



Chameleon
Arts Ensemble
of Boston

Transforming experiences in chamber music.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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contact: Gabriel Langfur, Managing Director

phone: 617-427-8200

email: info@chameleonarts.org

website: www.chameleonarts.org

Chameleon Arts Ensemble opens 2008-2009 chamber music season

with transcendent music I have heard

September 4, 2008 – Boston, MA – The Chameleon Arts Ensemble will open its eleventh chamber music season with two performances of **transcendent music I have heard**, on Saturday, October 4 at 8 PM and Sunday October 5 at 3 PM, both at the Goethe-Institut Boston, 170 Beacon Street in the Back Bay. Three blockbusters from three centuries make up the program, works that define genres and set new benchmarks for what can be expressed through music.

Brahms' B Major Piano Trio is a unique work in the composer's output. It was initially written very early in his career, and then picked up again for revision decades later. The result is an irresistible piece that stands at the very center of the Romantic repertoire for piano and strings, combining youthful exuberance with the eminent master's touch. Claude Debussy single-handedly invented an ensemble with his Sonata for flute, viola & harp, composed late in his career as part of a conceived set of six instrumental sonatas (only three were completed before his death) that would define what it meant to be a French composer in the early twentieth century. Countless composers since – of countless nationalities and compositional styles – have borrowed his uniquely colorful and expressive instrumental combination.

The august Polish composer Krzysztof Penderecki has given us the first undeniable masterpiece of the 21st century with his Sextet for clarinet, horn, string trio and piano. Born in 1933, Penderecki has been a major force in new music since the late 1950s. His *Threnody for the Victims of Hiroshima* opened many ears to the possibilities of expression that could be attained with

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innovative, avant-garde approaches to instrumental color, and he gained even more fame with large-scale works for chorus and orchestra such as the *St. Luke Passion*, which again broke new ground with an eclectic, polystylistic approach to its materials and structure. Penderecki has continued to be at the forefront of innovation in music, all the while maintaining direct communication and emotional connections with audiences. The Sextet was composed in 2000 and premiered in 2002 at the Musikverein in Vienna by an ensemble including Mstislav Rostropovich, Yuri Bashmet, and Julian Rachlin. It is clearly the work of a master at the peak of his powers, with musical language that is at once fresh and familiar, brilliant orchestration and rhythmic activity, and superbly maintained dramatic tension.

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 unqualified 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. *The Boston Globe* praised 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.”

For tickets or more information, concertgoers can call 617-427-8200 or visit www.chameleonarts.org. Individual tickets are \$38, \$28 and \$18. \$5 discounts for students and seniors are available. The Goethe-Institut is a wheelchair accessible venue.

