

CRITICS' PICKS

CLASSICAL STEVEN MAZEY

After two weeks and some spectacular concerts, the **Ottawa Chamber Music Festival** comes to a close today with two final performances. (They are concerts no. 109 and 110, in case you're counting).

At 2 p.m. at Dominion-Chalmers Church (O'Connor Street at Cooper), the Leipzig String Quartet performs Brahms' *Quartet in C minor, op. 51, no. 1* and the *Quartet No. 3 in B-flat major, op. 67*.

At 8 p.m. at the same church, hear "The Festival's Greatest Hits," a concert featuring popular music and performers from the event. Musicians will include the Leipzig Quartet, the Gryphon Trio, mezzo-soprano Julie Nesrallah and guitarist Daniel Bolshoy, violinists Philippe Djokic, violist Guylaine Lemaire and cellist Julian Armour, the Ottawa musician who created the event and is its artistic director. There will be music by Mendelssohn, Dvorák, Puccini, Wieniawski, Sir Ernest MacMillan and others. For passholders, both of today's performances require an extra \$20 ticket. Information: www.chamberfest.com.

KIDDING AROUND SARAH KENNEDY

This month, the **Canadian Museum of Nature** is hosting the Trading Post. Located in the Creepy Critters gallery, this ongoing event is designed to provide kids the opportunity to trade and learn more about their own personally collected specimens. It's a great way to empty their pockets of things you don't necessarily want travelling home and a fanatastic learning experience as well. Call 566-4700.

The Gryphon Trio, below, and others, perform tonight at the final concert of the Ottawa Chamber Music Festival.



FINE ARTS PAUL GESSELL

Ottawa photographer **Pedro Isztin** embarked in 1998 on a three-year journey across Canada, the United States, Cuba, Colombia and Peru. The result is *In Situ*, a series of expressive nudes in their natural environment. Eight photos from this series, including the one above, which have been exhibited widely in Canada and abroad, can be seen at Bar 56 at 56 Byward Market until Oct. 30.

EDITOR'S PICK PETER SIMPSON

The 3rd annual **Ottawa Pop Explosion** wheels into Barrymore's on Bank Street tonight, with sounds to please a variety of rock/alt-country tastes.

Acts include the Polytones, the Banditas and the John Henrys. 233-0307.