



**September 13, 2011**

## **ROCO and University of St. Thomas Present the ROCO String Quartet Chamber Series**

ROCO ("River Oaks Chamber Orchestra") and University of St. Thomas are pleased to announce a new series of chamber concerts featuring the ROCO String Quartet in Cullen Hall at University of St. Thomas. Three concerts will be presented this season, on Sep 29, 2011, Feb 23, 2012, and Apr 12, 2012. This new series is another step in the University's multi-year plan to establish a major performing arts center on the St. Thomas campus.

### **About the ROCO String Quartet**

With the launch of this String Quartet series, ROCO is featuring chamber ensembles drawn from within the full 40-piece chamber orchestra. Chamber music has been called "music among friends" because of its intimate nature. This series allows ROCO to expand relationships among musicians, with composers, and with the audience by presenting musical conversations that include contemporary as well as classic repertoire.

The first concert, on September 29th, 2011, features violinists, CeCe Weinkauff and Kirsten Yon, violist and group leader, Suzanne LeFevre, and cellist, Richard Belcher. Each is an accomplished artist-performer: CeCe has been a member of the St. Louis Symphony and currently freelances and teaches in New York City. Kirsten is currently in residence at the University of Houston where she serves as Associate Professor of Violin. Suzanne is a violist with ROCO, Houston Grand Opera, and Mercury Baroque, and affiliate professor of Viola at University of Houston. Richard Belcher is ROCO principal cellist and a member of the Grammy-nominated Enso Quartet.

### **ROCO String Quartet Chamber Series at University of St. Thomas Cullen Hall**

Performance Dates: Sep 29, 2011, Feb 23, 2012, Apr 12, 2012 |

All performances are at 7pm in Cullen Hall at the University of St. Thomas, 4001 Mt. Vernon, Houston 77006.

Tickets may be purchased at [www.rocohouston.org](http://www.rocohouston.org) or 713-665-2700. Subscriptions for all 3 concerts are \$50 general admission, \$25 for students. Single ticket prices are \$20 general admission, \$10 for students.

### **Program for the Sep 29, 2011 Performance**

*Haydn String Quartet no 81, op 77, No1*

*Elena Ruehr String Quartet no. 1, Movement 1, Patterns*

*Shostakovich Quartet No 11*

*Erwin Schulhoff Five pieces for String Quartet*

**About ROCO**

ROCO is a professional chamber orchestra of 40 all-star musicians, distinguished guest conductors and composers who come together from all over the world to present engaging performances of classical and original compositions. Founded in 2005 by oboist, Alecia Lawyer, ROCO is *the most fun you can have with serious music*. [www.rocohouston.org](http://www.rocohouston.org)

**About University of St. Thomas**

Founded in 1947 by the Basilian Fathers, the University of St. Thomas remains Houston's first and only Catholic university. St. Thomas, dedicated to educating leaders of faith and character, is committed to the religious, ethical, and intellectual traditions of Catholic higher education. [www.stthom.edu](http://www.stthom.edu)