

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, November 23, 2004

**Old World Meets New World In Music and Art**  
**Latino Arts Series features piano/cello duo Terra Nuova and jewelry art by Harry Abend**

Once again, Latino Arts, Inc. will explore the variety and depth of Hispanic culture as it presents Terra Nuova, a cello and piano duo comprised of Venezuelan pianist Elena Abend and Cuban cellist Ana Ruth Bermudez. Shake off the December chill as you take in tangos, danzas and fandangos by South American composers Astor Piazzolla, Heitor Villa-Lobos, Paquito D'Rivera, and Aldemaro Romero, as well as the exciting "Ritual Fire Dance" of Spain's Manuel De Falla.

Preceding the Friday night performance will be the opening reception for Jewelry Showcase: The Work of Harry Abend, an exhibit featuring pieces by the Venezuelan sculptor, architect, and craftsman (and father of Elena Abend). Consider one of these unique wearable art objects as a holiday gift; many will be for sale throughout the exhibition.

**WHEN: Performance: Terra Nuova**

Thursday, December 9, 10:30 AM

Friday, December 10, 10:30 AM and 7:00 PM

Exhibit: Jewelry Showcase: The Work of Harry Abend

Opening Reception: Friday, December 10, 5:00 - 7:00 PM

Exhibit runs Friday, December 3 through Friday, December 17, 2004

**WHERE:** Latino Arts, Inc. Auditorium and Gallery (in the United Community Center)  
1028 South 9th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53204

**TICKETS:** Performance: Terra Nuova

\$20 adults; \$15 seniors (60+); \$10 full time students

Exhibit: Jewelry Showcase: The Work of Harry Abend

Free admission

To purchase tickets or RSVP for the exhibit opening, call 414-384-3100 or email at [info@latinoartsinc.org](mailto:info@latinoartsinc.org).

**THE ARTISTS:**

Elena Abend, piano

Elena Abend, born in Caracas, Venezuela, has performed with all the major orchestras of her country. Her formal musical training began at the Purcell School in London. She received her bachelor and master degrees at the Juilliard School, where she was awarded the William Shumann Prize for outstanding achievement. An accomplished chamber musician, Abend has been heard frequently at the Ravinia and Marlboro Music Festivals. Abend is the first pianist to record the Piano Concerto by Venezuelan composer Evencio Castellanos with the Filarmonica Nacional of Venezuela. She also has recorded Pablo Ortiz' Trio for violin, clarinet, and piano, both recently released on CD. Abend is currently on the piano faculty at UWM.

Ana Ruth Bermudez, cello

A native of Cuba, the energetic Ms. Bermudez is a familiar face on Milwaukee's music scene. Not only does she teach cello in Latino Arts' youth music program, she serves on the faculties of the Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra and the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music. Her international performing experience includes membership in the International Chamber Orchestra of Moscow, the Havana Chamber Orchestra (of which she became artistic director in 1991), and the Caracas Municipal Symphony Orchestra. In 1982 she participated in the VII Tchaikovsky International

Competition, Moscow. She has been performing as a soloist and in chamber groups in concert and international festivals in Cuba, Russia, Spain, Venezuela, Brazil, and Wisconsin, including the recent premiere of a solo cello piece written for her by Ileana Perez-Velázquez at the Miami International Composers Festival. She has recorded for television, radio and film in Cuba and Venezuela.

#### Harry Abend

Talent runs deep in the Abend family - not only is Harry Abend the father of pianist Elena, but he is recognized as one of the greatest sculptors in his adopted homeland of Venezuela. Born in Poland, he mastered architecture and the art of casting and carving at the Central University of Venezuela-Caracas. His works in wood, stone, and bronze grace galleries, plazas and parks throughout the world. By transferring his creativity to jewelry, Harry Abend has made great sculpture into a wearable statement.

About Founded in 1997, Latino Arts, Inc. brings cultural awareness, artistic Latino educational experiences, and a diversity of Hispanic artists from throughout Arts, Inc.: the Spanish-speaking world to share their talents with the greater Milwaukee community.

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Ellen N. Burmeister  
Latino Arts, Inc.  
1028 South 9th Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53204  
414/384-3100  
[www.latinoartsinc.org](http://www.latinoartsinc.org)