



Chameleon

Arts

Ensemble

of Boston

Transforming experiences in chamber music.

26/27

Season 29

Deborah Boldin

Artistic Director

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Chameleon Arts Ensemble of Boston

Transforming experiences in chamber music.

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Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to introduce Chameleon's 29th concert season and invite you to join us for transcendent music and dazzling artistry, in seven one-of-a-kind programs that spark curiosity, pull at our heartstrings, and illuminate the world around us. Among the many chamber series highlights are Bartók's mighty Piano Quintet, Fauré's 2nd Piano Quartet, and Brahms' soul-stirring B Major Trio; breezy wind quintets by Elliott Carter and Paquito D'Rivera; new works by Libby Larsen and Kevin Puts; and Richard Danielpour's blockbuster take on Rilke's visionary *Sonnets*. Our popular *Up Close* recital series returns with multihued duos for violin and piano, and songs on love and life anchored by Bernstein's brilliant *Arias and Barcarolles* for soprano, baritone and piano four-hands. Witty, sublime, new, and beloved... I hope you agree that we have an exciting year ahead, and I look forward to seeing you at the concerts!

Deborah Boldin, Artistic Director

Season Artists

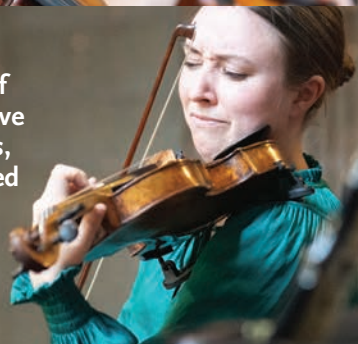
Deborah Boldin, flute
Claire Bourg, violin
Vivian Chang-Freiheit, piano
Hazel Dean Davis, French horn
Francesca dePasquale, violin
Nancy Dimock, oboe
Gary Gorczyca, clarinet
Nik Hooks, bassoon
Edward Kass, double bass
Eunae Koh, violin
Yun Janice Lu, piano
Caitlin Lynch, viola
Tianyou Ma, violin
Mary Mackenzie, soprano
Nathan Meltzer, violin
Tanner Menees, viola
Rafael Popper-Keizer, cello
Sarah Rommel, cello
Mika Sasaki, piano
Matt Sharrock, percussion
Nathaniel Sullivan, baritone
Wynona Wang, piano
Scott Woolweaver, viola
Xiaohui Yang, piano
Yebin Yoo, violin

"[They] all played like stars."
– The Boston Globe



“Chameleon has distinguished itself over the course of two decades by sheer dint of its sparkingly imaginative programming...events where sounds and sensibilities, rhapsody and reverie, old music and new, are balanced with care and a sense of individual voice.”

– The Boston Globe





About Chameleon Arts Ensemble of Boston

In a city immersed in music, the Chameleon Arts Ensemble is distinguished by superb artistry, luminous performances, and dynamic musical dialogues. Chameleon integrates old and new repertoire into unexpected chamber music programs that are themselves works of art. Now entering its 29th season, 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.

chamber
series



I dwell in Possibility –

Saturday

October 10, 2026

7:30 PM

First Church, Boston

Benjamin Britten Phantasy Quartet for oboe & strings, Op. 2

Elliott Carter Woodwind Quintet (1948)

Ludwig van Beethoven Violin Sonata No. 2 in A Major, Op. 12

John Cage *Nocturne* for violin & piano

Richard Strauss Piano Quartet in c minor, Op. 13, TrV 137

Sunday

October 11, 2026

4 PM

First Church, Boston

We begin at the beginning, with early inspirations of composers who became defining voices of their generations. Britten blends English pastoral charm with his blossoming modernist sensibility, Carter brings playful counterpoint and melodic warmth to his pivotal neoclassic quintet, and Cage offers an enchanting miniature that leaves nothing to chance. Beethoven frees the violin sonata from Classical molds with quicksilver charm, and Strauss soars with glimpses of heroes' journeys to come.

