her debut album at her Strathmore concerts. She has appeared at the Kennedy Center and Carnegie Hall while performing with the Washington Opera and Choral Arts Society of Washington. She competed in the Night at the Apollo Theatre's National Tour, performed opera in the Schlern International Music Festival in Italy and voiced a character for EA Games' Boogie Superstar. Since her introduction to Gypsy jazz, Mary has performed at Djangoary Festival, the Django in June Festival and the Brooklyn Djangology Festival 2010. She records and works as a mixing engineer and producer at ishlab in New York City, where she experiments with new sonic experiences by combining Gypsy jazz with electronic and classical elements.

*Arts and the Brain lecture series*

**YOUR BRAIN ON LAUGHTER**

Thursday, April 5, 2012

7-8:30 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$21

Michael Patterson and members of Washington Improv Theater explore what they call the seventh sense: a sense of humor. They'll talk about and demonstrate why people laugh, the architecture of a joke and the element of surprise, physiological effects of laughter, humor in human socialization and why people inherently like the dark side of humor and tragedy. This program will combine lecture and performance.

*Strathmore Presents*

**KEVIN COSTNER AND MODERN WEST**

Thursday, April 5, 2012

8:00 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore

Tickets: \$35-\$125

With his band, Modern West, Oscar-winning actor Kevin Costner (*Field of Dreams*, *Dances with Wolves*) makes country-tinged music that is rough-edged, honest and true. "Truth be told, Kevin Costner and Modern West does not sound like a movie star's vanity project. Costner sings about

freight trains, dusty avenues and broken dreams...in faded jeans, he commands the stage with the same understated sex appeal he has on the big screen” (CNN).

*Strathmore Presents*

**VIDEO GAMES LIVE**

**Members of the National Philharmonic and Choir**

Saturday, April 7, 2012

2:00 and 8:00 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore

Tickets: \$25-\$76

This immersive concert event was a sellout smash in Strathmore’s 2010–2011 season. Now Video Games Live returns with all-new music and an all-new show, featuring Tommy Tallarico, soloists, National Philharmonic Orchestra and Chorale, exclusive video footage and music arrangements, synchronized lighting, electronic percussionists, live action and unique interactive segments to create an explosive entertainment experience for gamers of all ages. The pre-show festival is also back with *Guitar Hero* competition and the VGL costume contest. Video Games Live is presented in partnership with the Smithsonian American Art Museum, which is presenting *The Art of Video Games* on view March 16 – September 30, 2012.

*Strathmore Presents*

**VIVER BRASIL: FEET ON THE GROUND**

Thursday, April 12, 2012

8:00 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore

Tickets: \$25-\$55

In the Brazilian state of Bahia, Carnival turns society on its head in a joyful celebration of a utopian world—and is just one of the customs brought vividly to life on stage by this award-winning company, rooted in the traditional forms of Salvador, Bahia, Brazil. Audiences are swept away by spirits in ancient Afro-Brazilian ceremonial dances and bowled over by the martial arts-styled capoeira. Experience a “breathless and colorful” performance—a “vibrant swirl of motion and music” (*LA Weekly*).

*Strathmore Presents*

**JOSHUA BELL AND THE ACADEMY OF ST. MARTIN IN THE FIELDS**

Friday, April 13, 2012

8:00 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore

**SOLD OUT**

The legendary ensemble known for its “clarity and rhythmic precision, the vivacious brightness of its instrumental colors” (*San Francisco Chronicle*), returns to Strathmore with an all-Beethoven program featuring violinist Joshua Bell in one of his first appearances as the group’s new Music Director. The concert juxtaposes three works written in the same period but in vividly different moods.

*Strathmore Friday Night Eclectic*

**CHELSEY GREEN AND THE GREEN PROJECT**

**Synchronicity opens**

Friday, April 13, 2012  
Doors at 8:00 p.m.  
Mansion at Strathmore  
Tickets: \$10 online, \$12 at the door

Chelsey Green (The Green Violinist) and The Green Project present the violin shaken, not stirred—giving this classic instrument an electrifying new voice. The group shares an unmatched tone, richness and vibrancy of acoustic violin playing with audiences, incorporating repertoire and techniques of standard classical music performance to re-identify popular favorites and perform exciting original tunes in a range of genres, including soul, R&B, jazz, funk and rock. Synchronicity opens the concert.

