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South Berkshire Concerts at Simon's Rock Resumes with the Rolston String Quartet

GREAT BARRINGTON, MA—After a hiatus of 27 months, the series of visiting musicians at Bard College at Simon's Rock will resume on Sunday afternoon, February 27, at 3:00 p.m. in the McConnell Auditorium of the Daniel Arts Center. The concert will feature the Rolston String Quartet, a young ensemble from Canada that has been winning prestigious awards both at home and internationally. They will be performing a program of works by Haydn, Mendelssohn, and the contemporary Peruvian-American composer Gabriela Lena Frank. There will be two Haydn string quartets performed, evidence of their project to record all 83 such works by the composer who is generally considered the father of the string quartet genre. The concert will be open to the public, which must show vaccination certificates upon entry and attend fully masked. The Daniel Arts Center staff is ensuring that audience members will be safely seated in socially distanced groups. Admission is free, and reservations should be made on the Eventbrite website here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/south-berkshire-concert-series-the-rolston-string-quartet-tickets-265924396027>

For further information, call 413-528-7212.

With their debut recording, "Souvenirs" recently named BBC Music Magazine 'recording of the year,' Canada's Rolston String Quartet continues to receive acclamation and recognition for their musical excellence. As the 2018 recipient and first international ensemble chosen for the prestigious Cleveland Quartet Award from Chamber Music America, their accolades and awards precede them. In 2016, a monumental year, they won First Prize at the 12th Banff International String Quartet Competition, Grand Prize at the 31st Chamber Music Yellow Springs Competition, and Astral's National Auditions.

The Rolston String Quartet was formed in the summer of 2013 at the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity's Chamber Music Residency. They take their name from Canadian violinist Thomas Rolston, founder and long-time director of the Music and Sound Programs at the Banff Centre. The original members are all graduates of The Glenn Gould School (GGs), and it was at the GGS

that they founded their passion for chamber music and, under the guidance of Barry Shiffman, focused their artistic growth and ensemble playing.

The members of the quartet are Luri Lee, and Jason Issokson, violins; Hezekiah Leung, viola; and Peter Eom, cello. The Rolston String Quartet performs on the Eugène Ysaÿe quartet of instruments. The set was made by Samuel Zygmuntowicz and is on a generous loan from the El Pasito Association.

About Simon's Rock

[Bard College at Simon's Rock](#) is the only college in the country specifically designed for highly motivated students ready to enter college after the 10th or 11th grade. Simon's Rock offers a challenging program in the liberal arts and sciences, taught exclusively in small seminars by supportive, highly trained faculty, who are leading scholars in their fields. The College grants degrees in more than 35 majors. The Princeton Review's *Best 380 Colleges* rates academics at Simon's Rock higher than Harvard and Princeton.

[Bard Academy at Simon's Rock](#) is the nation's first two-year boarding and day program designed to prepare 9th and 10th graders to start college early. A student entering Bard Academy as a high school freshman will earn an Associate of Arts degree from Bard College at Simon's Rock after only four years and a Bachelor of Arts degree after only six years. The Academy curriculum is designed and taught by students' future college professors who are leading scholars in their fields.

For more information, visit simons-rock.edu and bardacademy.simons-rock.edu.

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