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## NEWS

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### Wilton Library's Connecticut's Own concert series begins Oct. 4

Wilton, CT – Wilton Library's Connecticut's Own Sunday concert series gets underway Oct. 4, from 4 – 5 p.m. with Connecticut Composers, Inc., a non-profit organization of composers living in or having ties to Connecticut. Sunday's performers include Allen Brings (piano), and Moira Craw (flute), Jennifer Foster (voice - soprano), Eugenie Rocherolle (piano), Margaret Collins Stoop (flute), and Femmes Four (Flute Quartet) comprised of Lauren Ausubel, Anna Povich de Mayor, Helen Richman and Amy Ziegelbaum. The composer group will be performing compositions from its members including Allen Brings, Dave Brubeck, Thomas McFaul, Margaret Collins Stoop, and Eugenie Rocherolle. The Connecticut Composers was formed in 1981 with 18 charter members, and today has grown to almost 50 members from all regions of the state. The membership represents diverse musical styles whose primary purpose is to bring attention to the work of its member composers through concerts, collaborations with other organizations, broadcasts and CD releases.

Sunday's concert performers represent a range of musical backgrounds:

- A native of New York City and a resident of Wilton since 1964, **Allen Brings** received a Bachelor of Arts degree *magna cum laude* from Queens College and a Master of Arts degree from Columbia University, where he was a Mosenthal Fellow and a student of Otto Luening, and a doctorate in theory and composition from Boston University, where he was a teaching fellow and a student of Gardner Read. He is currently vice-president of Connecticut Composers. As a pianist, he has performed extensively both here and abroad especially in programs of music for piano, four-hands, with Genevieve Chinn, with whom he has recorded for Orion, CRI, and Centaur. He is Professor Emeritus of Music at the Aaron Copland School of Music at Queens College of the City University of New York and is a director of the Weston Music Center and School of the Performing Arts in Weston, Connecticut, where he teaches piano and theory. He lives in Wilton.
- **Moira Schur Craw**, originally from Weston, graduated from Michigan State University with a bachelor's degree in flute performance. She has concentrated her efforts on performing chamber music and the solo repertoire for the flute. She teaches all the woodwind and brass instruments at her home studio in Wilton and is writing and composing a series of method books, one for each instrument, which she calls The Schur Method. Ms. Craw is a member of the Manhattan Recorder Orchestra in New York City.
- **Jennifer Foster**, soprano, has sung opera, oratorio, recitals and chamber music with world-class artists and conductors throughout the United States and in Europe. She has been featured with the Los Angeles Philharmonic at the Hollywood Bowl, LA Opera in lead and *comprimario* roles, a national tour with San Francisco Opera's Western Opera Theater, and at Aspen, Santa Fe, Tucson, Tanglewood and Verbier, Switzerland's summer music festivals, among others. Jennifer served as soloist at The First Church of Christ, Scientist, for seven years. In addition to the classical repertoire, she has studied and performed in various styles including Broadway, jazz, gospel and others. She made her Equity debut this summer in a production of *Camelot* at Pennsylvania Centre Stage. She lives in Westport with her husband and four children.

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- **Margaret Collins Stoop** is a composer whose works have been performed throughout Europe and the United States. She began her formal music education at the age of sixteen with a scholarship to the preparatory division of the Mannes College of Music and in 1989 graduated from Smith College *cum laude* with High Honors in Music for her thesis *On the Horizontal and Vertical in Selected Works by Schoenberg and Webern*. In 1990 and 1991 she lived in Hong Kong, where she studied Chinese flutes and folk music at the Yuet Wah Music School and western flute privately with Timothy Wilson of the Hong Kong Philharmonic. In 1998 she received her master's degree in music composition from the Aaron Copland School of Music at Queens College (CUNY), where she studied with Thea Musgrave. Stoop is President of Connecticut Composers, Inc. She teaches music theory at the Westport School of Music, piano at the Westport Music Center, and maintains a private studio where she teaches flute, piano, theory, and composition. She lives in Ridgefield.
- Spanning 45 years of publishing, **Eugénie Rocherolle** has written works for chorus, concert band, chamber ensembles and a large body of piano repertoire. A native of New Orleans, she received a BA in music from Newcomb College of Tulane University with a year of study in Paris. She received the Outstanding Newcomb Alumna Award in 1995. For many years she maintained an independent studio in Wilton teaching piano and composition. Mrs. Rocherolle was the subject of a feature article in the March/April issue of *Clavier Companion* magazine to commemorate her 30th anniversary of publishing for piano. She and her husband now live in Old Lyme, where she spends her time writing for her publisher, Hal Leonard Corp., and fulfilling commissions.
- Founded in 1999, the **Femmes Four Flute Quartet** made its Weill Recital Hall debut in 2004 as a winner of the Artists International auditions. **Lauren Ausubel** has performed at the Tanglewood, Chautauqua, and Aspen Music Festivals and was a finalist in the prestigious Myrna Brown Flute Competition in Dallas. The versatility of **Anna Povich de Mayor** extends from Latin music to the Baroque tradition and has placed her in demand as soloist, chamber musician and orchestral player. She holds a doctorate from the State University of New York at Stony Brook and is currently a teaching artist for the New York Philharmonic. **Helen Richman** has participated in the Aspen, Bowdoin, and Norfolk Summer Music Festivals and been a featured soloist at the Banff Center for the Arts and the Mannes Bach Institute. She is a member of the SEM Ensemble and founded and directs the children's concert series *Chocolate Chip Chamber Music*. **Amy Ziegelbaum** has appeared as both performer and commentator on network and cable television and can be heard in the 2006 Emmy award-winning documentary "A Hidden Life," which was broadcast on PBS. Her most recent CD, with pianist Laura Leon, "Blessings of Beauty: A Classic Collection of Judaic Gems," has been released on the Musical Tapestries Inc. label.

The Connecticut's Own Concert Series is free of charge. Advance registration is highly recommended due to the overwhelming popularity of the series. Pre-registrants must arrive by 3:50 p.m. to be guaranteed a seat. After 3:50 p.m., and if space is available, waitlisted and walk-in registrants will be admitted. Additional performances in the series are: November 8 - The Orvieto Players; January 24 - Jessica Raposo; March 21 - Suzanne Sheridan; and May 2 - Larry Shiller and Olga Gurevich. For information, registration and directions, visit [www.wiltonlibrary.org](http://www.wiltonlibrary.org) or call (203) 762-3950. Wilton Library is located at 137 Old Ridgefield Road in the heart of Wilton Center.



**Caption:** The Femmes Four Flute Quartet (l-r Helen Richman, Anna Povich de Mayor, Amy Ziegelbaum and Lauren Ausubel) will be performing with the Connecticut Composers, Inc. at Wilton Library's Connecticut's Own Concert Series which opens on Sunday, Oct. 4, from 4 – 5 p.m. The concerts are free. For information and advance registration: [www.wiltonlibrary.org/events](http://www.wiltonlibrary.org/events) or call (203) 762-3950. Wilton Library is located at 137 Old Ridgefield Road in the heart of Wilton Center.