Calendar of Events January 12, 2015

FAU to Host Boston Camerata Musicians to Explore the Culture of the American Shakers

FAU benefactor Arthur Jaffe, Convivio Bookworks and the Bonvivio Book of Days Catalog are sponsoring world-famous early music specialists Anne Azéma and John Cohen of the Boston Camerata for a film, lecture and other entertaining programs that explore the American Shakers culture, on Wednesday, Jan. 21, and Thursday, Jan. 22, at Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton campus.

Azéma, the Camerata’s artistic director, and Cohen, the artistic director emeritus, will discuss the Shaker music following a screening of “A Chair Fit for an Angel,” a 2014 documentary that explores the cultural heritage of the American Shakers through dance, singing, architecture, woodworking and design on Wednesday, Jan. 21, at 7 p.m. at University Theatre. Admission is free for FAU students, faculty and staff with a current Owl Card. Advance tickets for the general public are $18 and can be reserved by contacting Eric Bush at 561-297-4189 or ebush3@fau.edu, and $20 at the door.

On Thursday, Jan. 22, Azéma and Cohen will chat, narrate, cajole, play and sing to evoke the famous medieval courts of love during a program, “What’s Love Got to Do with It? The Medieval Troubadours and their Fair, Cruel Ladies,” at the Arthur and Mata Jaffe Center for Book Arts at the Wimberly Library. Advance tickets are $18 and can be reserved by contacting Eric Bush at 561-297-4189 or ebush3@fau.edu, and $20 at the door.

For more than 200 years, the Shakers have been America’s most successful utopian society. While seeking harmony, order and perfection in every aspect of their lives, the Shakers built minimalist furniture and buildings that influenced modern design and continue to make their mark on contemporary design. They wrote songs of exquisite beauty and danced to ecstasy during their religious meetings. Inspired by this music and dance, Finnish choreographer Tero Saarinen created “Borrowed Light,” a dance piece about communal life and individual sacrifice. The piece, which is the focus of the film, has been performed throughout Europe to live musical accompaniment by the Boston Camerata.

For more information on the events, go to: http://www.library.fau.edu/depts/SPC/JaffeCenter/events/index.php