



Left: Yoko Kimura and traditional Japanese instrument, the koto.

Rock Hard Cider in Nellysford and Devils Backbone Basecamp Brewpub & Meadows in Roseland.

Concerts represent a wide array of music, including Western classical, jazz, African-American spirituals, and Appalachian folk music. Additionally, the festival comprises seminars about art, music and wine sponsored by the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts and other organizations, and cooking classes with area chefs, including Christian Stiltner, executive chef of the Whiskey Jar in Charlottesville. Also on offer are a variety of events ranging from silent films of the 1920s to an immersive choir camp for adults.

This year's theme, "Building Bridges: Celebrating Connections that Only Music Can Make," is, according to organizers, an opportunity to bring people together through music.

"I wanted to make connections between what is often considered 'traditional' classical music and music of other cultures," says festival executive director Julianne

Akins Smith. Composer Daron Hagen will conduct his concerto "Genji," which takes the name of the protagonist of the epic 11th-century Japanese narrative, *The Tale of Genji*. The concerto is arranged for a koto, a traditional Japanese string instrument that will be played by Yoko Kimura, and orchestra. Kimura will also be giving a public lecture about the koto and meeting privately with students.

Conductor Mei-Ann Chen will direct Aaron Copland's fan favorite "Appalachian Spring" while violinist Rachel Barton Pine plays two MountainTop Masterworks performances and the Masters of Soul perform Motown favorites.

"Musicians love coming to Wintergreen," says Smith. "The beauty, the musical experience, and the wonderful patrons all make it an inspiring place for musicians to renew their love for their art." For the full schedule, go to WintergreenPerformingArts.org

—By Amanda Dalla Valla Adams



POWER AND SPLENDOR

A new exhibition at VMFA looks inside Napoleon's household.

NAPOLEON: POWER AND SPLENDOR, on view at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond through Sept. 3, provides a rare view into the private household of France's self-titled emperor.

Created in partnership with the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, the exhibition began 10 years ago with a private donation of Napoleon's personal effects, including his iconic bicorne and a boot.

The artwork and furnishings depicting Napoleon and his family are divided into galleries centered around the six Grand Offices that served the imperial household, including the Grand Master of the Hunt and the Master Chamberlain. Screens, sounds and projections throughout the exhibition galleries provide an immersive experience. "I would love for people to feel as if they have been able to turn back the hands of time and have just left the palace having enjoyed the splendors of court life in Paris in the 1800s," says Alex Nyerges, director of VMFA.

The exhibition also provides a unique perspective on what Sylvain Cordier, curator of early decorative arts at the Montreal Museum, describes as Napoleon's "personal branding" efforts. "We hoped to re-contextualize the idea of Napoleon by focusing on the life within the palace, the people surrounding him, and the protocol and way of life," says Cordier. Each of the more than 200 works represents a narrative actively "fashioned and conceived" by the emperor and his court of Napoleon as a hero. VMFA.museum

—By A. H.

COMMAND PERFORMANCE

The Wintergreen Summer Music Festival returns for 21st season.

IN 1995, AFTER WINTERGREEN RESIDENT Sarah McCracken visited the Aspen Music Festival and School in Colorado, she and others in this Nelson County resort community "decided that the hill should be alive with the sound of music," explains Erin Freeman, artistic director of Wintergreen Performing Arts Inc.

And so, in the summer of 1997, the organization launched its inaugural Summer Music Festival—a series of 17 public concerts, five master classes, and 12 open rehearsals. Fast forward 21 years, and this summer, more than 180 events are planned for the festival, which takes place July 8 to Aug. 5 and is expected to draw more than 10,000 to the bucolic mountaintop retreat.

Most of the festival's events occur at Wintergreen Resort's outdoor Dunlop Pavilion, a temporary concert hall that holds up to 400. Other performances take place in nearby venues, including Bolt

PHOTOS (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT) COURTESY OF WINTERGREEN PERFORMING ARTS, VMFA AND THE COLD WAR MUSEUM



COVERT AFFAIRS The secret history of Vint Hill Farms Station.

IN A FORMER DAIRY BARN in Fauquier County during World War II, a message was intercepted from Oshima Hiroshi, the Japanese ambassador to Germany. This November 1943 event proved to be pivotal, helping to propel Allied forces to victory during the following spring's D-Day invasion.

Today, nearly 75 years later, the

site of the "Oshima Intercept"—Vint Hill Farms Station, established in 1942 and headquarters for more than 1,500 U.S. Army and National Security Agency personnel—has been transformed. The post, which operated through the Cold War and until 1997 and also served the mission of the CIA, is now home to Vint Hill Craft Winery, opened in 2009

by Chris Pearmund, of Pearmund Cellars in Broad Run and Effingham Manor Winery in Nokesville.

The winery honors the history of the site in clever ways, from its Clandestine Wine Club to a red blend named "Enigma." Visitors can sip wine in the room where enemy radio transmissions were once monitored. VintHillCraftWinery.com —By A. H.