



Chameleon
Arts Ensemble
of Boston

Transforming experiences in chamber music.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Chameleon Arts Ensemble Announces its 2025-2026 Season Programs

July 31, 2025 – Boston, MA – The Chameleon Arts Ensemble is pleased to announce its 2025-2026 season programs.

Over the past 27 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 2025-2026 **chamber series** is comprised of 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 11 and 12 and November 22 and 23, 2025, and continuing on February 21 and 22, April 11 and 12, and May 16 and 17, 2026 at First Church in Boston, 66 Marlborough Street. The **The Up Close** recital series includes concerts on March 22 and April 26, 2026 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.”

2025-2026 CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES

Chameleon opens its 28th season with ***Beneath the setting sun*** on **Saturday, October 11, 7:30 PM and Sunday, October 12, 4 PM** at First Church in Boston. The program of fond farewells and parting gifts includes William Grant Still’s radiant *Summerland* for flute and piano; John Adams’ groovy, minimalist *Road Movies* for violin and piano; Gabriel Fauré’s second cello sonata; Eleanor Alberga’s *No-Man’s-Land Lullaby* for violin and piano; and Brahms’ exquisite Quintet in b minor for clarinet and strings, Op. 115.

Homeward Bound – on **Saturday November 22, 7:30 PM and Sunday November 23, 4 PM** at First Church in Boston – reminds us that no matter where we are, music always brings us home. It includes Beethoven’s String Quintet in C Major; Schubert’s *Auf dem Strom* for soprano, French horn, and piano; Stacy Garrop’s *Postcards from Wyoming* for flute, clarinet, violin, cello, piano, and percussion; Ernest Moeran’s Fantasy Quartet for oboe and strings; and a selection of Charles Ives songs for soprano and piano, anchored by *The Housatonic at Stockbridge*.

Our first program of 2026 – ***Bards and Ballads*** – takes place on **Saturday, February 21, 7:30 PM and Sunday, February 22, 4 PM** at First Church in Boston. Timeless song meets rustic charm in Rebecca Clarke’s 1940 *Dumka*: Duo Concertante for violin, viola, and piano; Einojuhani Rautavaara’s *Ballad* for harp and string quintet; Carl Nielsen’s Wind Quintet, Op. 43; and Dvořák’s irresistibly joyful Piano Quintet No. 2 in A Major, Op. 81.

To Wake the Dead on **Saturday, April 11, 7:30 PM and Sunday, April 12, 4 PM** at First Church in Boston includes Tchaikovsky’s *Souvenir d’un lieu cher* for violin and piano, Herbert Howells’ Rhapsodic Quintet for clarinet and strings, and two rarities: Louis Vierne’s epic 1917 c minor piano quintet (conceived as a votive offering for his son who was killed in action) and Stephen Albert’s moving adaptation of *Finnegans Wake* for soprano, flute, clarinet, violin, cello, and piano.

We close our 28th chamber music series on **Saturday, May 16, 7:30 PM and Sunday, May 17, 4 PM** at First Church in Boston with a fantasy-filled trip down the rabbit-hole titled, **Things Seen Right-to-Left**. It includes Erik Satie’s *Choses vues à droite et à gauche (sans lunettes)* for violin and piano; Michael Stephen Brown’s *The Lotos-Eaters* for flute, cello, piano, and percussion; Vaughan Williams’ Phantasy Quintet; Reena Esmail’s *Jhula Jhule (Back and Forth)* for clarinet and piano; and Maurice Ravel’s Piano Trio in a minor.

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.

Up Close 1 – *Through the Looking-Glass* – takes place on **Sunday, March 22, 2026 at 4 PM** at Goethe-Institut, Boston. It features violinist Elizabeth Fayette, cellist Sarah Rommel, and pianist Xiaohui Yang in Beethoven’s “Ghost” Trio; Lera Auerbach’s Piano Trio No. 2, *This Mirror Has Three Faces*; and Shostakovich’s Piano Trio No. 2 in e minor, Op. 67.

On **Sunday, April 26, 2026, at 4 PM** at Goethe-Institut, Boston, violinist Francesca dePasquale, and pianist Alice Chenyang Xu team up for ***Behind Me — dips Eternity*** — . The program of simultaneously profound yet electrifying duos features Mozart’s e minor Sonata for piano and violin, K. 304, Takemitsu’s *Hika* (Elegy), Debussy’s Sonate in g minor, and Prokofiev’s Violin Sonata No. 1 in f minor, Op. 80.

TICKETS & VENUES

For tickets or more information, concertgoers can call **617-427-8200** or visit chameleonarts.org. Individual tickets are \$54, \$43, and \$32; with \$5 discounts for students and seniors. Subscriptions range from \$86-\$313.

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."