“triumphs of teamwork”

– The Boston Globe

chamber
series



The Tipping Point

Saturday
November 21, 2026
7:30 PM

First Church, Boston

Charles Ives *Sunrise* for soprano, violin & piano

Maurice Ravel *Chansons madécasses* for soprano, flute, cello & piano

Kevin Puts *And Legions Will Rise* for clarinet, violin & marimba

Béla Bartók Piano Quintet in C Major, Sz. 23

Sunday
November 22, 2026
4 PM

First Church, Boston

Ives explores the magical moment when the sun breaches the horizon, while Kevin Puts envisions legions preparing for cinematic battles. Ravel's emotionally charged Madagascan songs stand at the precipice of a radical new style, with their provocative subject matter and atmosphere of ferocious exultation. Bartók's Piano Quintet is a rarely heard gem filled with youthful passion and his love for the folk songs and csárdás from the cafes around Budapest, reminding us to take a chance, cross the threshold, and tip.

“a seriously awesome rendering”

– The Boston Globe

chamber
series



Paths & Pilgrimages

Saturday

February 20, 2027

7:30 PM

First Church, Boston

Joaquín Turina *La Oración del torero* for string quartet, Op. 34 “The Toreador’s Prayer”

Behzad Ranjbaran *Fountains of Fin* for flute, violin & cello

Igor Stravinsky Suite from *L'Histoire du soldat* for clarinet, violin & piano

Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco *Meditation* (Kol Nidre) for cello & piano

Gabriel Fauré Piano Quartet No. 2 in g minor, Op. 45

Sunday

February 21, 2027

4 PM

First Church, Boston

Down a hot and dusty road, Stravinsky’s soldier makes a fateful deal with the devil, and Turina’s brave bullfighter prays for his life before stepping into the ring with equal parts devotion and bravado. Behzad Ranjbaran ushers us into a 16th century Iranian garden representing paradise on earth, and Fauré’s elegant and exhilarating Piano Quartet carries forward memories of the evening church bells near his childhood home.

“expressive and musical perfection”

– The Boston Musical Intelligencer

chamber
series



Collected Stories

Saturday

April 3, 2027

7:30 PM

First Church, Boston

George Gershwin *Short Story* for violin & piano

Robert Schumann *Märchenbilder* for viola & piano, Op. 113

Paquito D'Rivera *Aires Tropicales* for wind quintet

Libby Larsen *Songs From Letters from Calamity Jane to her daughter Janey* for soprano & piano

Antonín Dvořák String Quintet No. 3 in E-flat Major, Op. 97

Sunday

April 4, 2027

4 PM

First Church, Boston

Life is a collection of stories stitched together – one experience, one person, one moment at a time. Schumann the dreamer invites us into his world of fantasy and fairytales, while Libby Larsen reveals the struggles of a working woman, mother, and pioneer of the Wild West. Paquito D'Rivera channels the tropical breezes and irresistible rhythms of Cuba, Gershwin's bluesy story echoes between the avenues of Tin Pan Alley, and Dvořák, with his sparkling and open-hearted viola quintet, recalls his idyllic summer in the Iowa countryside.

“unabashed and flawless delight”
– The Boston Musical Intelligencer

chamber
series



Sonnets to Orpheus

Saturday

May 22, 2027

7:30 PM

First Church, Boston

Rebecca Clarke *Morpheus* for cello & piano

Richard Danielpour *Sonnets to Orpheus*, Book I for soprano & chamber ensemble

Johannes Brahms Piano Trio No. 1 in B Major, Op. 8

Sunday

May 23, 2027

4 PM

First Church, Boston

We close our 29th season with a transcendent journey into the realm of the muses. Rebecca Clarke's delicate portrait of the god of dreams is a miniature treasure of color and texture, and Richard Danielpour brings radiant lyricism and emotional warmth to Rilke's towering text. Like a gift from the gods themselves, Brahms' B Major Piano Trio survived a major transformation from youthful conception to the soul-stirring masterpiece that continues to inspire.

"this was playing of the highest kind"

– Boston Classical Review

A man with glasses and a dark suit is shown in profile, playing a clarinet. He is looking down at the instrument. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be a stage or concert hall setting.

“This was a chance to really tune into them and hear their
exquisite playing.”

