

bravo!

Bravo! closes 24th season tonight

Daily staff report

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VAIL — Two grand pianos, 176 piano keys and four piano virtuosos will all be on stage tonight.

It's closing night of the 24th season of the Bravo! Vail Valley Music Festival season, and it is closing with a night of the ivories. "Four by Four — A Two Piano Extravaganza" is at 6 p.m. today at the Vilar Performing Arts Center. The world's leading pianists will come together to perform piano for four hands with works by Mozart, Lutoslawski, Ravel, Rossini, Debussy and Gershwin.

This is the final concert of the 2011 season of the Bravo! Music Festival.

A nine-foot Yamaha and a nine-foot Steinway are the instruments of the night. Two pianists will perform at a time on one of these pianos in classic piano duets.

"It's going to be a piano bash," said John Giovando, Bravo!'s executive director. "A night like we have never done before."

The concert beings with Bravo!'s artistic director and pianist Anne-Marie McDermott and French pianist Jean-Efflam Bavouzet playing

i If you go ...

What: Big Music For Little Bands, Bravo!'s closing night concert.

Where: Vilar Performing Arts Center, Beaver Creek.

When: 6 p.m. today.

Cost: \$27.

More information: Call 877-812-5700, or visit www.vailmusic.org.

Mozart's "Sonata for Two Pianos." Following will be pianist Stephen Prutsman and Joyce Yang performing Lutoslawski's "Variation on a Theme of Paganini for Two Pianos." Then McDermott and Yang take the stage for Ravel's "La Valse for Two Pianos."

After intermission, Prutsman and McDermott perform Rossini's "The Italian Girl in Algiers" and then Bavouzet and McDermott play Debussy's "Jeux-Poeme Danse." The concert concludes with Gershwin's "An American in Paris for Two Pianos" with Yang and Prutsman.

"To close the Festival with a piano extravaganza will be a treat," McDermott said. "What an honor it is to perform with these three stellar pianists."



SPECIAL TO THE DAILY

Tonight is the closing night concert of Bravo!'s 2011 season with a piano extravaganza featuring four piano virtuosos. Artistic director and pianist Anne-Marie McDermott performs tonight, along with three pianists from around the world.

This concludes the inaugural year as artistic director for McDermott. She said she is already busy planning for next season.

"I look forward to carrying the momentum and magic of my first year through the years to come," McDermott said. "We already have so many exciting programs planned for next summer, Bravo!'s 25th season."

Tickets are \$27 and can be purchased at 877-812-5700 or www.vailmusic.org.