



## Introducing Linda Moxley

**W**e're thrilled to welcome Linda Moxley as Sarasota Concert Association's (SCA) new executive director. She may be new to SCA—but she's not new to our area. Linda first visited Sarasota in 1990, when the Atlanta Symphony performed here on a concert tour. "I was the orchestra's marketing director," Linda recalls. "I remember the concert was at the Van Wezel, but that was all I got to see of Sarasota."

Fast forward to 2013 when Linda returned to Sarasota for vacation. "I felt an instant connection," she says. "I discovered a thriving cultural scene and the richness of Sarasota's arts community really inspired me." Though Linda regularly attended theater, dance, and art exhibitions in New York, Washington D.C., and Baltimore, her professional experience has been primarily in classical music.

A native of Long Island, she holds an undergraduate degree in music education from the State University of New York at Fredonia, and a master's in arts management from the University of Cincinnati. Linda most recently served as the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra's Vice President of Marketing and Communications. She's also held roles as the Baltimore Choral Arts Society's Executive Director and served in marketing and public relations positions with the Saint Louis Symphony, the Virginia Philharmonic, San Francisco Symphony, and the Atlanta Symphony. Linda has taught arts management courses, and led marketing seminars, including teaching 40 Russian orchestras how American orchestras conduct marketing and fundraising campaigns.

According to Joy McIntyre, SCA's board president, Linda's track record got the attention of SCA's search committee. Their quest for the organization's first executive director had yielded a long list of impressive candidates. But Linda Moxley's name stood out. "We knew Linda was the one," says Joy. "She bridges the gap between culture and

community. She has a deep understanding of classical music. She has an equal mastery of the organizational support system that makes the music happen. Thanks to her natural curiosity, Linda already had a deep grasp of our area's cultural landscape. Our search was at an end!"

Linda brings to Sarasota her love of music and a few prized musical instruments, including a Kawai baby grand piano, a few accordions and a didgeridoo. How does Linda feel about stepping into her new role? "I'm honored and thrilled," she says. "Thirty years after my first visit to Sarasota, I not only get to live here, but I have the privilege of working with SCA's wonderful team."

According to Joy, "Linda is taking the helm at an unprecedented time. This pandemic is a trial by fire for arts organizations everywhere. But we've got an amazing woman to lead us through it."

The SCA audiences long to hear great performances again in the concert hall. Linda knows how they feel. "It's been a very long ten months without the ability to attend live performances the way we did a year ago," she says. "We're thrilled to be presenting the upcoming "Musically Speaking" series of virtual performances. And as soon as we can safely return to the concert hall, SCA will once again delight audiences with in-person performances featuring world-renowned musicians and orchestras from around the world."

# INTRODUCING A NEW & EXCITING VIRTUAL SERIES!

FEB 25 2021 | 7 PM



## Garrick Ohlsson & Kirill Gerstein Duo Piano

These internationally renowned pianists team up to perform two-piano arrangements of beloved orchestral works, including Rachmaninoff's *Symphonic Dances*, and Ravel's *La Valse*.

MARCH 11 2021 | 7 PM



## Violinist Samantha Bennett & Percussionist George Nickson

Sarasota Orchestra's Samantha Bennett and Dallas Symphony's George Nickson, also co-directors of ensembleNEWSRQ, present a versatile and engaging approach to contemporary music.

MARCH 25, 2021 | 7 PM



## The Academy of St Martin in the Fields Chamber Orchestra

Join us for a pandemic-inspired program, "Overcoming Distance," featuring Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 4, and Mozart's Symphony No. 29.

Register today for this FREE series!  
[www.SCAsarasota.org/MusicallySpeaking](http://www.SCAsarasota.org/MusicallySpeaking)

## Musically Speaking A VIRTUAL CONCERT & CONVERSATION SERIES

### Sarasota Concert Association Launches "Musically Speaking" A Free Virtual Concert and Conversation Series

We are delighted to announce a free virtual concert series, "Musically Speaking." This three-concert series features preeminent classical musicians in unique performances and highlighted by informal conversations with the artists. World-acclaimed pianists **Garrick Ohlsson** and **Kirill Gerstein** launch the series with a two-piano performance and conversation on Thursday, February 25. Violinist **Samantha Bennett** and percussionist **George Nickson** will share their unique artistry on Thursday, March 11. The acclaimed chamber ensemble, **Academy of St Martin in the Fields**, concludes the series on Thursday, March 25. **Charles Turon**, a musician, educator, and SCA board member, will conduct the conversations with the artists.

Linda Moxley, SCA's newly appointed executive director, says that SCA decided to make "Musically Speaking" a free series to "thank Sarasota audiences who continue to support Sarasota Concert Association and other great arts organizations in our region during these challenging times."

Each concert will feature a lively conversation with the artists, who will discuss the music we'll hear, how they have spent their time during the pandemic, and other interesting insights, shared exclusively with our Sarasota audiences. The concerts can be enjoyed at home and will be available for seven days for unlimited viewing after the initial broadcast date.

