



Chameleon
Arts Ensemble
of Boston

Transforming experiences in chamber music.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 1, 2024

contact: Gabriel Rice, Managing Director

phone: 617-427-8200

email: info@chameleonarts.org

website: <https://chameleonarts.org>

Chameleon Arts Ensemble Announces its 2024-2025 Season Programs

August 1, 2024 – Boston, MA – The Chameleon Arts Ensemble is pleased to announce its 2024-2025 season programs.

Over the past 26 years, Chameleon has built a reputation as Boston’s most adventurous chamber ensemble, integrating old and new repertoire into unexpected chamber music programs that are themselves works of art. The Ensemble has received extensive critical acclaim for its world-class performances, the staggering array of works it has presented, and for the enduring and innovative programming of Artistic Director, Deborah Boldin – transforming the listening experience by exploring both the rich tradition and the continual evolution of the chamber music art form.

The 2024-2025 **chamber music series** includes five programs at First Church in Boston, 66 Marlborough Street. Concerts are on Saturday evenings at 7:30 PM and Sunday afternoons at 4 PM, on October 5 and 6 and November 23 and 24, 2024, and continuing on February 22 and 23, April 5 and 6, and May 17 and 18, 2025 at First Church in Boston, 66 Marlborough Street. The 2025 **Chameleon Up Close** recital series includes performances on March 16 and April 27 at the Goethe-Institut, Boston, 170 Beacon Street.

Chameleon’s exceptional, multi-generational roster of **artists** was called “an all-star lineup of chamber musicians” by *The Boston Globe*, and individually, they have appeared in concert around the world with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Marlboro Music, Boston Symphony, Chamber Music Northwest, Music@Menlo, and the Verbier, Ravinia, and Caramoor Festivals, among others. *The Boston Musical Intelligencer* hailed “One sensed that all the Chameleons were born for chamber music,” and called us “a wildly gifted group.”

2024-2025 CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES

Chameleon opens its 27th season with *Exercises en Route* on **Saturday, October 5, 7:30 PM and Sunday, October 6, 4 PM** at First Church in Boston. The program includes works of interior passion and sublime beauty that reflect the human experience: Schubert’s Cello Quintet; Ernest Bloch’s Three Nocturnes for piano trio; Arnold Schoenberg’s 1905 *Ein Stelldichein* (A Rendezvous) for oboe, clarinet, violin, cello, and piano; and Earl Kim’s Samuel Beckett-inspired “exercises in living, remember, and feeling,” *Exercises en Route* for soprano, flute, oboe, clarinet, violin, cello, and percussion.

Origin Stories – on **Saturday November 23, 7:30 PM and Sunday November 24, 4 PM** at First Church in Boston – is a virtuosic program of early works that shaped each composer’s character and style. It includes Beethoven’s Piano Quartet No. 3 in C Major, WoO 36; Bernstein’s Sonata for clarinet and piano; Chinary Ung’s *Child Song* for flute, violin, cello, and piano; and George Enescu’s kaleidoscopic Octet in C Major, Op. 7, completed when he was only 19 years old.

Our first program of 2025 – ***Between Two Worlds*** on **Saturday, February 22, 7:30 PM and Sunday, February 23, 4 PM** at First Church in Boston – explores the bustling styles and means of expression that blossomed between the two world wars. It includes Milhaud’s jazz-age *Création du monde* for piano quintet; Berg’s expressionist Adagio from *Kammerkonzert* for violin, clarinet; and piano; George Rochberg’s *Between Two Worlds* (Ukiyo-e III) for flute and piano; and two rarities: Pavel Haas’ folk-tinged Wind Quintet (1929) and Erich Korngold’s late-romantic masterpiece, the Suite for two violins, cello, and piano left-hand, Op. 23.

How it ends? on **Saturday, April 5, 7:30 PM and Sunday, April 6, 4 PM** at First Church in Boston includes Ravel’s Sonata No. 1 for violin & piano “Posthume;” Richard Rodney Bennett’s *After Syrinx* for oboe and piano; Olivier Messiaen’s final work, *Pièce pour piano et quatuor à cordes*; Gabriel Fauré’s second Piano Quintet, Op. 115; and a world premiere by Laura Schwendinger. Scored for soprano, flute, clarinet, violin, cello, piano, and percussion, her new work will explore the cycle of life through themes of birth, death, and transfiguration.

