Chameleon Up Close Recital with flutist Deborah Boldin, violist Scott Woolweaver, and harpist Franziska Huhn on Sunday, February 9

January 9, 2020 – Boston, MA – The Chameleon Arts Ensemble presents Chameleon Up Close featuring flutist Deborah Boldin, violist Scott Woolweaver, and harpist Franziska Huhn on Sunday, February 9, 2020, 4 PM, at Mary Norton Hall at Old South Church, 645 Boylston Street, Boston. The program explores trios at the crossroads of old and new. Debussy’s classic harp trio recalls the elegance of the French baroque, enrobed in his gorgeous 20th century sound world. Sofia Gubaidulina’s Garden of Joy and Sorrows similarly blends past and present through delicate whispers and otherworldly effects. Also on the concert are Rameau’s Pièces de clavecin en concerts No. 5 in d minor, Arthur Foote’s At Dusk, and Ravel’s Sonatine en Trio. Noted composer and lecturer Jeremy Gill will serve as host, sharing commentary and his unique insight into each work.

The Boston Musical Intelligencer called Mr. Woolweaver “one of Boston’s most respected violists” and noted, “Huhn produced a multitude of colors—breathtaking in the upper registers.” The Boston Globe praised Ms. Boldin for “surpassingly beautiful contributions.”


ABOUT CHAMELEON UP CLOSE
Our recital series gives audiences members the opportunity to see and hear Chameleon’s superb artists in an informal and “up close” way. The Boston Musical Intelligencer praised “the artfully chosen works,” and hailed “the two stars treated us to a thrilling performance.” The performances will take place at Mary Norton Hall on the second floor of Old South Church, transformed into an intimate cabaret setting with table seating.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM
Claude Debussy launched a harmonic revolution disguised in beauty and refinement. Near the end of his life, he famously began a project to compose a set of six sonatas for diverse instruments. He was in
the throes of terminal cancer at the time and finished only three of the intended six. **The Sonata for flute, viola, and harp** is the second of the series. It was completed in 1915 and moves beyond the so-called impressionism of his *Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun*, incorporating elegant nods to the French baroque enrobed in his luxurious and ethereal sound world.

The French baroque similarly influenced Ravel’s approach to form and sound. The Sonatine dates from 1903-1905 and was inspired by the keyboard works of Couperin and Rameau. Originally composed for piano, the work was transcribed by the great harpist Carlos Salzedo with Ravel’s permission and retitled **Sonatine en Trio**.

**Sofia Gubaidulina**, too, blends old and new through delicate whispers and otherworldly effects in her harp trio, *Garden of Joy and Sorrow*. Cast in one large movement, the piece is inspired by two literary works: “Sayat-Nova” by Iv Oganov and verses by the 20th-century German poet Francisco Tanzer. She exploits the instruments to their fullest to create a startling array of colors and textures, highlighting contrasting worlds of exotic prose and spiritual philosophies.

**Rameau’s** sunny and brilliant *Pièces de clavecin en concerts No. 5 in d minor*, provides the baroque touchstone for the program. There are five concerts in total and each uses “character” names for its movements, in *La Forqueray*, *La Cupos*, and *La Marais*. First published in 1741, they are scored for a variable ensemble with violin or flute and viola da gamba, along with a virtuoso harpsichord obbligato.

Finally, a rare chamber music gem, **Arthur Foote’s At Dusk** transports us to that magical moment between day and night. Foote was one of the first internationally-recognized American born and trained composers. The miniature was directly inspired by Debussy’s classic, and the autograph score (dated November 28, 1920, and unpublished until 1991) notably resides in the Spaulding Library at the New England Conservatory.

**ABOUT THE ARTISTS**

Founded in 1998, **Chameleon Arts Ensemble** has distinguished itself as one of Boston’s finest, most versatile chamber ensembles. For 20 years, Chameleon and Artistic Director **Deborah Boldin** have consistently earned unqualified praise for integrating old and new repertoire into unexpected chamber music programs that are themselves works of art. *The Boston Globe* noted “The evening demonstrated once more what this group's stalwart supporters have always known: Chameleon is a local treasure.”

**Ms. Boldin** has appeared with the Rockport Chamber Music Festival, IBIS Chamber Music Society, Martha’s Vineyard Chamber Music Society, First Monday at Jordan Hall, and the Wellesley Composers Conference. She can be heard on Argo and Albany Records. **Violist Scott Woolweaver** has performed with the Boston Chamber Music Society, Boston Symphony and Pops, Martha’s Vineyard Chamber Music Society, the Cape & Islands Festival, Boston Baroque, Collage New Music, Handel & Haydn Society, and many others. **Harpist Franziska Huhn** performs regularly with Mistral and Walden Chamber Players, Radius Ensemble and Collage New Music, and as a substitute harpist with the Boston Symphony Orchestra.
CALENDAR LISTINGS - CHAMELEON UP CLOSE RECITAL SERIES

Up Close 1: Deborah Boldin, flute; Scott Woolweaver, viola & Franziska Huhn, harp

Program: Maurice Ravel, Sonatine en Trio for flute, viola & harp
          Arthur Foote, *At Dusk* (1920)
          Jean-Philippe Rameau, Pièces de clavecin en concerts No. 5 in d minor
          Sofia Gubaidulina, *Garden of Joy and Sorrow*
          Claude Debussy, Sonata for flute, viola & harp, L. 137

Date/Time & Location: Sunday, February 9, 2020, 4 PM
                      Mary Norton Hall at Old South Church, 645 Boylston Street, Boston

The closest subway stops are Copley on the Green Line and Back Bay Station on the Orange Line. Old South Church is wheelchair accessible.

TICKETS: Individual tickets are $49 with $5 discounts for students & seniors. Cabaret-style seating.

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