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Chamber music ensemble set for Isabella in Tinley

Thursday, May 25, 2006

By D.J. Luksetich

The much-anticipated arrival of the Fifth House Ensemble for a chamber concert in Tinley Park will be Tuesday at Isabella Cafe.

The eight-member chamber group takes its name from the astrological term meaning the "house of pleasure and creativity" arts, according to Melissa Snoza of the Fifth House Ensemble.

"We were looking for a name easy to remember, and that also reflected our mission of creating these connections between music and other art forms."

The group's mission statement sets the perspective: "The Fifth House Ensemble seeks to widen the scope of the chamber music art form by creating performances accessible to audiences not normally reached by classic music, and by creating new connections between chamber music and other musical, visual and performance art."

Sue Taylor, of Isabella Cafe, was introduced to the ensemble by Nick Yasillo of the Norton Building Concert Series in Lockport.

"Nick suggested the Fifth House at Isabella because they are

an innovative ensemble that loves audience interaction and unusual venues," Taylor said. "A chamber concert seems a natural progression from the exhibits of visual art we have had at Isabella."

Noting the cafe is named after Isabella d'Estes, strong patron of the arts during the Renaissance, Taylor said, "I'm wondering why it didn't happen sooner."

Four members of the Fifth House Ensemble will be on hand for the concert, which includes quartets for clarinet and string trio by Mozart and Hummel, as well as a Beethoven duo for clarinet and cello.

Mozart's duo for violin and viola will conclude the program, presented without intermission.

The 8 p.m. concert will be preceded by a 6:30 p.m. dinner of soup/salad, chicken marsala, mixed berry pinwheel cake and soft drinks.

Cost for dinner and concert is \$40. Wine and cocktails will be available at an added charge.

Isabella cafe is at 17211 S. Oak Park Ave. Reservations are at (312) 213-0838. More information:
www.isbellacafe.com.

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