We close our 27th chamber music series on **Saturday, May 17, 7:30 PM and Sunday, May 18, 4 PM** at First Church in Boston with a program that invites us to look inward. Titled ***Exultation is the going***, it includes Arvo Pärt’s *Fratres* for violin and piano; York Bowen’s 1932 Phantasy Quintet for bass clarinet and string quartet; the Boston premiere of Kevin Puts’ *Seven Seascapes* for flute, French horn, strings and piano; and Beethoven’s “Archduke” Trio, Op. 97.

RECITAL SERIES - CHAMELEON UP CLOSE

Our popular recital series gives audiences members the opportunity to experience Chameleon’s superb artists in an informal and “up close” way. *The Boston Musical Intelligencer* praised “the artfully chosen works,” hailed “the two stars treated us to a thrilling performance,” and noted “one felt charmed even before a sound was produced.” The series takes place at Goethe-Institut, Boston transformed into an intimate cabaret setting with table seating and refreshments. Artistic Director Deborah Boldin serves as host, providing colorful commentary and context.

On **Sunday, March 16, 2025, at 4 PM** at Goethe-Institut, Boston, **violinist Claire Bourg and pianist Mika Sasaki** share ***Fragments and Fantasies*** including Brahms’ Scherzo movement from the “F-A-E” Sonata; Judith Weir’s *Music for 247 Strings*; Schubert’s dazzling C Major Fantasie, Op. 159, D. 934; and Schumann’s d minor sonata for violin & piano, Op. 121.

Up Close 2 – *A play of light and shadow* – takes place on **Sunday, April 27, 2025, at 4 PM** at Goethe-Institut, Boston and features clarinetist Kelli O’Connor, cellist Rafael Popper-Keizer, and pianist Vivian Chang-Freiheit. The program includes Beethoven’s Trio in B-flat Major, Op. 11 “Gassenhauer;” Alexander Zemlinsky’s d minor Clarinet Trio, Op. 3; Libby Larsen’s 2022 *Trio Noir*; and Brahms’ Trio in a minor for clarinet, cello, and piano, Op. 114.

TICKETS & VENUES

For tickets or more information, concertgoers can call **617-427-8200** or visit chameleonarts.org. Individual tickets are \$52, \$41, and \$30; with \$5 discounts for students and seniors. Subscriptions range from \$81-\$302.

First Church in Boston (66 Marlborough Street) and the Goethe-Institut (170 Beacon Street) are wheelchair accessible. The closest subway stops are Arlington Street on the Green Line and Back Bay Station on the Orange Line.

ABOUT CHAMELEON ARTS ENSEMBLE OF BOSTON

Founded in 1998, **Chameleon Arts Ensemble** has distinguished itself as one of Boston's finest, most versatile chamber ensembles. Chameleon is led by **Artistic Director and flutist Deborah Boldin**. Her inspired vision and vast knowledge of the chamber music repertoire have garnered widespread acclaim. National honors include 2020, 2017 and 2015 awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, two awards from the Koussevitzky Music Foundation in the Library of Congress, and a pair of Adventurous Programming Awards from ASCAP and Chamber Music America. *The Boston Globe* noted: "The Chameleon Arts Ensemble has distinguished itself over the course of two decades by sheer dint of its sparkingly imaginative programming. Its concerts are the slow food of local chamber music, events where sounds and sensibilities, rhapsody and reverie, old music and new, are balanced with care and a sense of individual voice." *The Boston Musical Intelligencer* wrote "One of the joys of hearing the Chameleon Arts Ensemble comes from Deborah Boldin's whimsical thematic programming, mixing old and new, letting pieces echo and shed light on each other."