– The Boston Musical Intelligencer

Chameleon Up Close

We invite you to join us for **Chameleon Up Close**, an extraordinary opportunity to see and hear our superb artists featured in recitals in an intimate cabaret setting including our hallmark mix of classic, neglected, and contemporary works. Enjoy a complimentary glass of wine and sweets along with colorful commentary by Artistic Director Deborah Boldin.

Up Close



The Colors We Inherit

Nathan Meltzer, violin & Mika Sasaki, piano



Sunday
March 14, 2027
4 PM

Goethe-Institut,
Boston

Maurice Ravel Sonata No. 1 for violin & piano “Posthume”

Gabriel Fauré Sonata No. 1 in A Major, Op. 13

Eleanor Alberga *The Wild Blue Yonder* for violin & piano

George Enescu Sonata No. 3 in a minor, Op. 25 “Dans le caractère populaire roumain”

The greatest gift a teacher can give is the confidence, courage, and skill necessary to follow your own path. Gabriel Fauré was just that teacher. He encouraged Ravel's independent thinking and colorful, impressionist tendencies and helped Enescu refine his monumental talent, integrating French technique with Romanian folk traditions. Eleanor Alberga continues the thread of artistic independence with a kaleidoscopic work contemplating the gamut of human experience and what lies beyond.

“ravishing soundmakers”
– The Boston Musical Intelligencer

www.chameleonarts.org | 617-427-8200



Songs in the Key of Life

Mary Mackenzie, soprano; Nathaniel Sullivan, baritone; and
Vivian Chang-Freiheit and Yun Janice Lu, piano

Sunday

May 2, 2027

4 PM

Goethe-Institut,

Boston

Robert Schumann *Fünf Lieder* for baritone & piano, Op. 40

Clara Schumann *Sechs Lieder aus Jucunde* for soprano & piano, Op. 23

Robert Paterson *Extraordinary* for soprano, baritone & piano

Leonard Bernstein *Arias and Barcarolles* for soprano, baritone & piano four-hands

Love and marriage go together like a horse and carriage. Classical music's favorite couple explores themes of affection and the beauty of nature, and Robert Paterson offers a cheeky take on finding love in the 21st century. Bernstein's final work is a meditation on the "stuff" of life, reminiscing on lovers, parents, children, and the mundane affairs of domestic bliss. He wrote the clever, poignant texts himself, complete with scatting, bluesy ballads, and witty banter. As in real life, the small joys are the big joys. You can't have one without the other.

