



# Sunspot Concerts at the Lyceum

## Fiddler Laura Cortese

### With Natalie Haas, Brittany Haas & Mariel Vandersteel

Thursday, April. 14, 2011, 8 PM

The Lyceum, 201 South Washington St, Alexandria, VA

\$17 advance/\$20 door



Laura Cortese (fiddle), Natalie Haas (cello) Brittany Haas (fiddle) and Mariel Vandersteel (fiddle) present a modern take on traditional string music. Laura has put together a fantastic lineup of musicians, each of who could headline a show themselves, to introduce the music from Laura's Acoustic Project CD.



With more than enough material mounting from solo tours and disciplined writing sessions (along with a few of her favorite songs by others), Laura approached three women--Natalie Haas, Brittany Haas and Hanneke Cassel--to record her Acoustic Project. The EP features five songs and two instrumentals played by Laura and company on fiddles and cello. From the driving, Cajun- influenced "Perfect Tuesdays" to the sparse plucked "Women of The Ages" the arrangements of Cortese's Acoustic Project explore the potential of a fiddle-based string quartet.



Laura, a New England regional Scottish Fiddle champion, has played with Scottish fiddle band Halali and the old-time group Della Mae, and has toured with Uncle Earl.

Natalie Haas is well-known as the performing partner of Scottish fiddler Alasdair Fraser, and has appeared locally at the Kennedy Center, Strathmore, Wolftrap, the Institute of Musical Traditions and Sunspot.



Brittany Haas has toured with banjo player Tony Trischka and currently performs with Crooked Still (and yes, she and Natalie are sisters).

Mariel Vandersteel, a recent graduate of Berklee College of Music, has studied violin in Ireland and Norway. She also plays Norway's hardingfele. Marial is a member of Boston's Blue Moose and the Unbuttoned Zippers.

**Coming in the fall: Solo performances by Bruce Molsky and Jim Malcolm.**

**Tickets available at [www.sunspotpro.com](http://www.sunspotpro.com)**

Join Sunspot on Facebook [www.groups.to/sunspotconcerts](http://www.groups.to/sunspotconcerts)

## About the Concerts

Sunspot showcases musicians from the United States and around the globe, representing all styles of traditional and contemporary folk music. Sunspot shows feature musicians who often perform as part of larger groups in larger venues, who have an independent career after leaving another group or who are just beginning their careers. Each show is presented in an intimate setting that allows the performers and audiences to enjoy a close connection not possible in larger venues.

The concerts take place in Old Town Alexandria. Sunspot's primary venue is the 130-seat Lecture Hall at The Lyceum, Alexandria's city museum, which lends its historic atmosphere to the presentation of traditional music. With no seat more than six rows from the stage, The Lyceum provides an ideal meeting place for artists and audiences to share a unique musical experience.

For additional information, including driving, parking and Metro directions, visit the Sunspot website at [www.sunspotpro.com](http://www.sunspotpro.com).

## Ordering Tickets

Order tickets through the Sunspot web site: [www.sunspotpro.com](http://www.sunspotpro.com). We are a volunteer organization, so we do not have a box-office staff to take orders. If you cannot use the web site, you can purchase advance tickets at any Sunspot show, or call 800 404-9049 to request that we contact you by phone.

To maintain the security of your personal information, we use a ticketing agency for on-line ticket orders. The ticketing agency adds a service charge to each ticket purchase. The service charge is paid to the ticketing agency and is not part of our ticket price.

## Past Sunspot Shows

Irish singer **Karan Casey** • Scottish fiddler **Alasdiar Fraser with Natalie Haas** • Irish-American singer **Cathie Ryan** • American banjo master **Tony Trischka** • Connemara fiddlers **The Kane Sisters** • Irish singer and guitarist **John Doyle** • New England fiddler **Lissa Schneckenburger** • **Four Fabulous Fiddlers** (Jake Armerding, Hanneke Cassel, Laura Cortese & Jeremy Kittel) • Vocal trio **Sometymes Why** (Kristin Andreassen, Aoife O'Donovan & Ruth Ungar) • **Old School Freight Train** • Anglo-Irish band **Flook** • Irish singer **Aoife Clancy** • Irish fiddler and National Heritage Fellow **Kevin Burke with Ged Foley** • **Boulder Acoustic Society** • Scottish singer **Jim Malcolm** • Americana musicians **Kristin Andreassen & Mark Schatz** • National Heritage Fellow **Liz Carroll and John Doyle** • Wammie-winners **Jennifer Cutting's Ocean Orchestra** • **The Hedge Band** • **The Wiyos** • American folksingers **Sarah Lee Guthrie & Johnny Irion** • Irish masters **Mick Moloney & Athena Tergis** • Scottish singer **Emily Smith** • **Susan McKeown** • **Kevin Crawford & Cillian Vallely** • **Martin Hayes & Dennis Cahill** • **Red Molly** • **Maeve Gilchrist & Marta Cook**

### The Sunspot Newsletter

Sign up for Sunspot's email newsletter. You'll receive announcements and reminders of upcoming Sunspot shows. The newsletter also includes information on other area shows that Sunspot patrons might enjoy. You can see some past newsletters on the Sunspot web site, [www.sunspotpro.com](http://www.sunspotpro.com), where you can also join the email list. Unsubscribe at any time.



## Sunspot Concerts

Spring 2011

### Laura Cortese with Natalie Haas, Brittany Haas & Maraiel Vandersteel

Thursday, April 14, Alexandria  
*A modern take on traditional string music*

### Bruce Molsky

Sunday, Oct 2, Alexandria  
*A master of old-time music.*

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[www.sunspotpro.com](http://www.sunspotpro.com)