

MUSIC

563-333-6216, Wed 4-6pm, KALA Radio 88.5 & 105.5 FM, St. Ambrose University, Davenport, Iowa, 563-333-6219, **thru Sun, Dec 31.**

CALLS FOR ENTRY

Acoustic Performers at The Coffee Artist Cafe, for Friday-night live music from 7-9pm; for information, call Mona at 743-0088, The Coffee Artist Cafe, 1711 5th Ave., Moline, Illinois, **thru Sun, Dec 31.**

Zap & Friends @ RME, music education and live performance with guitarist and teacher Mark "Zap" Zaputli, students, and guests; for information, call 563-326-1333 or e-mail zapman2001@hotmail.com, 3rd St. of month 10:30am-6pm, River Music Experience, Davenport, Iowa, **thru Sun, Dec 31.**

LITERARY ARTS

READINGS & DISCUSSIONS

Juvenile Forum, open manuscript critiques for writers of children's literature; for information, call 324-1410, 2-4 pm 2nd Sat each month, Midwest Writing Center, 225 E. 2nd St. Suite 303, Davenport, Iowa, **thru Sun, Dec 31.**

DAGOBAH Book Discussion Group, sci-fi and fantasy book club; all ages, 2nd Mon of the month - 6pm, free, Davenport Public Library (Main), 321 Main Street, Davenport, Iowa, 563-326-7832, **thru Sun, Dec 31.**

Short & Sweets, stories, snacks, and company; reading material provided; reserve at 888-3371, 2nd Tue of month 10-11am, Fairmount Street Library, 3000 N. Fairmount St., Davenport, Iowa, **thru Sun, Dec 31.**

Out Loud Plus, open mic poetry and prose readings; 2nd Tue of month, 7pm, Midwest Writing Center, 225 E. 2nd St. Suite 303, Davenport, Iowa, 563-324-1410, **thru Sat, Dec 30.**

Pathways Book Group, sponsored by the Quad-City Labyrinth Project; for information, call 563-323-1737, 2nd Mon of month 7-8:30pm, Borders Books & Music, 4000 E. 53rd St., Davenport, Ia, **thru Wed, Jan 31.**

Out Loud Poetry Readings, for information, call 563-324-1410, 7pm, free, Midwest Writing Center, 225 E. 2nd St. Suite 303, Davenport, Iowa, **Thu, Nov 30.**

Sean Leary, signing and reading from his short story collection "Every Number is Lucky to Someone", 2-4pm, Borders Books & Music, 4000 E. 53rd St., Davenport, Iowa, 563-359-7830, **Sat, Dec 2.**

Good Night, Mr. Holmes, discussion of Carole Nelson Douglas' mystery novel, 9:30am, Bettendorf Public Library, 2950 Learning Campus, Bettendorf, Iowa, 563-344-4175, **Sat, Dec 2.**

Jill Esbaum - M.A. Harkert - Barbara Kissinger - Ted McElhiney - Sharon Rexroth, book signings: Esbaum's "Estelle Takes a Bath"; Harkert's "The Chill of Evil"; Kissinger's "Christmas Past"; McElhiney's "The River Rising"; Rexroth's "Iowa from the Sky", 1-4pm, Barnes & Noble (Davenport), 320 W Kimberly Rd, Davenport, Iowa, 563-445-8760, **Sat, Dec 2.**

Alpha Book Club: Ethan Frome & Redbird Christmas, by Edith Wharton and Fanny Flagg; free, Alpha Book Club meeting, 3pm, free, Rock Island Public Library - Main, 401 19th, Rock Island, Illinois, 309-732-7323, **Mon, Dec 4.**

Robert Hass - Brenda Hillman, joint reading by poets and visiting faculty members, 8pm, free, Shambaugh Auditorium, UI Main Library, Iowa City, Iowa, **Wed, Dec 6.**

Emily Dickinson Birthday Commemoration Poetry Discussion, with St. Ambrose professor Bea Jacobson, 7pm, Bettendorf Public Library, 2950 Learning Campus, Bettendorf, Iowa, 563-344-4175, **Thu, Dec 7.**

