



## Music of the Sun

with guest artist Robert Mirabal



For thousands of years humankind has turned toward the sun for inspiration, be it spiritual, philosophical, or poetic. Ancient sun myths from around the world continue to fascinate scholars and laypeople alike. In many Native American cultures each day begins with "running to the sun" - a fusion of spiritual and physical discipline -- a daily search for the sacred.

ETHEL, the pioneering string quartet, and GRAMMY® winning Native American flutist Robert Mirabal present a program inspired by the sun mythology of Native America. Using the instruments of the string quartet, Native American flutes (Tdoop - Pootse) and drums (Mooloo), as well as the spirited voices of students and community members, ETHEL and Mirabal unite to create a cross-cultural contemporary music event. This extraordinary collaboration grew out of the ETHEL/Mirabal work on TruckStop®, which premiered at the Brooklyn Academy of Music in 2008.

Included on the program are collaborations on Robert Mirabal's compositions as well as arrangements of ancient Native American music for strings, flutes, percussion, and voices\*. ETHEL presents complimentary original repertoire and the works of contemporary composers such as Don Byron, John Luther Adams, and others.

\*Optional repertoire calls for a local chamber choir of approximately 20 voices (SATB). Music will be provided by the ensemble.

### Guest Artist Biography:

Musician, writer, singer and storyteller, **Robert Mirabal** is Native America's most dynamic and best-selling artist. In addition to the music and instruments he creates, he is also a celebrated painter, poet and playwright. He is the author of *A Skeleton of a Bridge*, a book of poetry, prose and short stories. Mr. Mirabal is the recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts Award, three GRAMMYs® and the New York Dance and Performer's "Bessie" Award for composition.  
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