

# Cellos: Philbrick and Glazer release CD, perform Dec. 5

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plays early music to jazz and is also a pianist, composer, arranger, vocalist and teacher.

Philbrick is now grown, married and living in Cincinnati. He studied cello and improvisation at the New England Conservatory of Music and Brown University. He currently works as a cellist, performance artist, and teacher, and is pursuing a master's degree in literature from the University of Cincinnati. He is deeply interested in the ways in which music might facilitate listening across differences and has taken part in musical collaborations in Guatemala, Panama, Mali, and Pakistan.

"Our friendship has meant a lot to me," said Philbrick, the son of Nantucket historian and National Book Award winner Nat Philbrick

and ReMain Nantucket executive director Melissa Philbrick. "I have had a couple of musical mentors, but she in many ways became my musical mother. From the very beginning she has been supportive of me playing the cello, but also about how to think about making music that lives, breathes, and moves people."

These attributes that Glazer taught Philbrick were often translated as improvisation in their music, and this album is a prime example. With pieces by Schumann, Handel and other classical masters, combined with folk favorites such as "The River is Wide," everything on the CD is given a personal touch with the duo's own arrangements.

"I was always encouraged to not only be a transmitter, but also a maker of music," Philbrick said. "We have always had fun making

music over the years . . . and with Molly it has been so easy to communicate musically because we are really keyed into what each other are doing."

Though both have done other recordings in the past, this is the first such project together, and it is something Glazer would love to continue if circumstances allow.

"These are a collection of our favorite songs, and there is a limit to what we have time to record, but if we had the time and money we could probably do 10 more albums like this," she said. "There really is no theme to the album. It is actually kind of indulgent. These are the things that we really like and wanted to share, and knew would work with the instruments."

Philbrick described the sound of the cellos combined as "rich and soft" with songs that he has found himself wanting to play over and

over again.

Recorded by Skip Williams over the course of a weekend earlier this year, island resident and Grammy winner Jamie Howarth was asked to mix and master the album, which he was happy to do.

"Not only are they both expert players but there is obviously a warm and lively chemistry between them that comes through in the performances," said Howarth. "Joyful stuff."

"Two Friends, Two Cellos" is available at locations around Nantucket including Mitchell's Book Corner, Nantucket Bookworks, Marine Home Center, Nantucket Looms, Flowers on Chestnut, and the NCMC offices.

Philbrick and Glazer will perform a concert Sunday, Dec. 5 at 3 p.m. at St. Paul's Church, 20 Fair St. Tickets are \$18, and proceeds benefit the NCMC.

## Cellists find inspiration in friendship

By Joshua B. Gray  
I&M Staff Writer

With a collection of their favorite songs, a mix of classical greats and culturally-significant pieces, cellists Molly Glazer and Ethan Philbrick have mined their long musical relationship for their first CD, "Two Friends, Two Cellos."

The duo, who will perform selections from the CD in a concert Sunday at St. Paul's Church, first got to know each other when Philbrick was just 8 years old and he began lessons with Glazer. Currently the director of the Nantucket Community Music Center and a popular island classical musician, Glazer knew they had a musical connection early on.

"From a very young age he came to understand what I was talking about in our lessons, and there was a great joy in making music together," she said. "We just seem to speak the same language musi-



Courtesy of Mollie Glazer

Cellists Ethan Philbrick, left, and Mollie Glazer recently released a CD, "Two Friends, Two Cellos." They will perform Dec. 5 at St. Paul's Church.

cally. He is ferociously talented as a musician and he has the ability to be present and react, and improvise the music. It is fun on a really deep level."

Glazer studied cello and viola da gamba at the New England Con-

servatory of Music and the Royal Conservatory of The Netherlands. She has performed throughout the United States and Europe and recorded for five record labels. She

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