

OCEAN STRINGS

Let our music string your memories...

Trio Performance Packages



Photo Credit: Vitalic Photography

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Artists' Biographies



Richard Ballinger, Viola/Violin

Richard has been performing viola for the past 25+ years. He attended Florida Southern College where he graduated in 2000 with a Bachelor of Music Performance Degree. He is now the assistant director of the IRC Public School Orchestra Program where he has had more than 200 string students. He has performed in and as a soloist with several orchestras throughout the state of Florida. Richard is co-founder of the Ocean String Quartet and Ocean Strings ensembles with his wife Nicole. When he's not busy teaching or performing he's busy surfing, boating or swimming.



Nicole Ballinger, Violin

Nicole has been performing for over 25 years and started her musical studies with private instruction in Rhode Island. After her move to Florida she returned to music performance along with her husband Richard. She has performed with several community orchestras, among them the Indian River Pops and now performs and coordinates the events for Ocean Strings and the quartet ensemble Ocean String Quartet. She also enjoys teaching a multi-diverse private string studio which includes a Kindermusik studio in Vero Beach. She also cherishes time to recharge and relax reading a variety of books, chilling on the beach, running, photography, gourmet cooking & interior decoration and design.



Performance Packages

Our extensive library of music may be arranged into the following custom package arrangements. A variety of musical styles may be selected for your event. We recommend a minimum of two-three months before your event so as to arrange an accurate quote and musical arrangements.

"The Sea Spray" \$ 900.00*

Up to one hour performance of the Trio. The best choice to capture the entire essence of your wedding ceremony: from prelude to recession, or for another cherished event.

"The White Wave" \$ 1200.00*

Up to two hour performance which includes part of the cocktail/reception hour (if held at the same venue). Many clients prefer this performance as an extra touch to The Sea Spray as the bridal party and/or guests are able to enjoy a beautiful selection of music while taking photos.

HOW TO BOOK YOUR SPECIAL EVENT:

A 25 % deposit of your package selection is required with the return of **electronically signed contract** via Honeybook. The deposit may be submitted via PayPal or Cheque and is deducted from the balance, which will be due the week before your event. Booking of the Quartet requires a minimum of 1 - 2 months in advance of your special event to facilitate availability of members & practice sessions of the music and any custom arrangements.*

Custom Music

When one would like to have music performed which is not currently on our list, we would be happy to arrange a custom music package for the quartet to perform. The fee will be determined by the complexity of the music requested and/or any rehearsals with other musicians chosen outside the quartet. Please discuss these plans with the Quartet coordinator. **A minimum of two months notice is requested for this service.**

***PLEASE NOTE:** If the venue is a beach/outdoor area, private residence (for all seasons), employer agrees to a minimum gratuity of \$50 in addition to regular rates- between March- November. Custom rates apply to Sunrise hour requests.



Music Selection Guide

Music, like the ocean, can transport us on a journey, and lift us to new places and experiences. We're able to feel peaceful, excited or joyful. Through music we can express emotions in a unique way and with the special person we love. Music also creates an atmosphere that provides lasting memories of a very special event. Many thus view music for their events as a way to show how they feel about not only themselves but those they celebrate their event with--- their family and friends.

The Ocean String Quartet would like to support you in your selection of music by providing a brief outline of the music many people choose to compliment to their wedding ceremonies and/or receptions.

CEREMONY MUSIC SELECTION

PRELUDE

The time before the wedding ceremony sets the general mood of what is to follow. We suggest that the music selected be tranquil and reflective so as to build the anticipation of the wedding party's entrance. Prelude music is generally played anywhere from 15-20 minutes before the ceremony and is a great backdrop for the guests to arrive to.

SUGGESTED MUSIC:

BAROQUE/CLASSICAL: Air on the G String - Bach, Largo from "The Four Seasons"- Vivaldi, Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring- Bach
ROMANTIC: Variation on a Theme by Paganini- Rachmaninov
MODERN: Married Life- UP- Pixar, Storybook Love- Princess Bride

PROCESSIONAL

This is the moment that the music will officially announce the beginning of the wedding ceremony. Depending on the size of the bridal party and who are considered part of it (e.g.: grandmothers, mothers of the bride and groom, bridesmaids, flower girls and ring bearer) this may include several pieces of music, one for the bridal party and one for the bridal entrance. There is also an option of one selection whereby the Quartet can increase its expression when signaled that the bride is coming. Either option is beautifully effective.

