



Chameleon
Arts Ensemble
of Boston

Transforming experiences in chamber music.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Chameleon presents “Through the Looking-Glass” - an Up Close recital of works for piano trio on March 22

February 19, 2026 – Boston, MA – Chameleon resumes its popular “Up Close” recital series with a program titled “Through the Looking-Glass” on **Sunday, March 22, 2026 at 4 PM** at Goethe-Institut, Boston featuring violinist Elizabeth Fayette, cellist Sarah Rommel, and pianist Xiaohui Yang. The trio will take on 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. *The New York Times* praised Ms. Fayette’s “alluring, lustrous sound and seasoned virtuosity.” *The Boston Musical Intelligencer* noted that Ms. Rommel “worked at the top of her game and gave captivating accounts,” and *La Libre* (Belgium) called Ms. Yang “a magician of sound and virtuosity.”



ABOUT OUR UP CLOSE RECITAL SERIES

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,” 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 the Goethe-Institut Boston, transformed into an intimate cabaret setting with a complimentary glass of wine and refreshments. Artistic Director Deborah Boldin serves as host, sharing colorful commentary and her unique insight into each work.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

There are few works as earth-shattering and soul-stirring as **Shostakovich's e minor Piano Trio, Op. 67**. He brings together the personal, the political, and the unknowable with hypnotic, frenzied rhythms, coded messages of protest, and searing emotional impact. Written in 1944, the Trio is both a tribute to his close friend, the musicologist Ivan Sollertinsky who had died suddenly, and the Jewish victims of the Holocaust, whose stories had just begun reaching the Soviet Union upon the liberation of the camps. The resulting work demonstrates the resilience of the human spirit and functions as a powerful declaration of defiance, sorrow, and silence.

Gutsy and theatrical, **Lera Auerbach** takes us on a wild ride of mirror images and musical sleights of hand with *her second piano trio subtitled **This Mirror Has Three Faces***. The piece, composed in 2012, has a psychological quality and explores individuality verses ensemble, harmony verses conflict. One can liken the structure to a hinged mirror with movements title such "First Unfolding," "Second Unfolding," and "Tell 'em what you see." And like Shostakovich, she uses haunting quietude and crackling energy to stretch and distort both form and texture in search of revelation.

Beethoven shows us that he is the king of drama with a whirlwind of supernatural tension and electrifying contrast. **The Piano Trio in D Major, Op. 70, No. 1**, first published in 1809, comes from his middle period; with it, he expanded the scope of what a piano trio could be in terms of length, emotional and musical intensity, and technical demands, moving it out of the salon and into the public arena. The middle movement Largo inspired the famous *Ghost* nickname because of its somber, eerie quality. His most famous piano student, Carl Czerny, wrote in 1842 that it reminded him of the ghost of Hamlet's father, and indeed, Beethoven's notebook suggests that he was discussing an opera of Shakespeare at the time of the trio's composition.

ABOUT CHAMELEON ARTS ENSEMBLE OF BOSTON

Founded in 1998, **Chameleon Arts Ensemble** has built a reputation as Boston's most adventurous chamber ensemble, integrating old and new repertoire into unexpected programs that are themselves works of art. Now in its 28th season, Chameleon has performed hundreds of concerts covering a remarkable array of more than 700 *different* works by 400 *different* composers brought together in smart, thematic programs that connect with our shared humanity and appeal to connoisseurs and newcomers alike. 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.

Violinist Elizabeth Fayette is an in-demand chamber musician and orchestral leader. She recently served as a guest concertmaster with the Milwaukee Symphony and the Princeton Symphony. From 2016-2020, she was first violin with the Vega String Quartet, and is currently a member artist of the Manhattan Chamber Players, New York Classical Players, and the Marinus Ensemble. Her festival appearances include Ravinia's Steans Music Institute, the Kneisel Hall Chamber Music Festival, Music from Angel Fire, Aspen Music Festival, Marlboro Music Festival, and many others.

Cellist Sarah Rommel is a top prizewinner in the George Enescu International Cello Competition and Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition, and recipient of a Frank Huntington Beebe Fund Grant and Jack Kent Cooke Young Artists Award. She has appeared at many festivals including Music from Angel Fire, Chamber Music Palisades, Caramoor's Rising Stars Series, Ravinia's Steans Music

Institute, and Marlboro Music. She recently toured with Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and East Coast Chamber Orchestra (ECCO).

Xiaohui Yang is a winner of the 2017 Naumburg International Piano Competition and since then has been featured in performances across the globe including in venues such as Carnegie Hall, Ozawa Hall, New Jersey Performing Arts Center, Tel Aviv Museum of Art and the Seoul Arts Center. She has been a soloist with the Louisiana Philharmonic, Milwaukee Symphony, New Jersey Symphony, and the Galveston Symphony, among others. A dedicated chamber musician, Ms. Yang has appeared at many festivals including Ravinia's Steans Music Institute, Tanglewood, Ravinia, Banff, Taos, and Marlboro Music Festival.

CALENDAR LISTINGS

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

TICKETS

For tickets or more information, concertgoers can call **617-427-8200** or visit **chameleonarts.org**. Individual tickets are \$54 with \$5 discounts for students and seniors.

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