

PS 8 Enrichment Program: BARGEMUSIC



Bargemusic, a local Brooklyn institution which has been bringing classical chamber music (and now jazz) to NYC from Brooklyn's waterfront for three decades, is working with all the students at PS 8.

Violinist Mark Peskanov, Bargemusic's director, visits the school periodically with colleagues in classical music, jazz music and dance, to interact with students in a variety of ways which integrate music and dance.

Bargemusic's enrichment activities at PS 8 include:

- In-classroom performances and demonstrations, during which time several grades are visited over the course of a day. This is taking place on several occasions this year. In one visit, Mark, visiting with dancer Marjorie Folkman, uses a combination of unaccompanied violin and choreography, and performers and students have a dialogue about music and dance. In another, there is in-classroom demonstration and discussion of Beethoven trios.



- Performances for all grades in the auditorium during five separate visits, including a Bach sonata, Beethoven string trios, jazz classics, and, with the Vertigo Quartet,

excerpts from other great masterpieces, such as Dvorak's American Quartet and Mozart's Eine Kleine Nacht Musik.



- Collaborations with PS 8's dance teacher on Vivaldi's Four Seasons. Students [in grade -?] prepare by listening to recordings of the music. The dance teacher guides them in choreographing a dance to selected movements from the piece; the students then perform their dance in the auditorium, accompanied by Mark Peskanov and fellow musicians playing Vivaldi, live!. Last year, the students worked on all three of the Spring movements. This year they plan something along similar lines, using all three movements from Winter.

The overall concept is not just to inspire students with a musical performance but to have them participate actively in many creative dimensions. Thus in conjunction with having the musical experience of familiarizing oneself with a piece such as The Four Seasons, the music is used to provide opportunities to create in other media (art, poetry, dance, etc.).

About Bargemusic

Since 1977, Bargemusic has presented chamber music in a floating barge at the foot of the Brooklyn Bridge. Both established and emerging musicians perform at Bargemusic on a small stage with the dramatic backdrop of the East River and lower Manhattan skyline. From its inception, Bargemusic has been committed to enhancing the cultural life of New York by



offering frequent, year-round performances of chamber music in a fittingly intimate setting. Bargemusic presents music four days a week, 52 weeks a year, and offers free tickets to a variety of groups every week, plus a monthly free concert open to the community. To learn more about Bargemusic, visit their website at www.bargemusic.org, or call them: 718.624.2083 (office) or 718.624.4061 (Barge).