*Strathmore Education*

**JAZZ: UNRAVELING THE MYSTERY**

Monday, April 16, 2012  
11:00 a.m.  
Mansion at Strathmore  
Tuition: \$15

Music expert Chuck Redd takes a look behind the scenes at how jazz musicians prepare for performances, record albums, improvise and perform together.

*Strathmore Presents*

**THE MUSIC OF BILL MONROE FEATURING PETER ROWAN, TONY RICE AND THE TRAVELIN' MCCOURYS**

Tuesday, April 17, 2012  
8:00 p.m.  
Music Center at Strathmore  
Tickets: \$25-\$55

The stars of American roots come together on-stage to celebrate the centenary of the Father of Bluegrass, Bill Monroe. The show features The Travelin' McCourys (talented and versatile sons of the great Del McCoury), singer-songwriter Peter Rowan and Tony Rice, a virtuoso of the flat-picked acoustic guitar. The concert is part of Strathmore's Celebrating American Composers series.

*Strathmore and Blues Alley Present*

**PACO DE LUCIA**

Wednesday, April 18, 2012  
8:00 p.m.  
Music Center at Strathmore  
Tickets: \$35-\$85

The greatest living master of the flamenco guitar, Paco de Lucia is credited with creating a "fusion" style of flamenco influenced by jazz. Innovative and influential, his flamenco recordings have had a revolutionary impact, infusing new life into the art form and bringing it worldwide attention. "Breathtaking...a masterful, gemlike performance. The hall erupted in yelping applause" (*The New York Times*).

*Strathmore Music in the Mansion*

**WILLIAM BOLCOM AND JOAN MORRIS**

Thursday, April 19, 2012

7:30 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

**SOLD OUT**

Traversing Broadway, vaudeville and concert hall, performing music from the ragtime era to the end of the 20th century, composer/pianist William Bolcom and singer Joan Morris bring a cast of characters to life through popular song. With their mix of audience banter and vocal theatrics, "Bolcom and Morris may be the best thing to happen to American popular song since the invention of sheet music" (*The Chicago Sun-Times*). This concert features a post-concert discussion with Peter Marks of *The Washington Post*. Strathmore's Music in the Mansion series is sponsored by Asbury Methodist Village. The concert is part of Strathmore's Celebrating American Composers series.

*Strathmore Friday Night Eclectic*

**CRAVIN' DOGS**

Friday, April 20, 2012

Doors at 8:00 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$10 online, \$12 at the door

Cravin' Dogs began as a "gonzo-folk" trio in 1986, and has since morphed its sound into all-original, eclectic, rootsy, rock-pop. Members Todd Baker (violin), John Penovich (electric guitar, vocals), Barry Warsaw (bass), Tom Helf (drums, vocals) and Caldwell Gray (acoustic guitar, piano and vocals) have shared the stage with such notable names as The Dave Matthews Band, Cake, STYX, Chuck Berry, Gillian Welch and The Bottlerockets.

*Strathmore Presents*

**2012 SPRING GALA AT STRATHMORE WITH DIONNE WARWICK**

Saturday, April 21, 2012

9:00 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore

Tickets: \$35-\$85

Over her 40-plus-year career, Dionne Warwick has established herself as an international musical legend. Her reputation as a hit maker has been firmly etched into public consciousness, thanks to nearly 60 charted hits including "Don't Make Me Over," "Do You Know the Way to San Jose," "Walk on By"—many of them Grammy winners. This extraordinary performer headlines Strathmore's gala celebration. Ticket includes an after party with Big Ray and the Kool Kats.

