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Chamber Music Concert From China to the Ice House in Berkeley Springs

BERKELEY SPRINGS, WV—Morgan Arts Council (MAC) presents a rare cello and piano chamber music concert on Sunday, May 7 at 2 p.m. at the Ice House. Both performers hail from China and are currently students at the noted Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore. Cellist Xingqiao Ren and pianist Selene Hongni Wu collaborate in a program of chamber music featuring works by Beethoven, Schumann and Fauré.

“We are delighted to bring this level of musical artistry to our community,” said Thom Rubel, MAC’s Executive Director. “As MAC celebrates its 40th year in operation, our aim is to continue to provide programs that highlight Berkeley Springs’s reputation as an ‘arts town’.”

Pat Springer, MAC Board member and local musician and teacher, was instrumental in securing the performers from the Peabody Conservatory. “These are two outstanding musicians who will grace us with a very special concert,” said Springer.

Both artists have studied music intensively throughout their lives, starting as young children. Xinqiao Ren began his cello studies at age nine in Beijing and won second place and the Chinese Award at an international cello competition in Beijing. During the next several years he performed and toured in America, Korea, Russia, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

Pianist Selene Hongni Wu, from Shanghai, began playing piano at age five. She graduates from the Peabody Conservatory in May with a Master of Music in Piano Performance. She is an active soloist, accompanist and chamber musician, and serves as pianist/accompanist for the Peabody Preparatory and Peabody Opera Department. She has won many international competitions. Selene’s interests include composition, and she performs many new works from Peabody’s composition department.

Admission is \$10; tickets are available at the door. The concert is generously sponsored by FAST – Morgan County Forum for Arts, Sciences and Technologies.

This program is funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, the West Virginia Commission on the Arts and local hotel/motel taxes.

The Ice House is at the corner of Independence and Mercer Streets in downtown Berkeley Springs. For more information visit macicehouse.org or call 304-258-2300.