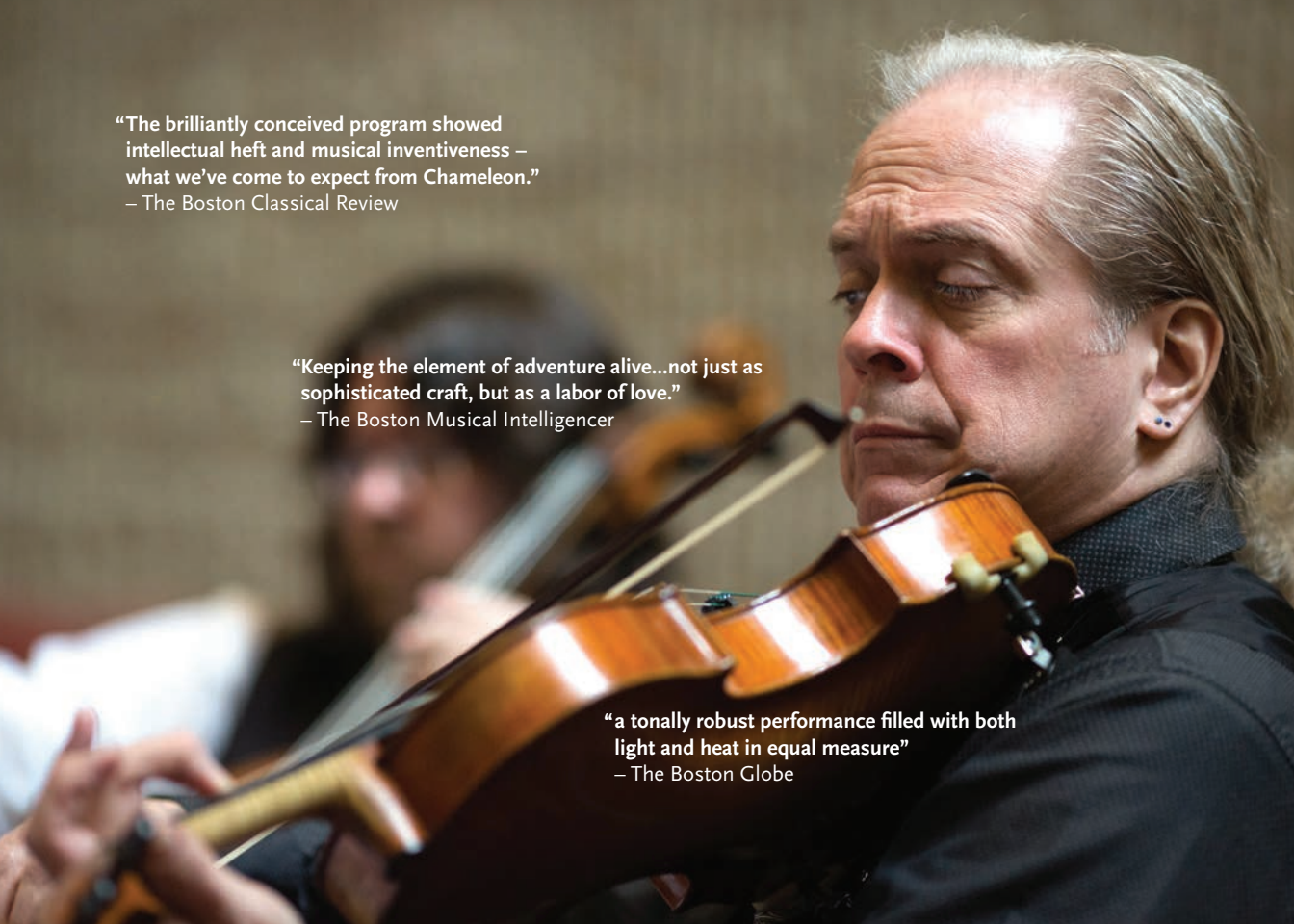
"The performance was sensational."
– The Boston Globe

www.chameleonarts.org | 617-427-8200

**"The brilliantly conceived program showed
intellectual heft and musical inventiveness –
what we've come to expect from Chameleon."
– The Boston Classical Review**

**"Keeping the element of adventure alive...not just as
sophisticated craft, but as a labor of love."
– The Boston Musical Intelligencer**

**"a tonally robust performance filled with both
light and heat in equal measure"
– The Boston Globe**



A close-up profile shot of a woman with brown hair and glasses, wearing a black sleeveless top, playing an oboe. The background is blurred, showing warm, bokeh light spots.

Intimate setting.

A man with dark hair and glasses, wearing a dark suit and tie, is shown from the chest up, playing a violin. The background is a blurred wall with many small, warm, bokeh light spots.

Adventurous repertoire.

Two women are playing violins. The woman in the foreground has dark curly hair and is wearing a maroon sleeveless top. The woman in the background has long dark hair and is wearing a green patterned top. Both are focused on their instruments.

Luminous performances.

26-27 Season at a Glance

Don't miss Chameleon's 29th season of luminous performances in Boston's most intimate concert environments. We integrate old and new music into unexpected programs that are themselves works of art, transporting audiences and transforming the chamber music experience.

Chamber series concerts are at **First Church**, 66 Marlborough Street, and the Up Close recitals are at **Goethe-Institut**, 170 Beacon Street in Boston's Back Bay. Saturday concerts begin at **7:30 PM** and Sunday concerts at **4 PM**.

chamber 1 – I dwell in Possibility –

Saturday, October 10, 2026 and Sunday, October 11, 2026

Benjamin Britten • Elliott Carter • Ludwig van Beethoven • John Cage • Richard Strauss

chamber 2 – The Tipping Point

Saturday, November 21, 2026 and Sunday, November 22, 2026

Charles Ives • Maurice Ravel • Kevin Puts • Béla Bartók

chamber 3 – Paths & Pilgrimages

Saturday, February 20, 2027 and Sunday, February 21, 2027

Joaquín Turina • Behzad Ranjbaran • Igor Stravinsky • Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco • Gabriel Fauré