*Strathmore Presents*

**BILLY COLLINS AND MARY OLIVER**

Sunday, April 22, 2012

7:00 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore

Tickets: \$45-\$75

Dubbed "the most popular poet in America" by Bruce Weber in *The New York Times*, former U.S. Poet Laureate Billy Collins is famous for conversational, humorous and witty poetry. Pulitzer Prize

winner Mary Oliver has been writing and performing her special brand of poetry, theatre and music since the 1980's.

*Arts and the Brain lecture series*

**YOUR BRAIN ON JAZZ: THE NEUROSCIENCE OF IMPROVISATION**

Thursday, April 26, 2012

7-8:30 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$21

Dr. Charles Limb of Johns Hopkins University, a hearing specialist and surgeon specializing in cochlear implantation, and a musician himself, shares results of his neuroimaging experiments to show how creativity takes place in the brain. Limb's findings will demystify how the brain creates music and, specifically, how it calls on all its resources to create music on the spot through improvisation.

*Strathmore Education*

**JOBARI PARKER-NAMDAR**

Friday, April 27, 2012

11:00 a.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$15

A music and theater major at Howard University, Parker-Namdar has made a name for himself with his strong baritone, expressive performing style and ability to both sing and act, skills that landed him lead roles in productions like "The Stephen Schwartz Project" and "Jonah Live on Stage Water Whale and All!". At Strathmore, he'll perform Tin Pan Alley hits by Irving Berlin, George M. Cohen and George and Ira Gershwin. The concert is part of Strathmore's Celebrating American Composers series.

*Strathmore and Maestro Artist Management Present*

**20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MOSCOW SOLOISTS CHAMBER ORCHESTRA**

**Yuri Bashmet, conductor and viola**

**Mischa Maisky, cello**

Friday, April 27, 2012

8:00 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore

Tickets: \$35-\$95

Described by *The Times* (London) as "without doubt, one of the world's greatest living musicians," Yuri Bashmet is the pre-eminent viola player of the modern age, and the founder and director of the Grammy Award-winning Russian orchestra Moscow Soloists, which celebrates its 20th anniversary in 2012. For their Strathmore debut, they are joined by Latvian star cellist Mischa Maisky, who Mstislav Rostropovich praised for his "poetry and exquisite delicacy, great temperament and brilliant technique."

**PROGRAM**

Schubert/Mahler: Quartet in D minor, D. 810 "Death and the Maiden"

Haydn: Cello Concerto No. 1 in C major, H. 7b/1

Tchaikovsky: Nocturne in D minor for Cello and Orchestra, Op. 19, No. 4  
Brahms: Quintet in B minor for Viola and Strings, Op. 115

*Strathmore Fine Art*

**STRATHMORE UNLEASHED!**

April 28 – June 9, 2012  
Mansion at Strathmore  
*Gudelsky Gallery Suite*

Strathmore is going to the dogs with the spring exhibition *Strathmore Unleashed!*, a canine-tastic art exhibition that's all about man's best friend. Dogs—and all the memories and emotions they evoke—will be depicted in sculpture, painting, mixed media, design, photography and video. It's a show so intriguing you'll want to sit and stay.

*Strathmore Art After Hours*

**NITANJU, GOSPEL**

Wednesday, May 2, 2012  
7:30 p.m.  
Mansion at Strathmore  
Tickets: \$15

Nitanju Bolade Casel became a member of Sweet Honey In The Rock in 1985, after four years of studying, performing, and cultural organizing in Dakar, Senegal. Her gospel-tinged performances evoke Africa and the African American experience. Her compositions can be heard in the Australian Broadcasting Company's *Sing!*, Mystic Seaport's multi-media history presentation *Black Hands, Blue Seas: The African American Maritime Experience* and Tribeca Production company's *The Box*.

*Strathmore Presents in association with the DCJCC*

**ABRAHAM INC.**

Thursday, May 3, 2012  
8:00 p.m.  
Music Center at Strathmore  
Tickets: \$37

Musicians David Krakauer, Fred Wesley and SoCalled bridge genres and shirk popular convention to create a masterly mash-up of klezmer, funk and hip-hop. The trio is “connected with something deep, mysterious, and timeless... as ancient as the sound of the Shofar... yet as modern as the...young hipsters at downtown venues” (*Jazziz*).

