## AGGIELIFE

Page 5 • Wednesday, October 6, 1999

# Intimate Gatherings Cuarteto Latinoamericano atin chamber musicians bring unique sound to Rudder

BY SUZANNE BRABECK The Battalion

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mate gatherings, for most of college-aged demographic, not involve string quartets in the most drastic need- forohere situations.

e Cuarteto Latinoamericano, n chamber ensemble, is compp Rudder Theater tonight as irst "Intimate Gatherings" rmance

e MSC Opera and Performing Society (OPAS) bring violinists and Aron and cellist Alvaro, are all brothers, and violinist Montiel to Texas A&M to de an outlet for students who both the symphony and clas-

remy Byrd, president of MSC and a senior psychology maaid this performance will be a ity small-venue program.

The quartet will perform in ler Theater, which holds about people," Byrd said.

The quartet will be especially esting to those students who interested in string instru-

uarteto Latinoamericano has n around since 1981 and has ormed on most mass-media ues, including radio, television l live concerts.

Cuarteto Latinoamericano is goto the be the "ground-breaker" a new OPAS program called Inmate Gatherings.

Sara Peeples, director of public tions for OPAS and a junior acnting major, said the new sewill bring the audience closer he performers. There has neven an OPAS performance in theater, but OPAS hopes its intimate setting will be fresh and new to the organization.

'This performance is also unique because after their performance, there will be a 30-minute question-and-answer period,' Peeples said.

Byrd said a mediator will regulate the discussion.

Byrd said it is often hard to coordinate when companies can perform for OPAS because of their hectic schedules.

This time things just nicely fell into place," Byrd said. "We were trying to book an act to reflect National Hispanic Heritage month, and this time it worked out nicely. The MSC Program Advisory

Committee was in charge of deciding which performances would come to year and said this group stood out because of their positive reviews. Fanfare magazine said of the group, "It has a clean, tight ensemble, startling luxuriance of tone and the delightful collective habit of playing cleanly on pitch.

The group also was praised by many other newspapers, including the San Francisco Chronicle who described the quartet as a "first-rate ensemble of passionate temperament.

As the quartet has spread its music across the continents, it has captured many accomplishments and praises.

Its first CD containing three quartets by Ginastera won the *New* York Times Critic's Choice for 1989 by the New York Times, and have since produced 14 more CDs.

'The performances are exceptional," Fanfare magazine said. 'The Cuarteto Latinoamericano seems to own this music. It plays with enormous precision and pas-



Cuarteno Latinoamericano will be performing tonight at Rudder Theater

PHOTO COURTESY OF CUARTETO LATINOAMERICANO

sion. I can't imagine better interpretations.

Since October is Hispanic Heritage Month, it is only fitting to highlight a well-known Latin ensemble to perform for the Texas A&M crowd

For students from large metropolitan cities, cultural programming may be reminiscent of home. However, this programming also serves as an opportunity for those students who have never had the chance or desire to try something new or for those who came from small towns without the resources to attract such a world-renowned organization.

"We are trying to get the word out to all students about the program, but we have made a special attempt to invite Latin-American

the end of the world.

groups, Spanish classes and other Hispanic organizations to the performance," Byrd said.

Like most college students who have two homes, so does Cuarteto Latinoamericano.

The group holds two teaching jobs, one at the Centro Nacional de las Artes in Mexico City and one at the Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh. The group, which has been employed by the Carnegie Mellon for 12 years, was chosen for its magnificent skill and range

Houston Newsweekly magazine also praised the group, saying, 'they play with more fire, precision, and taste than their North American peers. [They are]one of the most satisfying performances of Schubert's music that I've heard.'

### N's Millennium series analyzes past thousand years

EW YORK (AP) — If you do nath on "Millennium," CNN's our portrait of the past thouyears, one is struck by all that

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be missing. gure it out: "Millennium" has than 30 seconds to cover each 's global happenings from AD to the present. Is this a docuary series or a fool's errand? f you tune in its premiere Sun-at 10 p.m. EDT, Millennium will

rise you. Though it was spurred by milium mania, this would be a fasting series in any year. It is an bitious project with no stake in gall-inclusive, just compelling. d how time flies when you are ring fun. In five vignettes each hour (that per century), Millennium seizes big stories, personalities and eas, then presents them with ajesty and style. Actor Ben Kingsnarrates, but the words take a k seat to the visuals and music. "It's intended to be a pleasure the eye and the ear," British mmaker Sir Jeremy Isaacs, who lared executive producer duties ith Pat Mitchell, president of me Inc.-CNN Productions, said. t's history as a magic carpet ride to the past.

