



Chameleon
Arts Ensemble
of Boston

Transforming experiences in chamber music.

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Chameleon Arts Ensemble Announces 10th Anniversary Season: 2007-2008

August 3, 2007 – Boston, MA – 2007-2008 marks The Chameleon Arts Ensemble's Tenth Anniversary Season of chamber music concerts. All of the concerts take place at the Goethe-Institut Boston, 170 Beacon Street in the Back Bay, one of the most beautiful and intimate music rooms in the city. The series opens on Saturday September 29th, and continues with concerts on Saturday November 10th, Saturday February 2nd, Saturday March 15th, and Saturday May 17th. All concerts are at 8 PM.

In a city immersed in music, the Chameleon Arts Ensemble is distinguished by superb artistry, luminous performances, and dynamic musical dialogues. This innovative ensemble draws capacity audiences of those who love the adventure of music—classic and contemporary. A Chameleon concert is a multifaceted experience in an intimate environment joining audience and musicians in an exuberant celebration of music. The musicians are award-winning local artists with growing national and international reputations, who have appeared with orchestras and in recitals around the world. Since its founding in 1998, Chameleon and artistic director Deborah Boldin have earned high praise for integrating old and new repertoire into unexpected chamber music programs that are themselves works of art, and were recognized nationally with a 2007 ASCAP/CMA award for adventurous programming. In a recent review, Jeremy Eichler of *The Boston Globe* praise her “discerning ears and cosmopolitan tastes” and remarked that “planning a good chamber music program is an art unto itself, and few in town have mastered it as persuasively as the Chameleon Arts Ensemble.”

The Tenth Anniversary season will again offer Chameleon's inimitable mix of the witty and the sublime, the adventurous and the beloved, with favorites by Brahms, Mozart, Schubert and

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Beethoven, marvelous yet less familiar works by Vaughan Williams, Duruflé, Penderecki and Leo Ornstein, and a Boston Premiere on every concert. At the conclusion of season ten, Chameleon will have performed 60 concerts throughout its history, with 218 *different* works by 126 *different* composers!

The opening concert of the season, on Saturday September 29th, is a re-imagining of the very first Chameleon concert held in October 1998: a wide-ranging, colorful evening of trios entitled *strands of a trio twining*. “When I selected the repertoire for the first concert ten years ago,” says Artistic Director Boldin, “I only realized when I was finished that it was all trios. This time, of course, it was deliberate.” The program includes Beethoven’s Trio in G Major for flute, bassoon & piano, Ingolf Dahl’s *Concerto a Tre* for clarinet, violin & cello, the Penderecki String Trio, Brahms’ Third Piano Trio in c minor, and the Boston Premiere of Daron Hagen’s Harp Trio.

forever sounding across centuries, on Saturday, November 10, includes the Boston Premiere of Derek Bermel’s *Wanderings* for woodwind quintet, the Mozart Clarinet Quintet in A Major, and the Piano Quintet of 1927 by American composer Leo Ornstein. In the early 1900’s Ornstein dazzled audiences with his virtuoso piano playing and electrifying compositions. He was famous enough to have a biography written about him by the age of 26 but abruptly abandoned his performing career, choosing to teach and compose in near-obscurity until his passing – at the age of 109! His piano quintet is a masterpiece of the genre, an epic work deserving of a wider audience, fully the equal of any of the great Romantic piano quintets.

The first concert of 2008 is *twin notes inseparably paired*, on Saturday, February 2. The program of duos – the most intimate, most fundamental form of chamber music – includes: Brahms’ e minor Cello Sonata, Virgil Thomson’s *Five Phrases from the Song of Solomon* (1924) for soprano and percussion, Lowell Lieberman’s Sonata for flute & harp, Op. 53, the Prokofiev f minor Violin Sonata, and the Boston Premiere of Tigran Mansurian’s Duo for viola & percussion, composed in 1998.

between eternity and time on Saturday, March 15 is built on a theme that Artistic Director Deborah Boldin has been working on for several years. “I’m fascinated by firsts and lasts,” she

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says. “There is a special place in the repertoire for the last works of master composers. I am particularly interested in contrasting those with early works, juxtaposing youthfulness with the mature voices representing lifetimes of experience, and the glimpses this gives us into the passage of time.” For this program, she has selected the last chamber works by Vaughan Williams (his Ten Blake Songs for soprano and oboe) and Schubert, the marvelous Cello Quintet in C Major. Firsts are represented by Maurice Duruflé’s *Prelude, recitatif et variations*, Op. 3 for flute, viola and piano (as his only chamber work, this is also a last!) and fellow Frenchman Marc-André Dalbavie’s *In advance of the broken time* for flute, clarinet, string trio & piano, another Boston Premiere. Dalbavie is one of the most important and original voices in French music today. *In advance of the broken time* is inspired by the first ready-made of Marcel Duchamp upon arriving in New York.

Chameleon will close this anniversary season with *opus 10* on Saturday, May 17th, a lighthearted take on the number 10: Ernst von Dohnányi’s Serenade in C Major for string trio, Op. 10, Nielsen’s Wind Quintet FS 100, selections from Richard Strauss’ *Acht Gedichte* for soprano & piano, Op.10, Robert Schumann’s Piano Trio in g minor, Op. 110, and the Boston Premiere of Kevin Puts’ *Ritual Protocol* for marimba & piano, composed ten years ago in 1998.

The May 17 concert is also a Benefit for the Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program. Audience members who bring new or gently used books for patients staying at the Barbara McInnis House (BHCHP’s 24-hour care facility) will receive 25% off ticket prices. Over the last 20 years, BHCHP’s simple but compelling mission to provide and assure access to the highest quality health care for Boston’s homeless, has evolved as the largest and most comprehensive program in the country, serving more than 9,000 men, women, and children last year.

For tickets or more information, concertgoers can call 617-427-8200 or visit www.chameleonarts.org. Subscription prices range from \$49 to \$152, and individual tickets are \$38, \$28 and \$18. \$5 discounts for students and seniors are available for individual tickets. Goethe-Institut is a wheelchair accessible venue.