*Strathmore Education*

**JAZZ SINGING 201**

Mondays, May 7–June 11, 2012  
7:30–9:30 P.M.  
Mansion at Strathmore  
Tuition \$330 (for six classes)

For students who have previously attended Intro to Jazz or have previous jazz singing experience, this class will build on basic skills and help students take their vocal performance to the next level. More emphasis is placed on performance practice, song selection, stage presence, microphone

technique and communication with the rhythm section. The class culminates in an informal cabaret style performance.

*Strathmore Art After Hours*

**ZANE FORSHEE, GUITAR**

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

7:30 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$15

*Fingerstyle Guitar Magazine* describes Zane Forshee as “one of his generation’s finest guitarists.” Active both as a soloist and in chamber ensembles, recent concert engagements have taken him across North America, Europe and Asia. His debut recording *Initial* has been praised for its “Superb musical and technical skill” (Minor7th.com). *Classical Guitar Magazine* states “Forshee immediately establishes his credentials as an excellent player, with clarity, precision and an abundance of fine technique.”

*Strathmore Music in the Mansion*

**KATIE MAHAN, PIANO**

**ALL DEBUSSY**

Thursday, May 10, 2012

7:30 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$30

An acclaimed interpreter of Debussy, American pianist Kate Mahan has won international admiration for her delivery of his complex music. Praised for her extraordinary musical sensitivity, Mahan creates, “Numerous nuances of sound...sometimes strong, sometimes astoundingly tender and intimate, surrounded and seduced the audience” (*Neue Ruhr Zeitung*). Strathmore’s Music in the Mansion series is sponsored by Asbury Methodist Village. This event features a pre-concert lecture with WETA’s David Ginder.

*Strathmore Presents*

**JOHN PIZZARELLI AND KURT ELLING**

Thursday, May 10, 2012

8:00 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore

Tickets: \$28-\$68

Vocalists John Pizzarelli and Kurt Elling share the tributes to Sinatra and Ellington, as well as compelling riffs on standards of the American songbook that have brought new audiences to jazz music. *New York Magazine* encourages audience to, “Never miss a chance to see John Pizzarelli,” while *JazzTimes* declares Kurt Elling, “one of the preeminent jazz singers of our time.” The concert is part of Strathmore’s Celebrating American Composers series.

*Strathmore Education*

**JAZZ VOCAL INTENSIVE: GETTING AND KEEPING GIGS**

Saturday, May 12, 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets \$65

Throughout the course of this intensive workshop, participants will focus on tried and true methods for getting gigs, from self-promotion through press kits and websites to finding and making contact with venues, networking with other musicians, booking tips including pay negotiation and contract writing, and how to keep gigs through good relationships with venues (including when and how to compromise).

*Strathmore Art After Hours*

**OWEN DANOFF, SINGER-SONGWRITER**

Wednesday, May 16, 2012

7:30 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$15

Influenced by his father, writer of such unforgettable hits as "Take Me Home, Country Roads" and "Afternoon Delight," singer-songwriter Owen Danoff blends folk, country and his lifelong love of rock music.

*Strathmore Music in the Mansion*

**NATIONAL PHILHARMONIC AND FRIENDS**

**ALL DEBUSSY**

Thursday, May 17, 2012

7:30 p.m., pre-concert lecture at 6:30 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$30

The National Philharmonic celebrates the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Debussy by gathering like-minded fans and virtuoso partners for this intimate performance of the composer's seminal works. Strathmore's Music in the Mansion series is sponsored by Asbury Methodist Village. This concert is preceded by a lecture with WETA's David Ginder.

**PROGRAM**

Debussy: Piano Trio

Debussy: Cello Sonata

Debussy: Violin Sonata

Debussy: String Quartet

*Strathmore Presents*

**DALLAS BRASS**

Friday, May 18, 2012

8:00 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore

Tickets: \$25-\$35

Dallas Brass will help local high school students expand their musical horizons beyond what's in their iPods with an eclectic musical palette that includes classical to Dixieland, swing and Broadway. In this Strathmore collaboration, Dallas Brass will work with area schools in a week-long residency and then perform with 120 local student musicians on the Music Center stage.