SUGGESTED MUSIC FOR BRIDAL PARTY:

BAROQUE/CLASSICAL: Trumpet Voluntary, Suite from the Fair Queen: Hornpipe, Water Music: Rondeau- Handel

ROMANTIC: Anitra's Dance, Flower Duet- Lakme

MODERN: A Thousand Years- Christina Perri

SUGGESTED MUSIC FOR BRIDE:

CLASSICAL: Pachelbel's Canon, Wagner's Wedding March, Te Deum, Water Music Finale, Allelujah/ Ex. Jub.
ROMANTIC: Intermezzo from Cavaleria Rusticano,

MODERN: All of You- John Legend, By Your Side- Sade, Marry Me- Train, Fix You- Coldplay

INTERLUDE

There may be ceremony interludes that you may want to consider having musical accompaniment. The following situations could be: Between readings, during a candle lighting or sand ceremony or after the exchange of rings or vows.

SUGGESTED MUSIC:

BAROQUE/CLASSICAL: Selection from: Air on the G String- Bach, Meditation from "Thais"- Massenet

ROMANTIC: Gymnopedie- Satie, Clair de Lune- Debussy, Nimrod- Elgar

MODERN: You Raise Me Up- Folk, If I Fell- Beatles or another Custom Arrangement.

POSTLUDE/ RECESSIONAL

Even if there is no formal recessional a joyous musical piece is needed to conclude the ceremony. It's also nice to have music for the guests to transition to from the ceremony area to a receiving line and/or a reception area. The music generally chosen for this is upbeat and at a faster tempo to celebrate the triumph of the ceremony.

SUGGESTED MUSIC:

CLASSICAL: Mendelssohn's Wedding March, Handel's Water Music Finale Alleluja from Exaltate Jubilante or Entrance to the Queen of Sheba.

ROMANTIC: Variation on a Theme of Paganini/ Rachmaninov

MODERN: It Had to Be You, Somewhere over the Rainbow- IZ

RECEPTION MUSIC SELECTION

COCKTAIL HOUR/ RECEPTION

The music selection for this hour has a more festive feel. Beverages and hors d'oeuvres are served and everyone is in a conversational mood. The music should reflect this change in atmosphere with selections of more romantic and/or modern pop music. Although if a classical approach is still desired we can play classical or neo-classical arrangements that have an upbeat feel to them. If a sit down dinner or buffet is planned, musical accompaniment from a string quartet is a romantic backdrop to the dining experience of the reception. For couples who wish to have just a few dances a chamber group may be the perfect touch. If not, a change in musical groups is not at all unusual and can provide a big energy boost for your reception!

SUGGESTED MUSIC: Upbeat Classical: (e.g. Eine Kleine Nachtmusik, Palladio), Tangos, Jazz, Swing Music and/or Modern Rock (e.g.: Beatles)

Finally, to guide you on the styles of the different periods of music that Quartets play please note the following guide that may help you understand the different styles we can play. This will in turn reflect the type of mood you want your wedding music to have.

STYLE PERIODS OF MUSIC

Looking back 400-500 years, the broad periods of music are as follows:

RENAISSANCE: Monteverdi and Palestrina

BAROQUE: Bach, Vivaldi, Handel

CLASSICAL: Mozart, Haydn

ROMANTIC: Brahms, Schubert, Rachmaninoff, Tchaikovsky

IMPRESSIONISM: Debussy, Ravel

CONTEMPORARY CLASSICAL: Copland, Bernstein, Barber

JAZZ/ MODERN /POPS: Cole Porter, Beatles, Led Zeppelin



PRELUDE MUSIC / INTERLUDE MUSIC

Latham Album 1

Air on the G String- Bach
Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring – Bach
Largo- Winter- Vivaldi
Royal Fireworks- Selections- Handel
Sheep May Safely Graze- Bach
Trumpet Tune- Clarke
Trumpet Voluntary- Purcell
Water Music Selections: Air, Bouree & Hornpipe –

Latham Album 2

Alleluja from Exultate Jubilate- Mozart
Andante from Piano Concerto #21- Mozart
Arioso- Bach
Sheep may Safely Graze-Bach
Ode to Joy- Beethoven
Panis Angelicus- Franck
Sleeping Beauty Waltz – Tchaikovsky
Traumeri- Schumann
Wachet Auf- Bach

PROCESSIONAL:

Canon- Pachebel
Wedding March- Wagner

FOLK

The Lark in the Clear Air

POSTLUDE/RECESSIONAL MUSIC

Entrance to the Queen of Sheba- Handel
Water Music- 3rd Movement Hornpipe
La Rejouissance- Royal Fireworks- Handel
Wedding March- Mendelssohn

COCKTAIL

DISNEY

A Whole New World

POP

All of the Lights- Kanye West

Cosmic Love- Florence and the Machine

Crash into Me- Dave Matthews Band

For Emma- Bon Iver

Hey Jude- Beatles

Secrets- Beethoven Medley- Piano Guys

Stubborn Love- Lumineers

Wildest Dreams- Taylor Swift

TANGOS

Brejeiro

La Paloma The Dove

Tango – Jose Ferrer

Tango- Francisco Tarrega

Tango de Tres Danzas Andaluzas, Op 8 – Joaquin Turina