Gunda Davis - Michael P. Harker - Catherine J. Kaufman - Mike Ostlund, book signings: Davis' "Pumpkin Soup and Schrapnel"; Harker's "Harker's Barns"; Kaufman's "Bentley-Rosemont"; Ostlund's "Find 'Em, Chase 'Em, Sink 'Em", 2-4pm, Barnes & Noble (Davenport), 320 W Kimberly Rd, Davenport, Iowa, 563-445-8760, **Sat, Dec 9.**

The Centaur in the Garden, part of the "Let's Talk About It: Jewish Literature - Identity and Imagination" series; discussion of Moacyr Scliar's novel; for information, call 309-794-7266, 7pm, Thomas Tredway Library, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois, **Sun, Dec 10.**

The Giver, SAU-READ discussion of Lois Lowery's book; for information, call 563-333-6245, 6:30pm, O'Keefe Library, St. Ambrose University, Davenport, Iowa, **Sun, Dec 10.**

Eileen Boggess, signing her novel "The Meek", 1pm, Barnes & Noble (Davenport), 320 W Kimberly Rd, Davenport, Iowa, 563-445-8760, **Sun, Dec 10.**

Walking a Sacred Path, discussion of Rev. Dr. Lauren Artress' book, sponsored by the Quad-City Labyrinth Project; for information, call 563-323-1737, 7-8:30pm, Borders Books & Music, 4000 E. 53rd St., Davenport, Iowa, 563-359-7830, **Mon, Dec 11.**

Short & Sweets, stories, snacks, and company; reading material provided; reserve at 888-3371, 10-11am, Fairmount Street Library, 3000 N. Fairmount St., Davenport, Iowa, **Tue, Dec 12.**

Fortunate Pilgrim, discussion of Mario Puzo's book; part of the Multicultural Book Discussion group; to register, call 326-7900, 5:30pm, Fairmount Street Library, 3000 N. Fairmount St., Davenport, Ia, **Wed, Dec 13.**

Multicultural America Book Discussion, for information, visit www.davenportlibrary.com, 5:30pm, Fairmount Street Library, 3000 N. Fairmount St., Davenport, Iowa, **Wed, Dec 13.**

CALLS FOR ENTRY

YPNews Book Review, Young Professionals Network looking for submissions for monthly book reviews; for more information, e-mail mfoley@quaddcitychamber.com, **thru Sat, Dec 30.**

West End Book Discussion Group, to register or participate, call 326-7844, 7pm the 3rd Tue of the month, Fairmount Street Library, 3000 N. Fairmount St., Davenport, Iowa, **thru Sun, Dec 31.**

Now or Never Writing Group, for information, call 563-324-1410, 1-3pm, free, Midwest Writing Center, 225 E. 2nd St. Suite 303, Davenport, Iowa, **Thu, Nov 30.**

THEATRE

PERFORMANCES

Triple Espresso, vaudevilian comedy; for tickets, call 515-243-1888, Fri 7:30pm; Sat 5pm, \$32.50-\$38.50, Civic Center of Greater Des Moines, 221 Walnut St., Des Moines, Iowa, **thru Sun, Dec 31.**

Irving Berlin's White Christmas, adaptation of the Bing Crosby classic; for tickets, call 309-786-7733 ext. 2, Wed-Sat 7:45pm; Sun 5:45pm; Wed 1:30pm, Circa '21, 1828 3rd Ave., Rock Island, Ill, **thru Sat, Jan 6.**

Christmas Cheer, annual holiday production; for tickets, call 1-800-352-6262, Thu, Sat & Sun 3pm; Wed, Fri, Sat 8pm, \$25, Old Creamery Theatre, Amana Colonies Visitor Center, 39 38th Ave, **thru Sun, Dec 17.**

The Elves and the Shoemaker, family musical-comedy; for tickets, call 309-786-7733, ext. 2, Circa '21, 1828 3rd Ave., Rock Island, Illinois, **thru Tue, Dec 26.**