Up Close 1 – The Colors We Inherit

Sunday, March 14, 2027

Maurice Ravel • Gabriel Fauré • Eleanor Alberga • George Enescu

chamber 4 – Collected Stories

Saturday, April 3, 2027 and Sunday, April 4, 2027

George Gershwin • Robert Schumann • Paquito D'Rivera • Libby Larsen • Antonín Dvořák

Up Close 2 – Songs in the Key of Life

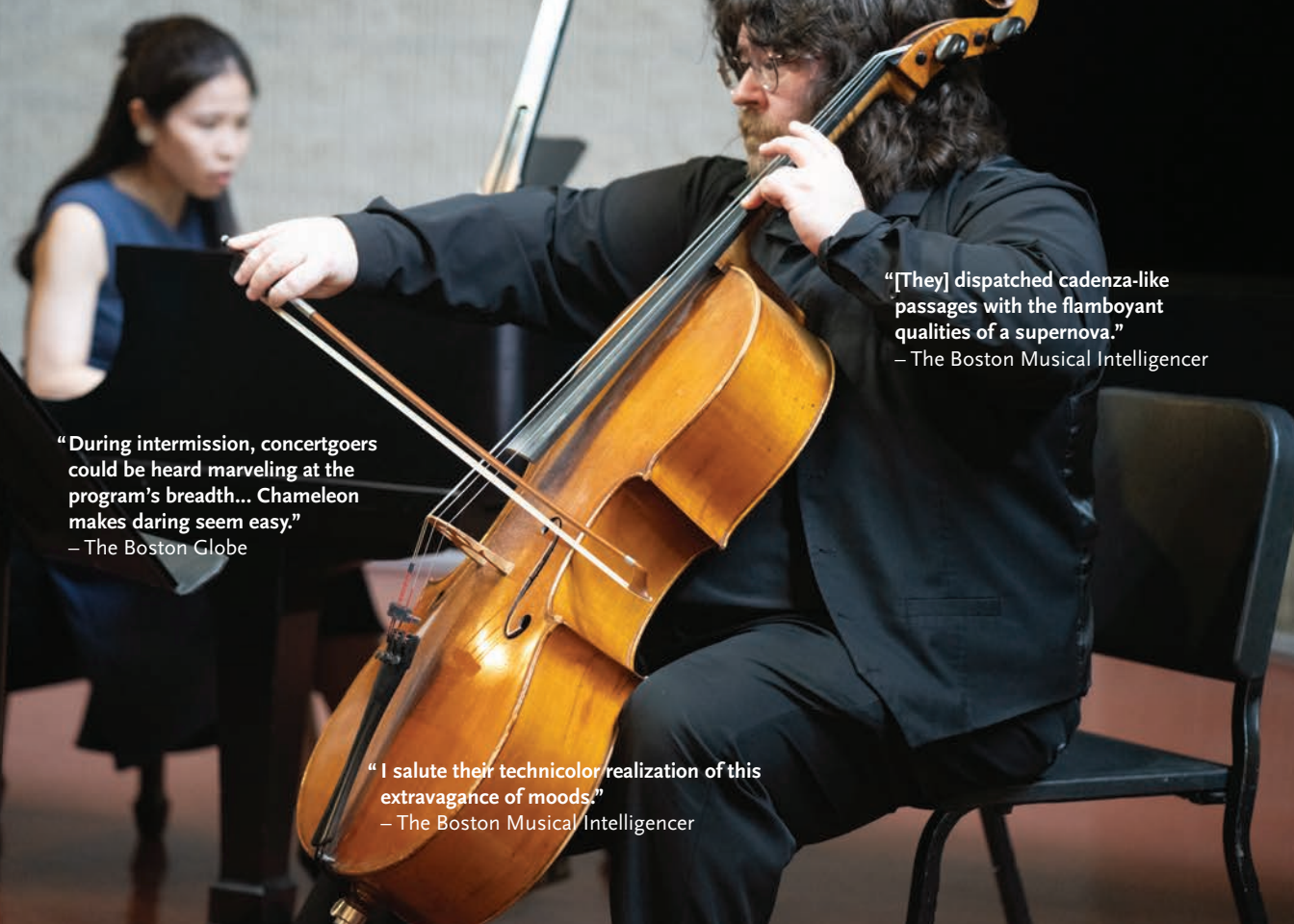
Sunday, May 2, 2027

Robert Schumann • Clara Schumann • Robert Paterson • Leonard Bernstein

chamber 5 – Sonnets to Orpheus

Saturday, May 22, 2027 and Sunday, May 23, 2027

Rebecca Clarke • Richard Danielpour • Johannes Brahms



“During intermission, concertgoers could be heard marveling at the program’s breadth... Chameleon makes daring seem easy.”
– The Boston Globe

