



# MATT HAIMOVITZ

with UCCELLO

***A Cello Feast! Two All-Cello Evenings Benefit  
The Food Bank of Western Massachusetts & Rachel's Table  
Co-sponsored by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation***

***Trailblazing Cellist Matt Haimovitz and His Eight-Piece Cello  
Ensemble Celebrate Jazz in New Arrangements by David Sanford***

**Wednesday, May 12 @ 7:00pm**

**Glenbrook Middle School  
Longmeadow**

**Thursday, May 13 @ 7:30pm**

**National Yiddish Book Center  
Amherst**

**For Immediate Release, April 21, 2010** ... Internationally-acclaimed cellist **Matt Haimovitz** returns to Western Massachusetts to perform in two special evenings to benefit area hunger relief organizations, **The Food Bank** and **Rachel's Table**. Renowned for his fearless and virtuosic performances, Haimovitz performs with his eight-piece cello ensemble **Uccello**, comprised of his top students from McGill University in Montreal, for a program of new arrangements of Jazz classics. "An expressive maximalist," says The New Yorker, "[Haimovitz] calls forth a dazzling spectrum of sounds from the depths of his instrument."

The evenings are sponsored by the **Harold Grinspoon Foundation**, whose mission is to enhance the vibrancy of Jewish life in Western Massachusetts, nationally and in Israel through education and experiences that impart the knowledge and values of our heritage and the joys of being Jewish. Indeed, the Foundation recently helped Haimovitz bring four students to perform and study at a cello festival in Israel. "I'm very much looking forward to showing my gratitude for their support," says Haimovitz.

The eight cellists of **Uccello** will play works by Ornette Coleman, Charles Mingus, John McLaughlin (Mahavishnu), Miles Davis, Billy Strayhorn, and other jazz legends. In the new arrangements by Rome-Prize-winning composer **David Sanford**, the cellos wail, slide, and swing in an all-new big band sound. Benefit audiences will be among the first to hear this new Jazz program, one that will be performed the following week in New York City and recorded for release this fall on Oxingale Records. Listeners can also expect some of Haimovitz's trademark solo repertoire from Baroque masters Bach and Gabrielli.

The first concert takes place on **Wednesday, May 12** at Glenbrook Middle School, 110 Cambridge Circle in Longmeadow, at 7:00 pm, preceded by a Donor Reception at 6:00 pm. The concert will start with a short performance by the Middle School Orchestra. The following evening, **Thursday, May 13**, Haimovitz and Uccello will be heard at the National Yiddish Book Center, with a reception at 6:30 pm and concert at 7:30 pm. The Center is at 1021 West Street (on Hampshire College campus) in Amherst.

**TICKETS:** \$18 General Admission | \$54 & \$75 Reserved Seating and Donor Reception

**In Person:** Rachel's Table, 1160 Dickinson Street, Springfield (cash or check)

**By Phone:** The Food Bank, 413.247.9738

**Online:** <http://www.foodbankwma.org/take-action/donate/online-donation/>

**RACHEL'S TABLE** is a central food distribution service dedicated to feeding the hungry. Our mission, to relieve hunger in Greater Springfield and reduce the waste of food resources, is brought to life six days a week, as our volunteers pick up extra food from area restaurants, supermarkets, caterers and bakeries and distribute it to more than 40 agencies that serve the hungry and homeless. Rachel's Table is a project of the Jewish Federation of Western Mass and WWLP- TV22. [www.rachelstablespringfield.org](http://www.rachelstablespringfield.org)

Since 1982, **THE FOOD BANK** has been striving to prevent and alleviate hunger in Berkshire, Franklin, Hampden, and Hampshire Counties in western Massachusetts. In this region, approximately one in every ten people suffers from chronic food shortages or needs emergency food assistance. The Food Bank responds to immediate and emergency hunger through core food distribution programs, partnering with more than 400 local food pantries, meal sites, shelters, residential programs, and youth and elder care centers to bring at least 5 million meals to more than 114,000 people experiencing hunger across the diverse urban and rural communities in western Massachusetts. [www.foodbankwma.org](http://www.foodbankwma.org)

**THE HAROLD GRINSPOON FOUNDATION's** mission is to enhance the vibrancy of Jewish life in Western Massachusetts, nationally and in Israel through education and experiences that impart the knowledge and values of our heritage and the joys of being Jewish. The Foundation acts as both a funding organization to other institutions and as an initiator of its own programs. HGF strives to develop innovative and successful programs that can be replicated by other Jewish communities and philanthropists. [www.hgf.org](http://www.hgf.org)

**MATT HAIMOVITZ** is acclaimed for both his tremendous artistry and as a musical visionary – continuously pushing the boundaries of classical music performance, championing new music and initiating groundbreaking collaborations. From his debut at the age of 13, as soloist with Zubin Mehta and the Israel Philharmonic and his first recording with James Levine and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, for Deutsche Grammophon, at age 17, Haimovitz has gone on to perform on the world's most esteemed stages, with such orchestras and conductors as the Berlin Philharmonic with Levine, the New York Philharmonic with Mehta, the English Chamber Orchestra with Daniel Barenboim, the Boston Symphony Orchestra with Leonard Slatkin and the Montreal Symphony Orchestra with Kent Nagano. Haimovitz made his Carnegie Hall debut when he substituted for his teacher, the legendary Leonard Rose, in Schubert's String Quintet in C, alongside Isaac Stern, Shlomo Mintz, Pinchas Zukerman and Mstislav Rostropovich. In 2000, Haimovitz made waves with his Bach "Listening-Room" Tour, for which, to great acclaim, Haimovitz took Bach's beloved cello suites out of the concert hall and into clubs across the U.S., Canada, and the U.K. Haimovitz's 50-state Anthem tour in 2003 celebrated living American composers, and featured his arrangement of Jimi Hendrix's "Star-Spangled Banner." Haimovitz was the first classical artist to play at New York's infamous CBGB club, in a performance filmed by ABC News "Nightline UpClose." Haimovitz's recording career encompasses more than 20 years of award-winning work on Deutsche Grammophon and his own Oxingale Records, the trailblazing independent label he founded with composer/producer Luna Pearl Woolf. In addition to his touring and recording, Haimovitz is Professor of Cello and Co-Chair of the String Area at the Schulich School of Music at McGill University.

[www.matthaimovitz.com](http://www.matthaimovitz.com)

*High-res photos can be downloaded at: <http://oxingale.com/index.php?page=bio>*

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