Master Shakespeare and His Stories, designed for students; performance by the First Folio Shakespeare Company; for information, call 563-263-3065, 7pm, free, Musser Public Library, 3rd St & Iowa Ave, Muscatine, Iowa, **Wed, Nov 29.**

The Little Princess, the Junior Theatre Mainstage Company presents an adaptation of the beloved children's book; for information, call 563-326-7862, Wed 3pm; Thu 10am; Fri & Sat 7pm; Sun 2pm, \$4, Nighswander Junior Theatre, 2822 Eastern Avenue, Davenport, Iowa, **Wed, Nov 29 thru Sun, Dec 3.**

White Christmas: Transitions Mental Health Evening, silent auction, the presentation "Inner Life, Outer Life, Living with a Mental Illness" by Heidi Huiskamp, and the Irving Berlin musical; for reservations, call Gordon at 309-283-1205, 5pm, \$49, Circa '21, 1828 3rd Ave., Rock Island, Illinois, **Thu, Nov 30.**

It's a Wonderful Life: The Musical, musical adaptation of Frank Capra's classic; for tickets call 762-6610, Thu-Sat 7:30pm; Sun 2pm, Quad City Music Guild - Prospect Park Auditorium, 1584 34th Ave., Moline, Illinois, **Thu, Nov 30 thru Sun, Dec 3.**

Tailgrass Gothic, based on the British tragedy "The Changeling"; for tickets, call 319-335-1160, Thu-Sat 8pm; Sun 2pm, \$17, David Thayer Theater, University Theater, Iowa City, Ia, **Thu, Nov 30 thru Sun, Dec 10.**

Cruise Into Murder, dinner and a murder with the It's a Mystery Players; for tickets, call 319-366-8671, Fri & Sun 6:30pm, \$40, Clarion Hotel and Convention Center, Cedar Rapids, Ia, **Fri, Dec 1 thru Sun, Dec 3.**

Christmas: Hans Christian Andersen, TCR holiday production, Theatre Cedar Rapids, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 319-366-8592, **Fri, Dec 1 thru Sun, Dec 17.**

Narnia, musical adaptation of "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe"; for tickets, call 563-333-6251, 3pm, \$7, Galvin Fine Arts Center, 518 W. Locust St., Davenport, Iowa, **Sat, Dec 2 thru Sun, Dec 3.**

Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol, production by Dreamwell Theatre, at 26 East Market Street in Iowa City, new adaptation of Dickens' classic, by Tom Mula; for tickets, call 319-541-0140, Fri 6:30 & 8:30pm, \$12 & \$10, **Sat, Dec 2 thru Sat, Dec 9.**

Moline High School Dessert Theatre, three one-act plays with desserts and beverages in the auditorium, 7pm, \$5, Moline High School, 3600 23rd Ave., Moline, Illinois, 309-757-3545, **Mon, Dec 4.**

Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol, new adaptation of Dickens' classic, by Tom Mula; for tickets, call 563-326-PLAY, Thu & Sun 2pm; Fri & Sat 7:30pm, \$12 & \$10, Nighswander Theatre, 2822 Eastern Avenue, Davenport, Iowa, **Thu, Dec 7 thru Sun, Dec 17.**

The Tender Land, Aaron Copland opera about a midwestern farm family; for tickets, call 319-688-2653, Fri & Sat 8pm; Sun 2pm, \$15-\$25, Englert Theatre, 221 East Washington St., Iowa City, Iowa, 319-337-9151, **Fri, Dec 8 thru Sun, Dec 10.**

Murder in the Double Wide, interactive dinner-mystery with the It's a Mystery players; reserve at 563-359-1607, Fri & Sun 6:30pm, \$35, The Lodge Hotel, Spruce Hills & Utica Ridge, Bettendorf, Iowa, 563-359-7141, **Fri, Dec 8 thru Mon, Dec 10.**

Small Miracles, one-man show with Ron Clark; for tickets, call 319-

MUSIC

by Audra Beals

Double Your Pleasure

Quad City Symphony Orchestra, December 2 and 3 at Centennial Hall



David Bellugi and Ivano Battiston

At this weekend's Quad City Symphony concerts at Augustana College, David Bellugi will be the guest conductor and the soloist. For much of the concert, he'll actually be playing the recorder as he conducts. And that's just one of the elements of this concert that make it unusual.

