

Alarm Will Sound performs WNY premiere of 'Ten Thousand Birds' at Artpark



Acclaimed musical ensemble Alarm Will Sound performed the Western New York premiere of "Ten Thousand Birds" by John Luther Adams at Artpark on Sunday. The Lewiston venue is one of only two sites in the country to present the group for this special performance that utilizes social distancing for both the group of 20 musicians and the audience.

Alarm Will Sound surrounded the people sitting and standing within the terrace area, performing nature sounds from a variety of places and on a number of instruments.

"Ten Thousand Birds" was written especially for AWS. The piece is based on the songs of birds that are native to, or migrate through the area in which the piece is performed. It explores the connections between nature and music - a topic that Pulitzer Prize and Grammy Award-winner Adams has pursued over the course of his career. That's also a common theme in Artpark's programming.

Artistic Director Alan Pierson often conducts AWS, but not with "Ten Thousand Birds." He said, "It's such a thrill to get to be here with you all tonight. We in Alarm Will Sound have been playing together for nearly 20 years now, and all that kind of came to a halt back in March. These concerts are our first time playing together since the pandemic. And so, it's incredibly special and meaningful to us to be back here making music together and to be sharing that with all of you."

"The piece we're playing, 'Ten Thousand Birds' by John Luther Adams, is, of course, as the name suggests, inspired by sounds of nature: sounds of birds, and of wind and of frogs; but it is really music that is for and about human beings. John composed the piece with the intention of making a space for people to connect with each other, and with the environment. And that is what we're hoping to do here with you all tonight."

"And for me, this is a very unusual experience, because usually I conduct the group; but we do this piece without a conductor, and so I get to join all of you and have that experience with all of you."

AWS Executive Director Gavin Chuck added, "There's another aspect of this that comes to mind, which is that this piece, in particular, with John's music in general, is about listening to the landscape that you find yourself in. And we find ourselves in this landscape next to the river, in these words."

He noted, "This piece is meant for the audience and the musicians to be moving around each other, to have a different perspective at all times on what's going on. It's almost as if you're walking through nature, and you come across a morning dove, or a frog - and in this case that morning dove might be a clarinet, or that frog might be a trombone - and we encourage you to move around the space there: all the three levels."

In a press release, Adams explained, "At this difficult moment, it's more important than ever for us to remember our connections with the larger-than-human world, and to celebrate the never-ending music of the miraculous planet that is our one and only home."

For more information on upcoming events or COVID-19 safety protocols, visit www.artpark.net.

DANCE
with us

OUTDOOR OPEN HOUSE

Go to website for Online Registration and Covid-19 Protocols
www.lewistondance.com

Lewiston Dance

Register NOW!
Class size is limited

To help **WORKING PARENTS** - offering **FINE ARTS CAMP** during school hours.
Go to website for Info and to Register.

OUTDOOR OPEN HOUSES
August 19, 5-7pm • August 22, 1-3pm

Protect your home!

BEES • ANTS • WASPS • SPIDERS & MORE!

\$50 COUPON FOR NEW PROGRAMS!

773-BUGG44 www.buggcontrol.com

Wagner's Farm Market and Grill

QUALITY FRUITS, VEGETABLES, GROCERIES & MEATS

HOMEGROWN FRESH

Sweet Corn • Tomatoes • Apples
Nectarines • Peaches • Blueberries
Watermelon & so much more!!!

2672 Lockport Rd., Sanborn • 731.4440
MARKET OPEN MON-SAT 9-6 • GRILL OPEN MON-SAT AT 11 AM

THE GREAT FOODINI

THE GREAT FOODINI PIZZERIA

2564 Academy Street, Ransomville, NY 14131
716-791-4400

Everything Fresh & Made In House

PIZZA & WINGS

SUBS • CHICKEN TENDERS • FRESH HANDCUT FRIES
FRESH BEER BATTERED MUSHROOMS • ONION RINGS • MOZZARELLA STICKS
FRESH FISH FRY (Gluten Free Option Available)
See our full menu www.thegreatfoodinipizzeria.com

We Deliver To All Surrounding Areas • Minimum \$15 Order

Dirty Windows?

WINDOWS - GUTTERS - HOUSEWASHING

CALL TODAY FOR SUMMER SPECIALS!

773-7580 www.kleenwindows.com

tnbpa
Town of Niagara Business & Professional Assoc. Inc.

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL BUSINESSES

Republic Services 5600 Niagara Falls Blvd 867-3238	Servpro of North Niagara County 8555 Packard Rd 545-2091
Restaino & Reddien, LLP 3116 Military Rd 235-5885	Steve's Heating & A/C 3001 Military Rd 297-6444
Romeo Accounting 3120 Military Rd 297-4644	Supermarket Liquors & Wines 8438 Niagara Falls Blvd 297-7393
Saraceni Pools & Spas 2444 Military Rd 283-8708	Swimmin' with the Fishes 8188 W Rivershore Dr. 949-3779
Scott Furniture 4419 Military Rd 297-3060	Tim Hortons 2019 River Rd 297-3791

SHOP SMALL

OLD FORT NIAGARA

WE ARE OPEN!

Daily hours of operation 10a.m. to 4p.m. to allow for extra cleaning before and after hours

CAPACITY WILL BE CAPPED AT 25% IN INDOOR SPACES

Visitors please note the following: We are committed to keeping you healthy and safe, but we cannot guarantee you will not be exposed to COVID-19. We rely on you to protect yourself by washing your hands often and avoid touching your face, maintain your distance from others, and avoid touching surfaces.

Old Fort Niagara's complete safety plan is detailed at www.oldfortniagara.org/visitor-information

www.oldfortniagara.org
745-7611