2025-2026 ARTISTS

Deborah Boldin, flute	Nik Hooks, bassoon	Mika Sasaki, piano
Claire Bourg, violin	Edward Kass, double bass	Matt Sharrock, percussion
Vivian Chang-Freiheit, piano	Eunae Koh, violin	Lishan Tan, harp
Hazel Dean Davis, French horn	Caitlin Lynch, viola	Scott Woolweaver, viola
Francesca dePasquale, violin	Mary Mackenzie, soprano	Alice Chenyang Xu, piano
Nancy Dimock, oboe	Nathan Meltzer, violin	Xiaohui Yang, piano
Elizabeth Fayette, violin	Rafael Popper-Keizer, cello	
Gary Gorczyca, clarinet	Sarah Rommel, cello	

CALENDAR LISTINGS – 2025-2026 SEASON

chamber series 1: Beneath the setting sun

Program: William Grant Still, *Summerland* for flute & piano
John Adams, *Road Movies* for violin & piano
Gabriel Fauré, Sonata No. 2 in g minor for cello & piano, Op. 117
Eleanor Alberga, *No-Man's-Land Lullaby* for violin & piano
Johannes Brahms, Quintet in b minor for clarinet & strings, Op. 115

Dates/Times: Saturday, October 11, 2025, 7:30 PM

Sunday, October 12, 2025, 4 PM

Location: First Church, 66 Marlborough Street, Boston

chamber series 2: Homeward Bound

Program: Franz Schubert, *Auf dem Strom* for soprano, French horn & piano, D. 943, Op. 119
Stacy Garrop, *Postcards from Wyoming* for flute, clarinet, violin, cello, piano & percussion
Charles Ives, *The Housatonic at Stockbridge* and other songs for soprano & piano
Ernest John Moeran, Fantasy Quartet for oboe & strings (1946)
Ludwig van Beethoven, String Quintet in C Major, Op. 29, “Storm”

Dates/Times: Saturday, November 22, 2025, 7:30 PM

Sunday, November 23, 2025, 4 PM

Location: First Church, 66 Marlborough Street, Boston

chamber series 3: Bards & Ballads

Program: Rebecca Clarke, *Dumka*: Duo Concertante for violin, viola & piano (1940)
Einojuhani Rautavaara, *Ballad* for harp & string quintet
Carl Nielsen, Wind Quintet, Op. 43, FS 100
Antonín Dvořák, Piano Quintet No. 2 in A Major, Op. 81

Dates/Times: Saturday, February 21, 2026, 7:30 PM

Sunday, February 22, 2026, 4 PM

Location: First Church, 66 Marlborough Street, Boston

Up Close 1: Through the Looking-Glass

with Elizabeth Fayette, violin; Sarah Rommel, cello; and Xiaohui Yang, piano

Program: Ludwig van Beethoven, Piano Trio in D Major, Op. 70, No. 1 “Ghost”
Lera Auerbach, Piano Trio No. 2, *This Mirror Has Three Faces*
Dmitri Shostakovich, Piano Trio No. 2 in e minor, Op. 67

Date/Time: Sunday, March 22, 2026, 4 PM
Location: Goethe-Institut, Boston, 170 Beacon Street

chamber series 4: To Wake the Dead

Program: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, *Souvenir d'un lieu cher* for violin & piano, Op. 42
Herbert Howells, Rhapsodic Quintet for clarinet & strings, Op. 31 (1919)
Stephen Albert, *To Wake the Dead: Six Sentimental Songs after Finnegans Wake*
for soprano, flute, clarinet, violin, cello & piano
Louis Vierne, Piano Quintet in c minor, Op. 42 (1917)

Dates/Times: Saturday, April 11, 2026, 7:30 PM
Sunday, April 12, 2026, 4 PM
Location: First Church, 66 Marlborough Street, Boston

Up Close 2: Behind Me — dips Eternity —
with Francesca dePasquale, violin and Alice Chenyang Xu, piano

Program: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Sonata No. 21 in e minor for piano & violin, K. 304
Tōru Takemitsu, *Hika* (Elegy) for violin & piano
Claude Debussy, Sonate in g minor for violin & piano, L. 140
Sergei Prokofiev, Violin Sonata No. 1 in f minor, Op. 80

Date/Time: Sunday, April 26, 2026, 4 PM
Location: Goethe-Institut, Boston, 170 Beacon Street

chamber series 5: Things Seen Right-to-Left

Program: Erik Satie, *Choses vues à droite et à gauche (sans lunettes)* for violin & piano
Michael Stephen Brown, *The Lotos-Eaters* for flute, cello, piano & percussion
Ralph Vaughan Williams, Phantasy Quintet
Reena Esmail, *Jhula Jhule* (Back and Forth) for clarinet & piano
Maurice Ravel, Piano Trio in a minor

Dates/Times: Saturday, May 16, 2026, 7:30 PM
Sunday, May 17, 2026, 4 PM
Location: First Church, 66 Marlborough Street, Boston

