ARTIST SERIES
CONCERTS
OF SARASOTA

Biribá Union

Mike Block, cello/vocals
Christylez Bacon, beatbox/guitar/rhymes
Patricia Ligia, electric bass/vocals

November 17, 5:30 p.m. • Marie Selby Botanical Gardens

Artists sponsored by James H. Johnson, Jr., MD PA.
Artists and school program sponsored by Miles & Barbara Capron.

PROGRAM

Borrowing its name from a Brazilian wild sugar-apple, Biribá Union features **Mike Block** (cello, vocals), **Christylez Bacon** (beatbox, guitar, rhymes) and **Patricia Ligia** (electric bass, vocals). The trio met through Silkroad's Global Musician Workshop, initially bonding over their shared love of Brazilian music. They quickly began co-writing new music that draws on the freestyle theatrics of hip-hop and Go-go music; the effortless beauty of Brazilian forró and choro; the earthiness of American roots music, and the improvisational spontaneity of jazz.

Their performance includes original compositions, arrangements from global collaborations, and tunes from their debut album Passing Go.

Program to be announced from stage.

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(January 1, 2026-October 16, 2026)

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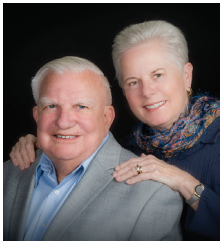

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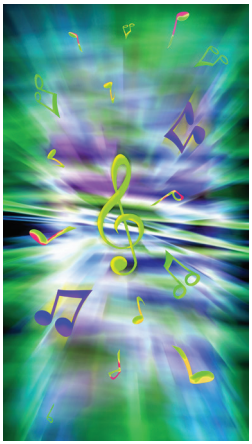

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—

Sarah Dessen

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We are also thankful to those listed above for their one-time gifts over the years that strenghten our organization and help us to flourish.

About the Artists

Mike Block is a Grammy Award-winning cellist, singer and composer with a passion for cross-cultural collaboration. Hailed as "one of the bravest, most intriguing musicians on the American fusion scene," (Gramophone) he has been a member of the Silkroad Ensemble for nearly 20 years and directs Silkroad's Global Musician Workshop. Yo-Yo Ma calls Block "the ideal musician for the 21st century," saying, "I'm always struck by his unique perspective on the world and his relaxed and confident approach; he takes on new music and new things fearlessly."

Christylez Bacon is a Grammy-nominated songwriter, storyteller, rapper, beat-boxer and guitarist from southeast Washington, DC. With a tall antenna and wide curiosity, Bacon loves exploring music in different cultural contexts and has collaborated with Hindustani, Arabic and Brazilian musicians. He was the first hip-hop artist to be featured at the Smithsonian Folklife Festival and has composed for and performed with the National Symphony Orchestra and Princeton Symphony Orchestra.

Patricia Ligia is an electric bass player and composer from Montevideo, Uruguay. In addition to playing in Colombian pop superstar Karol G's touring band (with whom she has performed on Saturday Night Live, NPR's Tiny Desk, The Today Show, and stadium shows around the world), Ligia is co-founder of Mestizas, a band that fuses flamenco and jazz with folkloric music from Latin American and the Caribbean. For her, Uruguayan culture makes it feel "easy to be alive, spread joy and share music."

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