Before the full scope of the pandemic was known, SCA's 2021 Great Performers Series season featured six concerts. As a result of the pandemic, the Moscow State Symphony Orchestra, The Cleveland Orchestra, and Bach Collegium Japan concerts were cancelled in November. Sarasota Concert Association recently made the decision to also cancel the remaining three concerts of the season, including the Takács Quartet with pianist Joyce Yang; violinist Benjamin Beilman with pianist Yekwon Sunwoo; and pianist Emanuel Ax.

"We look forward to bringing these renowned artists back to Sarasota in future seasons," Linda said, "and in the meantime we hope you will enjoy this exciting virtual series."

The "Musically Speaking" concerts are free, but registration is necessary. To register, please visit our website: [www.SCAsarasota.org/MusicallySpeaking](http://www.SCAsarasota.org/MusicallySpeaking).



## President's Corner

### Musing on Time

"I wish it need not have happened in my time," said Frodo. "So do I," said Gandalf, "and so do all who live to see such times."

– J.R.R. Tolkien, *The Fellowship of the Ring* (1954)

People have been musing on *time* since time began, from Genesis to Charles Dickens. As we know only too well, we also have been living in challenging times. But, now, with vaccines on the horizon, the future looks so much brighter. I am positively energized and thrilled about plans for our upcoming cultural seasons.

We were very sorry to cancel our entire GPS season, but it was necessary to protect both artists and audience. Plans are now being made to bring back some of those wonderful musicians in the 2022 season. In the meantime, we are exploring other ways to bring great music to you. Our **new virtual series**, "Musically Speaking," is very exciting, featuring world-renowned artists, as well as Sarasota's own unique and innovative ensemble **NEWSRQ**.

As the cultural landscape continues to evolve, we are extremely fortunate to have Linda Moxley, formerly VP of Marketing and Communications for the Baltimore Symphony, join our team as our first-ever executive director.

As we all pause for a metaphorical deep breath, just know this: **good times are on the way...** and, with your help, the SCA is preparing for another 75 years of great music making!

*Joy McIntyre* President, Sarasota Concert Association



## Behind the Curtain

### Meet Theresa MacDonnell, box office manager/executive assistant

Theresa manages a broad spectrum of details for SCA. Her love of music started in elementary school in rural New Jersey. By eighth grade, she became enchanted with the French horn. "The sound captured my soul," she recalls. "When I heard it performed, my heart would race." Theresa never looked back. By high school, she was performing professionally.

Her next stop was The Juilliard School, where she studied under the tutelage of James Chambers, who was the New York Philharmonic's principal horn. After graduating from Juilliard, Theresa enjoyed a stellar career and her eclectic talent shined across a range of musical genres. She performed with top-flight jazz ensembles and orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic and Orpheus Chamber Orchestra. She also enjoyed a 25-year stint on Broadway, performing in such critically acclaimed productions as *42nd Street*, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *Spamalot*, *Spider-Man*, *Titanic*, *Sunset Boulevard* with Glenn Close, and *Nine* with Antonio Banderas. Theresa shared the stage with such renowned musicians as Bono, The Edge, Phil Collins, Sting, Aretha Franklin, Barry Manilow, and Johnny Mathis. Closer to home, she played second horn for the Sarasota Opera.

Three years ago, a devastating car accident forced Theresa to take another career path. Her attitude is philosophical—without bitterness. "I don't look back," she says. "I appreciate the amazing musical career I've had. I'm grateful for every moment of it and I'm now thoroughly enjoying working with SCA's dedicated staff and board members."

"A mind trained in classical music is a valuable instrument," says Joy McIntyre. "Theresa is an excellent example of the ability to reinvent oneself when life changes your path unexpectedly. And she is a lovely person!"

## SUBSCRIBER & PROGRAM UPDATES

As our signature Great Performers Series and Music Matinees concerts were canceled for 2021, we are deeply grateful to those who donated tickets.

For more information, please contact our box office: 941-225-6500 or [boxoffice@SCAsarasota.org](mailto:boxoffice@SCAsarasota.org)

We are currently confirming an outstanding lineup of artists for our 2022 season and plan to announce it in the spring. We look forward to bringing world-class artists and inspired classical music to Sarasota audiences once again and hope you will join us!



## SARASOTA CONCERT ASSOCIATION

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## NEW & EXCITING FREE VIRTUAL SERIES!



Join us for outstanding music and conversation from the comfort of your own home. Details inside!

**Pianists Garrick Ohlsson & Kirill Gerstein**

Thursday, February 25, 7 pm

**Violinist Samantha Bennett & Percussionist George Nickson**

Thursday, March 11, 7 pm

**Academy of St Martin in the Fields Chamber Orchestra**

Thursday, March 25, 7 pm

These concerts are FREE but registration is required. Simply go to the SCA website - [www.SCAarasota.org/MusicallySpeaking](http://www.SCAarasota.org/MusicallySpeaking) - then fill out the short form. Once you are registered, we'll send you the concert link prior to the performance.

### Stay tuned! 2022 Season to be Announced this Spring.

Happy New Year! Though the start of 2021 means no live performances, we are thrilled with how next year's Great Performers Series and Music Matinees are shaping up and know you will be too.