

FUTURES & OPTIONS / By Robert J. Hughes

Culture Near Resort Areas

IT'S NOT ALL BEACH towels and bug spray at the nation's vacation retreats. There's a feast of cultural events, ranging from a chamber-music festival in New York's Hamptons to a show of "living" art in Laguna Beach, Calif. Here are some noteworthy cultural options around the country.

BRIDGEHAMPTON CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL

July 30 to Aug. 23

The Presbyterian Church, other sites
Bridgehampton, N.Y.
212-741-9403; 631-537-6368
(after July 25th)
www.bcmf.org

SOMETHING FREE in the Hamptons. This festival celebrates its 20th season with its first free outdoor concert, July 30, at 7 p.m., on the lawn of the town's Historical Society. On the all-Vivaldi program will be "The Four Seasons." The festival celebrates its anniversary with three new commissions. Among them is "The Unquestioned Answer," by American Ned Rorem. It's a companion to his "Bright Music," which he wrote for the festival in 1987. Performance is Aug. 6. Most performances 7:30 p.m. at the Bridgehampton Church. Tickets \$10 to \$30.

ASPEN MUSIC FESTIVAL

Through Aug. 17

Various sites
Aspen, Colo.
970-925-9042

www.aspenmusicfestival.com

THE EVENTS at this festival in the Rockies range from chamber music to family programs. Its theme, "Musical Visionaries," can pretty much mean any composer whose work influenced future generations. On July 24, the Emerson String Quartet will play Smetana, Mendelssohn and Janáček. Janáček's instrumental music appeals to many people today because of his popular operas, which created stir-



Young music lovers will get a chance to show off their skills in two hands-on workshops on Aug. 2 as part of the **Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music** in Santa Cruz, Calif.

PROVINCETOWN DUNE SHACKS

Through Aug. 10

Cape Museum of Fine Arts
Cape Playhouse Center for the Arts
Route 6A
Dennis, Mass.
508-385-4477
www.cmfa.org

ARTISTS HAVE LONG BEEN drawn to the dunes and beaches of Cape Cod. This museum explores the area's role in American art over the past 100 years or so. This show is based on artist David Forest Thompson's impressions of the 17 or so shacks that line a 3-mile stretch of beach between Provincetown and Truro on the Cape. The artist is also a photographer, and his acrylic-oil paintings have a photographic naturalness. Open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Saturday, noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission \$7; children under 18 free.

on view before. The show is organized into eight construction and design themes, from Amish to Victorian to appliqué. In addition to being mounted on walls, some quilts are draped on reproduction four-post beds in the middle of galleries. Quaint, no? Open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Admission is \$17.50 for adults, \$13 for students over 18, \$8.75 for children six to 18.

RANCH AND RANGE

Through Sept. 13

Buffalo Bill Historical Center
720 Sheridan Ave.
Cody, Wyo.
307-587-4771
www.bbhc.org

CHARLES BELDEN was a prime photographer of American ranch life. Visitors here can see how cattle were roped, steers steered and cows poked in the last century. It features 10 silver prints and 40 sepia-toned photomural

July 31 to Aug. 31
Shakespeare & Company Summer Performance Institute
Under the tent
The Rose Footprint Theatre
Lenox, Mass.
413-637-3353
www.shakespeare.org

AFTER WEEKS of training, students get a chance to shine. Shakespeare's early romantic comedy is performed by eight members of Shakespeare & Company's Summer Performance Institute, located in the Berkshire Mountain region of western Massachusetts. The program focuses on components of acting, from voice to dance and textual analysis. Participants are in their 20s. The play itself concerns Valentine and Proteus, their mixed-up attempts at romance, various disguises and mistaken identities. Tickets are \$12 to \$15. Performances are outdoors under a tent, at noon or 3 p.m.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL
WEEKEND JOURNAL

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