

**Multiple Grammy Winning Classical Guitarist Sharon Isbin
To Perform at Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival's Ritz Gala on June 19**

Fernandina Beach, FL—June 10, 2011—Sharon Isbin, hailed as the pre-eminent guitarist of our time, will perform June 19 at the season-finale concert, the Ritz Gala, of the Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival.

Tickets to this very special performance, held at the Ritz Carlton-Amelia Island are \$40 and can be purchased at www.aicmf.com or 904-261-1779.

Acclaimed for her extraordinary lyricism, technique and versatility, Sharon Isbin received a 2010 Grammy Award for 'Best Instrumental Soloist Performance (without orchestra)' for her CD *Journey to the New World*. She is the first guitarist in 43 years to receive a second classical Grammy, and the only classical artist to perform in the 52nd Annual Awards. She also is the winner of *Guitar Player* magazine's "Best Classical Guitarist" award, the Madrid Queen Sofia and Toronto Competitions, and was the first guitarist ever to win the Munich Competition.

Ms. Isbin has appeared as soloist with over 160 orchestras. She has given sold-out performances throughout the world in the greatest halls including New York's Carnegie and Avery Fisher Halls, Boston's Symphony Hall, Washington D.C.'s Kennedy Center, London's Barbican and Wigmore Halls, Amsterdam's Concertgebouw, Paris' Châtelet, Vienna's Musikverein, Munich's Herkulesaal, Madrid's Teatro Real, and many others. Her catalogue of over 25 recordings—from Baroque, Spanish/Latin and 20th Century to crossover and jazz-fusion—reflects her remarkable versatility.

Sharon Isbin began her guitar studies at age nine in Italy and later studied with Andrés Segovia and Oscar Ghiglia. She is director of the guitar departments at the Aspen Music Festival and The Juilliard School.

2011 AICMF Season

The tenth season of the Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival runs from May 20 through June 19. To celebrate our first "Decade of Musical Excellence," the 2011 Festival will present the most expansive and varied program in our history, ranging from chamber ensembles, tango and flamenco to American roots, jazz and contemporary music. Our array of world-class artists includes the Tokyo String Quartet, violinist Rachel Barton Pine, pianists Valentina Lisitsa and Gabriela Montero, Native American flutist R. Carlos Nakai, jazz vocalist Luciana Souza, and Jay Ungar and Molly Mason, who wrote and performed the haunting theme music of PBS's celebrated series, *The Civil War*. The 2011 Festival will also feature four free concerts open to the public.

Special Discounts

The Festival is offering special discounts on ticket packages for multiple performances: 10% off when purchasing tickets for three to five performances, and 20% off on tickets for six or more concerts. Season tickets to all Festival performances are available for \$412, a 20% discount off full retail prices. In addition, by presenting a valid confirmation number from any lodging establishment on the island, visitors will receive a 50% discount on all Festival ticket purchases. Discounts, which cannot be combined, are available through the Festival box office at 904/261-1779.

About the AICMF

The Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival is a not-for-profit, tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Entering its 10th season, the Festival has become one of the largest music events in the Southeast. The AICMF also provides education opportunities for young aspiring musicians from the nation's leading conservatories. For more information about the Festival, visit our web site at www.aicmf.com.

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