Here is the itinerary for the first edition, "Century of the Sword: The **Eleventh Century** 

"It's history as a magic carpet ride into the past."

> - Pat Mitchell president, Time Inc.

Jerusalem, where pilgrims tainside, or Pierre de Maupertuis, flocked from all over Europe seekwho almost 300 years ago led an ing salvation as they anticipated the expedition to the Arctic Circle to determine Earth's precise shape. thousandth anniversary of Christ's crucifixion in 1033 — and perhaps

We know our own history best," Isaacs said, acknowledging that narcissism and proximity distort one's view of the past. "But Millennium tells of other histories, of people all over the world who in the last thousand years influenced those around them.

In doing so, Millennium adds





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#### **CNN Productions**

— The world's preeminent civilization, China, which had innovations other cultures hadn't even imagined: printing, paper money, gunpowder and kites that carried humans aloft. Not to mention what was perhaps the world's first restaurant (it specialized in takeout chicken).

— The vast expanse of Islam from India to Spain, flourishing par-ticularly in Cordoba, Europe's

largest city, which was home to more than 1,000 mosques. — India, whose towering spiri-tualism, scholarship and wealth were undermined by its indifference to neighboring cultures and their advances.

here no one ever seemed to get a full night's sleep — or be bur-dened with a full night's bedfel-low. Declares *The Pillow Book*: "One's attachment to a man depends largely on the elegance of

And imperial seclusion in

Japan as chronicled by Sei

Shonagon, a lady-in-waiting in the

royal court, in her diary The Pillow

Book. A splendid sanctuary of

friskiness that makes the Playboy

Mansion seem like a flophouse,

his leave-taking." Millennium will continue each Sunday, devoted to a successive hundred years with a loosely applied theme (Century of the Scythe, Telescope, Furnace, Globe). It concludes Dec. 12 with,

Along the way, a special Web site (CNN.com/1000) will offer supplementary material for viewers whose curiosity is piqued by glimpses of Genghis Kahn, those enormous sailing vessels of Admiral Zheng, the exquisite churches carved from an Ethiopian moun-

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up to 50 illuminating sketches.

Does it add up to anything more sweeping? Can any grand conclusions about humankind's past be reached?

"This was never intended to be a series that drew a line through things," Isaacs said. He can point to three concepts binding these 1,000 years.

"First, science overtakes religion as an explanation of how the world works.

"Second, you see the balance of world interest and cultural energy moving from the East to the West.

"And, third, the world's piecemeal knowledge of itself becomes a general awareness. Once, few people knew what life was like over the next mountain or beyond the sea.

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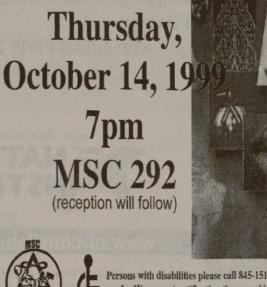
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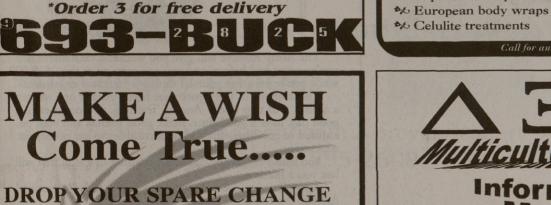


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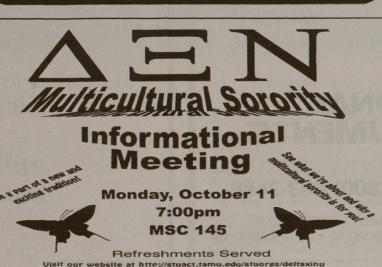
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