

Chamber Classics Focus of Park Slope Concert Series

By Stephanie Simon

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The music scene in Brooklyn continues to grow, and now you can hear some of the best young musicians from across the city and the country in Park Slope, and it's free. NY1's Stephanie Simon filed the following report.

Lovers of chamber music are coming together in Brooklyn to celebrate its beautiful intimacy and one of its great composers. "Concerts On The Slope" is a series of free chamber music concerts at St. John's Episcopal Church in Park Slope. The monthly series was founded by Ben Larsen.

"I'm a cellist in the city and I love chamber music and I want to give as many young performers in this city the opportunity to play chamber music and to perform it at a high level for an appreciative audience," says Larsen.

This year's Composer-in-Residence is Robert Sirota, a past president of the Manhattan School of Music who also taught composition to many appreciative students including Larsen.

"I have to say I love going to my performances, but the most fun is working for the musicians. And the people I'm working with this year are the very best," says Sirota.

"There's somewhat of an academic musical language but there's really serious human feeling behind it so it's kind of a marriage of these two different elements and as the interpreter it's been really exciting to put it together," says Jordan Dodson, a classical guitarist.

It's definitely good fortune for music lovers who can enjoy Sirota's music as well as works by Beethoven and Tchaikovsky.

"And it's nice to go out into a neighborhood like Park Slope and bring that music to the people where they live," says Sirota.

The next concert is Sunday, November 16. And yes this music really does hit people where they live.

For more information, visit concertsontheslope.com.

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