UN – FINISHED SIDE

MARCH 1, 2024 CONTACT: STUART WOLFERMAN STUART@UNFINISHEDSIDE.COM 718-938-7679

A Far Cry Reprises "A Stradivari Serenade" on March 29 in Partnership with Reuning & Son Violins

A Far Cry musicians will play on some of the finest instruments in the world – including Stradivari, Guarneri and other priceless instruments from the Reuning vault valued at over \$100 million.



A Far Cry has announced a reprise of one of the most popular events in the organization's history, <u>A Stradivari Serenade</u> on
March 29, 8PM at New England Conservatory's Jordan Hall. In partnership with Boston-based <u>Reuning & Son Violins</u>, the orchestra will present an extraordinary concert experience featuring the 18 "Criers" on 18 of the finest instruments in the world. The

program includes what has become <u>a signature piece for A Far Cry</u> – Tchaikovsky's *Serenade for Strings*, as well as works by Bach, Janáček, and a traditional dance from Veracruz arranged by AFC violinist Alex Fortes.

Reuning & Son's owner Christopher Reuning, with host **Terrance McKnight** (WQXR), will also present an insightful instrument showcase with help from A Far Cry players.

Prior to the concert, musicians will visit the Reuning "vault" to personally select instruments. The world-famous collection includes instruments by makers such as **Stradivari**, **Guarneri**,



Amati, and many more from the European Renaissance, through the Scientific Revolution, and spanning the Enlightenment.

Not long after Michelangelo painted the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, Andrea Amati crafted what we recognize as the modern violin. While Sir Isaac Newton conducted experiments on the laws of physics, Antonio Stradivari furnished the most sought after instruments of all time. As Bach penned his *Goldberg Variations*, Guarneri "del Gesù" introduced his own string instrument masterpieces.

Christopher Reuning will discuss the rich legacy of these revered instruments, from famous artists who played them to spectacular heists that shocked the music community. In addition to the evening's string orchestra selections, the Criers will perform solo and small ensemble demonstrations, illuminating how to listen, re-creating music from the era, and showcasing what exactly makes these instruments priceless.

A STRADIVARI SERENADE

New England Conservatory's Jordan Hall Friday, March 29, 2024 @ 8PM

Hosted by WQXR's Terrance McKnight

<<< <u>TICKET INFO</u> >>>

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky Serenade for Strings in C Major, Op. 48

Johann Sebastian Bach Concerto for Two Violins in D minor, BWV 1043

Chuchumbé Traditional Veracruz (before 1766), arr. Alex Fortes

Sapo Perapaskero aka Taraf de Haïdouks *Turceasca* (2009), arr. Osvaldo Golijov & Ljova

> Leoš Janáček Idyla for String Orchestra, ILJ 9





A FAR CRY

Described as offering "a refreshing corrective to classical music's rigid hierarchies" by WBUR, A Far Cry is known for its innovative and compelling programs, stellar communication, and a democratic process that is the group's north star. A Far Cry was founded in 2007 on the belief that every voice deserves to be heard; so instead of one artistic director, the collective of musicians ("Criers") curate and submit program ideas inspired by individual curiosities, and what is happening in the world at large. The result is ensemble playing at its most intimate, representing a diverse mix of music and collaborators.

This inherent sense of curiosity led the *Boston Globe* to say that "even though A Far Cry has decisively established itself as a mainstay of the Boston musical community, something about it feels perpetually fresh with every performance." A Far Cry has risen to the top of *Billboard*'s Traditional Classical Chart, and garnered two Grammy nominations. In 2023, in a testament to the group's strength as a collaborator, all three albums the A Far Cry released were nominated for a Grammy Award. This includes *The Blue Hour* (New Amsterdam and Nonesuch Records), *Stillpoint* (New Amsterdam Records), and *A Gentleman of Istanbul* (Crier Records).





Reuning & Son Violins was founded in the 1970s in Ithaca, New York, by Sanford and Joan Reuning, together with their son, Christopher Reuning. Sandy and Joan are both professional violinist/violists and educators who were pioneers of the Suzuki method. Chris is a cellist and trained as a violin restorer at the

House of Primavera in Philadelphia. The Reuning family combined their talents, opening a shop that found a niche in furnishing fine small-sized instruments to a national clientele.

In 1984, Chris purchased the business from his parents and opened in new premises in Ithaca. The business expanded rapidly into fine instruments, and 10 years later, Chris felt it was time to relocate to a larger and more accessible city. Thus, in 1994, Reuning & Son Violins opened in Boston. The move to Boston was a defining moment in the expansion of Reuning & Son Violins, which is now considered one of the world's most respected dealers of fine violins, violas, cellos, and bows.



CHRISTOPHER REUNING

Christopher Reuning, violin maker, restorer, and expert, grew up in a musical family and began playing cello at age 7. He became a violin-making apprentice at the age of 12 at the House of Primavera in Philadelphia. During the next six years, he frequently traveled to Cremona, Italy, to work with Virgilio Capellini and Alfredo Primavera, which complemented his Philadelphia training. Chris developed a keen interest in the study and identification of old violins and was mentored by Dario

D'Attili. Chris also counts Charles Beare and the late Robert Bein as important influences in this field.

Chris has served on the boards of the Violin Society of America and the American Federation of Violin and Bow Makers and is a member of the Entente Internationale des Luthiers et Archetiers. As past president of the AFVBM, he organized the annual meeting and exhibit in Seattle that examined the Cremonese violins made between 1730 and 1750. He has also organized AFVBM exhibitions that examined both the Venetian, and Neapolitan schools, and the followers of the Amati family.



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FULL ENSEMBLE

NEW ENGLAND CONSERVATORY'S JORDAN HALL; 8PM [IN PERSON & VIRTUAL]

May 10 Perception

Sofia Gubaidulina, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Béla Bartók

CHAMBER MUSIC WITH THE CRIERS [IN PERSON ONLY]

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH; 4PM LONGY SCHOOL OF MUSIC'S PICKMAN HALL; 3PM

Apr 20 Animal Banter

Dinuk Wijeratne, Jessica Meyer, Caroline Shaw, Eleanor Alberga, Errollyn Wallen, Reena Esmail, Gonzalo Grau, Vijay Iyer

SUMMER TOUR

July 2Ravinia FestivalCHICAGO, ILJuly 5Rockport Chamber Music FestivalROCKPORT, MAJuly 9Naumburg Orchestral ConcertsNEW YORK, NYJuly 2Newport ClassicalNEWPORT, RI