



Chameleon
Arts Ensemble
of Boston

Transforming experiences in chamber music.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Chameleon Arts Ensemble presents *Of nature's sweet music*
an afternoon of chamber music for children and families

May 3, 2007 – Boston, MA – The Chameleon Arts Ensemble of Boston, in partnership with the Forest Hills Educational Trust, will present a **Family Concert** on Sunday, June 3, 2007 at 2 PM, in Forsyth Chapel at historic Forest Hills Cemetery, 95 Forest Hills Avenue in Jamaica Plain. The program is intended for children ages 6 and up and their families, and will be interactive, with time for comments, questions, and answers. An instrument “Petting Zoo” and demonstration will follow the live performance. The “Petting Zoo” encourages young people to view themselves as having the potential to play musical instruments. Children will be able handle and play orchestral instruments as guided by members of Chameleon, and will be encouraged to touch, blow, pluck, bow, and strike.

The concert, entitled *Of nature's sweet music*, will be an afternoon of exploration and discovery: classical chamber music inspired by the environments of places near and far – a tropical jungle, a waterfall in Japan, as well as a busy city street in Brazil and neighborhoods right here in Boston. The program includes selections from Bela Bartok's picturesque and evocative violin duos; Chinese composer Zhou Long's *Wild Grass* for cello solo; *Fifty Shades of Green: a Jungle Landscape* for string trio, by Judith Bingham; New Zealander Gareth Farr's *Kembang Suling: a Musical Snapshot of Asia* for flute & marimba; Brazilian composer Julio Medaglia's *Vals Paulista* from *Belle Epoque in Sud-America*; and *Play Outside* for chamber ensemble, written for this concert by composer Hans Spencer, who will also be hosting and narrating the event, contributing his various talents as musician, storyteller, and educator.

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About his piece, Mr. Spencer comments: “*Play Outside* reminds and reintroduces young people about the feelings of carefree freedom that can be achieved by such simple activities as running through the grass and climbing trees, activities which seem to be as endangered as many animal species.”

In a city immersed in music, the **Chameleon Arts Ensemble** is distinguished by superb artistry, luminous performances, and dynamic musical dialogues. Recently awarded a CMA/ASCAP Award for Adventurous Programming, Chameleon offers an inimitable mix of the witty and the sublime, the unfamiliar and the beloved. Founded in 1998, this innovative ensemble draws 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, who have appeared with orchestras and in recitals around the world. *The South End News* called Chameleon “a ‘must-be-heard’ affair that should be on every music lover’s calendar,” and *The Boston Globe* wrote “...another evening of smart, zealous music-making by the young and ambitious Chameleon Arts Ensemble...took its auditors on an amazing journey.”

The concert takes place in a hidden architectural gem, **Forsyth Chapel** at historic Forest Hills Cemetery in Jamaica Plain. The chapel, with a vaulted ceiling and lovely stained glass, was designed by the same team that designed Harvard University’s Sanders Theater. It seats only 140 people, so every member of the audience can see the musicians up close. The event is presented in collaboration with the Forest Hills Educational Trust, and is made possible by the Linda F. Zuker Memorial Youth Fund, the Roxbury Highland Bank Charitable Foundation, the Neal Rantoul Foundation, and the Bain Capital Children’s Fund.

For tickets or more information, concertgoers can call 617-427-8200 or visit www.chameleonarts.org. Individual tickets are \$10 for adults, free for children. Forsyth Chapel is one block from the Forest Hills Station on the Orange Line, via Tower Street shortcut; free parking is available on the Cemetery grounds. Forsyth Chapel is a wheelchair accessible venue.

The Chameleon Arts Ensemble is funded in part by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency and the Boston Cultural Council, a local agency which is funded by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, administrated by the Mayor’s Office of Arts, Tourism, and Special Events.



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