Bellugi will be joined on stage by accordionist Ivano Battiston for an accordion-recorder duo. Both musicians are professors at Italy's Luigi Cherubini Conservatory of Music, and they have been performing together for seven years.

Like Bellugi, Battiston has two roles in this concert. The symphony will perform his "Double B" Concerto for Recorder, Accordion, & Strings, making him both the soloist and composer.

That work and A. Riccardo Luciani's *Dances from Anacrò for Recorder & Orchestra* (a piece written for Bellugi) are both North American premieres.

The Italian-themed concert, titled "Celebrate Instruments," also includes Rossini's *Overture to Il Signor Bruschino*, Astor Piazzolla's *Concerto for Accordion ("Aconagua")*, and Mendelssohn's *Italian Symphony*.

Performances are 8 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday at Augustana College's Centennial Hall.

Although Bellugi and Battiston are traveling from Italy, Bellugi does have local ties. When he was born in 1954, his father, Piero Bellugi, was conductor the Tri-City Symphony, which became the Quad City Symphony Orchestra.

Bellugi's doubling as guest conductor and

soloist will make the concert a challenging one for the musicians. The orchestra will have to follow along, he said.

"With the Luciani piece, it's not difficult for me to conduct while I'm playing," he said in a recent phone interview. "The orchestra doesn't need much other than beginnings and endings. ... The rhythm is quite stable, and they'll be able to see me and hear me."

Battiston's concerto, however, will be more difficult. The second movement is particularly challenging because of its improvisation.

"The improvisation is built above a tapestry of sounds from the orchestra," Bellugi said. "We actually had to rewrite the piece a little bit so that it could be done without a conductor. In other words, we will rely on various sections of the orchestra to give cues when to come in."

The concerts mark the end of a 10-day residency for the two musicians. Bellugi will host "Inside the Music," a discussion of the upcoming concerts, at St. Ambrose University's Rogalski Center at 5:30 p.m. on November 30. He will also talk about the performances at the "Concert Conversations" held an hour before each concert at Augustana College's Larson Hall.

The focus of their residency, however, was performing at local schools.

"We love playing for kids because they're fresh, they're exciting, they react, they're spontaneous, and they love our concerts," Bellugi said. "Their faces light up when we play. It's a joy." □

MUSIC

MONA TERRY & JEAN NORTON

The Coffee Artist Café
Saturday, December 2,
2:30-4:30 p.m.

A Path-Seeking Harmony

While perusing press releases during this time of year, "Escape the winter winds with hot coffee, munchies, and good music" is one of those invitations that immediately catches my attention, as those are three of my favorite things even in the summer. On December 2, this triad of treats will be in ample supply at the Coffee Artist Café (1711 Fifth Avenue in Moline), where local musicians Mona Terry (a noted area harpist) and Jean Norton (frequent music director for the Clinton Area Showboat Theatre and the Circa '21 Diner Playhouse) celebrate the release of their first collaborative CD, *A Path-Seeking Harmony*. In the recording's collection of inspirational songs, the gifted musicians - who will also perform at Saturday's event - employ guitar, harp, piano, alto flute, percussion, and vocals in a series of beautifully arranged compositions; having heard the CD, I can attest that the results are lovely and thoughtful, and that they back up Terry's press-release claim: "Designed to invite you into a contemplative space, this music can also inspire expressive movement and dance." I'd better make sure, though, that I have somewhere else to be on December 2. The last time I indulged in expressive movement and dance, I had cuffs slapped on me. For more information, call the Coffee Artist Café at (309)743-0088. - Mike Schulz