

Media Release:
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Newton's Newest Neighborhood Coffeehouse Debuts at the Newton Cultural Center at City Hall

Acoustic Newton, Newton's newest Neighborhood Coffeehouse takes up residence at the Newton Cultural Center at City Hall beginning Saturday night, September 20 from 7:00pm-9:00pm. Doors open at 6:30.

Barbara Cassidy, Eric Chasalow & Friends combine the talent of Newton-based artists featuring the sounds of local Singer-Songwriters, Folk, Americana, and Irish traditional musicians in a series reaching into next spring..

Opening the series is **Ceol Corvus**, fronted by Newtonian Sean Smith, who blends the classic sound of traditional Irish music with later influences and arrangements for a unique combination of instruments. **Catching Sparks**, the opening act, features the Newton North High School student Isabel Oliart on the fiddle, and McKinley James on cello, both award winners of numerous New-England wide competitions. **Open Mic Night, November 1** brings Rob Siegel, Newton's own folk songwriter as host and featured performer. Supporting the celebration and feature of local talent, this special night invites anyone to participate. Show up between 6pm and 6:45pm to sign up for a slot.

Linda Plaut, Director of the Mayor's Office for Cultural Affairs said she was delighted that Barbara Cassidy and Eric Chasalow are bringing this new series to the Cultural Center. Plaut said: "Barbara and Eric bring new sounds to the corridors of City Hall over the weekend with this series. Combining their great talent and enthusiasm for this genre of music, enriches us all."

Barbara Cassidy has worn many hats throughout her career including playing in summer stock , directing direction, dance instructions and even work on nationally televised science programs for PBS. Eric Chasalow, a professor of Music and currently the Dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at Brandeis University, studied at the New England Conservatory and the Columbia-Princeton Electronic Music Center. Together, Chasalow and Cassidy are co-curators of The Video Archive of the Electro-Acoustic Music, and manage their own record label, Suspicious Motives Records.

The series continues on February 14 with **Love Songs in the Folk Tradition** with Barbara Cassidy Band & Friends and April 11 with Pesky J. Nixon.

Advanced admission is \$10/\$5(kids, students & seniors) at the door \$15/\$10; Limited Seating . Tickets available at www.newtoncommunitypride.org. The Newton Cultural Center at City Hall is located at 1000 Commonwealth Avenue, Newton, MA. All events are 7:00pm-9:00pm unless otherwise indicated. Doors open at 6:30.