2024-2025 ARTISTS

Deborah Boldin, flute	Piero Guimaraes, percussion	Jessica Xylina Osborne, piano
Claire Bourg, violin	Nik Hooks, bassoon	Rafael Popper-Keizer, cello
Vivian Chang-Freiheit, piano	Edward Kass, double bass	Sarah Rommel, cello
Hazel Dean Davis, French horn	Eunae Koh, violin	Mika Sasaki, piano
Francesca dePasquale, violin	Caitlin Lynch, viola	Matt Sharrock, percussion
Nancy Dimock, oboe	Mary Mackenzie, soprano	Scott Woolweaver, viola
Elizabeth Fayette, violin	Tanner Menees, viola	Stephanie Zyzak, violin
Gary Gorczyca, clarinet	Kelli O'Connor, clarinet	

CALENDAR LISTINGS – 2024-2025 CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES

chamber series 1: Exercises en Route

Program: Ernest Bloch, Three Nocturnes for violin, cello & piano (1924)
Arnold Schoenberg, *A Rendezvous* for oboe, clarinet, violin, cello & piano
Earl Kim, *Exercises en Route* for soprano, flute, oboe, clarinet, violin, cello & percussion
Franz Schubert, String Quintet in C Major, Op. 163, D. 956

Dates/Times: Saturday, October 5, 2024, 7:30 PM
Sunday, October 6, 2024, 4 PM

Location: First Church, 66 Marlborough Street, Boston

chamber series 2: Origin Stories

Program: Ludwig van Beethoven, Piano Quartet No. 3 in C Major, WoO 36
Leonard Bernstein, Sonata for clarinet & piano
Chinary Ung, *Child Song* for flute, violin, cello & piano
George Enescu, Octet in C Major, Op. 7 (1900)

Dates/Times: Saturday, November 23, 2024, 7:30 PM
Sunday, November 24, 2024, 4 PM

Location: First Church, 66 Marlborough Street, Boston

chamber series 3: Between Two Worlds

Program: Darius Milhaud, *Création du monde*, Suite de concert for piano quintet, Op. 81b
George Rochberg, *Between Two Worlds* (Ukiyo-e III) for flute & piano
Pavel Haas, Wind Quintet, Op. 10
Alban Berg, Adagio from *Kammerkonzert* for violin, clarinet & piano
Erich Korngold, Suite for two violins, cello & piano left-hand, Op. 23

Dates/Times: Saturday, February 22, 2025, 7:30 PM
Sunday, February 23, 2025, 4 PM

Location: First Church, 66 Marlborough Street, Boston

Up Close 1: Fragments and Fantasies

with Claire Bourg, violin and Mika Sasaki, piano

Program: Johannes Brahms, Scherzo in c minor from “F-A-E” Sonata, WoO 2
Judith Weir, *Music for 247 Strings*
Franz Schubert, Fantasie in C Major for violin & piano, Op. 159, D. 934
Robert Schumann, Sonata No. 2 in d minor for violin & piano, Op. 121

Date/Time: Sunday, March 16, 2025, 4 PM
Location: Goethe-Institut, Boston, 170 Beacon Street

chamber series 4: How it ends?

Program: Maurice Ravel, Sonata No. 1 for violin & piano “Posthume”
Richard Rodney Bennett, *After Syrinx I* for oboe & piano
Laura Schwendinger, *New Work* for soprano & chamber ensemble – world premiere
Olivier Messiaen, *Pièce pour piano et quatuor à cordes*
Gabriel Fauré, Piano Quintet No. 2 in c minor, Op. 115

Dates/Times: Saturday, April 5, 2025, 7:30 PM
Sunday, April 6, 2025, 4 PM
Location: First Church, 66 Marlborough Street, Boston

Up Close 2: A play of light and shadow

with Kelli O’Connor, clarinet; Rafael Popper-Keizer, cello and Vivian Chang-Freiheit, piano

Program: Ludwig van Beethoven, Trio in B-flat Major, Op. 11 “Gassenhauer”
Alexander Zemlinsky, Clarinet Trio in d minor, Op. 3
Libby Larsen, *Trio Noir* (2022)
Johannes Brahms, Trio in a minor for clarinet, cello & piano, Op. 114

Date/Time: Sunday, April 27, 2025, 4 PM
Location: Goethe-Institut, Boston, 170 Beacon Street

chamber series 5: Exultation is the going

Program: Arvo Pärt, *Fratres* for violin & piano
York Bowen, Phantasy Quintet for bass clarinet & string quartet, Op. 93 (1932)
Kevin Puts, *Seven Seascapes* for flute, French horn, violin, viola, cello, bass & piano
Ludwig van Beethoven, Piano Trio No. 7 in B-flat Major, Op. 97 “Archduke”

Dates/Times: Saturday, May 17, 2025, 7:30 PM
Sunday, May 18, 2025, 4 PM
Location: First Church, 66 Marlborough Street, Boston

