

# NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Shawn Farley or Carolyn Kilmer at 545-3671



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 8, 2005

**WHAT: Center Series presents: Lark String Quartet**

**WHEN: Thursday, November 3 at 7:30pm**

**WHERE: Bowker Auditorium**

**University of Massachusetts Amherst**

**Call 1-800-999-UMAS or 545-2511 for tickets or**

**go online to [www.fineartscenter.com/tickets](http://www.fineartscenter.com/tickets)**

Press release text and press-quality images are also available on our website at [www.fineartscenter.com/press](http://www.fineartscenter.com/press)

## **(Lark Quartet Launches Six Month UMass Residency with Special Concert)**

The Lark Quartet, nearing the end of its second decade as an internationally celebrated string quartet, has evolved into an ensemble that reaches the highest levels of versatility and virtuosity. They bring their unique musicianship to Bowker Auditorium at UMass on November 3 for a 7:30pm performance. This concert also launches the quartet's six month residency with the UMass Department of Music and Dance. Two members of the Lark, Kathryn Lockwood, violist, and Astrid Schween, cellist, are already on the faculty roster of the Department of Music & Dance. They will be joined by violonists Maria Bachmann and Deborah Buck. There will be a pre-concert talk at 6:15pm.

The evening's program will include Spiritual Fantasy #12 by Fine Arts Center emeritus director, Fred Tillis, Three Rags for String Quartet Composed and arranged by William Bolcom, Five Songs for String Quartet by George Gershwin, arranged by Stanley Silverman, String Quartet No. 2 - "In Memorium" by Peter Schickele and "*Take the A Train*" by Ellington arr. by Paul Chihara.

The musicians of the Lark form a dynamic ensemble with a performance history that includes concert tours of the world's great musical centers, and a discography

-MORE-

# NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Shawn Farley or Carolyn Kilmer at 545-3671



comprising more than one dozen CD recordings. After winning prizes in international competitions, the Naumburg Chamber Music Award, and Gold Medal at Russia's Shostakovich Competition among them, the Lark has performed throughout the United States and abroad. The quartet has held the position of ensemble-in-residence at Columbia University's Miller Theatre, Dartmouth College, Florida State and Ohio Universities, and has commissioned and premiered works by Jennifer Higdon, Peter Schickele, Julia Wolfe, Giovanni Sollima and Aaron Jay Kernis, whose String Quartet No. 2 was awarded the Pulitzer Prize.

Recent New York appearances include the complete Beethoven Cycle for the Beethoven Society and a performance of Derek Bermel's Soul Garden with members of the Lincoln Center Chamber Music Society at the Look and Listen Festival. Currently, the quartet is commissioning a series of new works by Daniel Bernard Roumain, Pulitzer Prize winning composer Paul Moravec and others. An exciting collaboration with The Ethos Percussion Group is also underway. This season, the Lark launches a new visiting residency at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst where featured activities will include concerts, collaborations and master classes. The Lark Quartet is represented by Vantage Artists LTD.

The Lark Quartet will perform at the Bowker Auditorium on Thursday, November 3rd at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$30 and \$15; Youth 17 and Under are \$10 and Five College Students are \$10, and \$7. For tickets and information, call the Fine Arts Center Box Office at 413-545-2511 or 1-800-999-UMAS, or go online to [www.fineartscenter.com/centerseries](http://www.fineartscenter.com/centerseries).

**See attached release for details about the Lark Quartet's residency.**

- END -