*Strathmore Art After Hours*

**LAURA STRICKLING, SOPRANO**

Wednesday, May 23, 2012

7:30 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$15

Laura Strickling is praised by *The New York Times* for her “flexible voice, crystalline diction and warm presence.” A prize winner in the Liederkrantz, Vocal Arts Society, Gretchen Hood, Russell C. Wonderlic, American Prize for Opera, Barry Alexander International, NATSAA and Washington International competitions, her operatic performances include Cleopatra, Dinorah, Josephine, Mabel, Belinda, Gretel, Micaëla and Pamina. Concert engagements include performances at the Kennedy Center, Weill Hall, Galapagos Art Space and the Afghanistan National Institute of Music.

*Strathmore Art After Hours*

**FLO ANITO, SINGER-SONGWRITER**

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

7:30 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$15

Classically trained in voice, piano and cello, Flo Anito began her singer-songwriter career at age 16, penning provocative and quirky jazzy pop songs. Anito was the only D.C.-based musician selected to play Merriweather Post Pavilion as part of the Virgin Mobile Free Fest's Busking Brigade, and she has opened for Eli Matthson (*America's Got Talent*) and Emi Meyer at the National Cherry Blossom Festival.

*Strathmore Presents*

**TOMMY TUNE IN**

**“STEPS IN TIME”**

Saturday, June 2, 2012

2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Music Center at Strathmore

Tickets: \$28-\$58

Broadway's legendary song and dance man, Tommy Tune, celebrates 50 years on the Great White Way by tracing milestones in his nine-time Tony Award-winning career. Backed by a band and the singing and dancing titans of the Manhattan Rhythm Kings, Tune sings, dances, and laughs his way through his life in the footlights. “Ninety minutes you fervently wish would never end...as big as anything on Broadway” (*New York Magazine*).

*Strathmore Art After Hours*

**KAREN COLLINS AND THE BACKROAD BAND, COUNTRY**

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

7:30 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$15

In a town full of bowties, button-ups and pressed shirts, Karen Collins and the Backroad Band perform retro honky-tonk and classic country music. Their vintage country sound harkens back to the 1940s-1970s and also includes original American roots songs.

*Strathmore Art After Hours*

**VÉRONNEAU, WORLD MUSIC**

Wednesday, June 13, 2012

7:30 p.m.

Mansion at Strathmore

Tickets: \$15

The acoustic Véronneau nimbly moves from Latin Jazz, Gypsy Swing, American song and world music performed in English, French and Spanish. Front woman Lynn Véronneau executes the group's diverse repertoire with "crisp and strong" (Capital Bop) vocals, suited to Brazilian samba as well as it is to French chanson and standards of The American Songbook.

**ABOUT STRATHMORE**

Strathmore is an established arts presenter and cultural destination that nurtures art, artists and community through creative and diverse programming of the highest quality, and is home to the Music Center at Strathmore, a 1,976-seat concert hall and education complex. The Music Center at Strathmore, located at 5301 Tuckerman Lane in North Bethesda, MD, is immediately adjacent to the Grosvenor-Strathmore station on Metro's Red Line and a half-mile from the Capital Beltway. For those attending a ticketed performance at the Music Center at Strathmore, parking in the Metro garage is complimentary. All Music in the Mansion concerts are held in the Dorothy M. and Maurice C. Shapiro Music Room in the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda, MD. Parking is available on site for all Mansion performances. For more information, call (301) 581-5100 or visit [www.strathmore.org](http://www.strathmore.org).

###

*Strathmore is supported by a grant from the Maryland State Arts Council, an agency dedicated to cultivating a vibrant cultural community where the arts thrive. An agency of the Department of Business & Economic Development, MSAC provides financial support and technical assistance to non-profit organizations, units of government, colleges and universities for arts activities. Strathmore is also supported in part by the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County.*