“[They] dispatched cadenza-like passages with the flamboyant qualities of a supernova.”
– The Boston Musical Intelligencer

“I salute their technicolor realization of this extravagance of moods.”
– The Boston Musical Intelligencer

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Subscriber Benefits

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- Receive 10% off any additional single tickets for family or friends

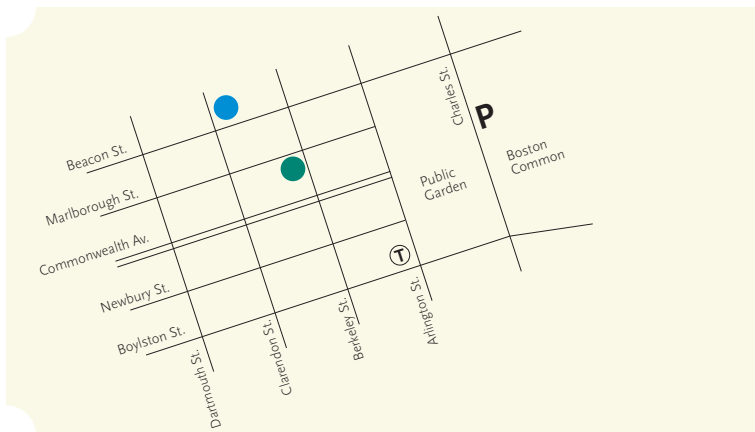


Accessibility

First Church and Goethe-Institut are wheelchair accessible. Please call or email if you require assistance with seating. Large print programs are available at all performances.

Directions to Venues

Concerts are at **First Church, 66 Marlborough Street** at the corner of Marlborough and Berkeley Streets, and at **Goethe-Institut, 170 Beacon Street** between Berkeley and Clarendon Streets in Boston's Back Bay.



Parking is recommended in the garage under the Boston Common – entrance on Charles Street between the Public Garden and the Common. The closest **T Stations** are Arlington on the Green Line and Back Bay on the Orange Line.

How To Order Tickets:

By Mail:

Please make check payable to
Chameleon Arts Ensemble
and mail to:
6 Rocky Nook Terrace
Boston, MA 02130

By Phone: 617-427-8200

Online: www.chameleonarts.org

All seating is **reserved**.

CREDITS

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Please note:
Programs and personnel are
subject to change.

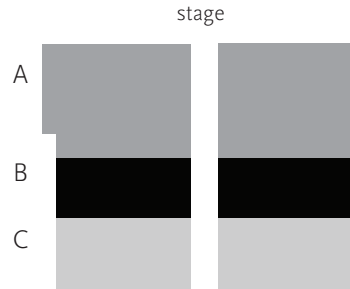


Support Chameleon

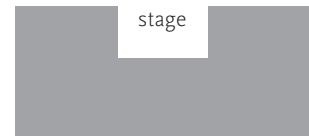
Ticket sales cover less than half the expenses related to producing our unforgettable events. We hope that you will consider including a tax-deductible donation along with your ticket order. Your gift of any size will make a significant difference.

Seating Locations:

First Church in Boston



Goethe-Institut, Boston



Ticket Order Form

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Number
of seats

	A	B	C
_____ Full 7-concert subscription	\$325	\$281	\$237

Chamber Music Series

_____ All 5 concerts – save 20%	\$224	\$180	\$136
_____ Pick 4 concerts – save 15%	\$190	\$153	\$116
_____ Pick 3 concerts – save 10%	\$151	\$122	\$92
_____ Single Tickets	\$56	\$45	\$34

Chameleon Up Close Recital Series

Reserved cabaret seating at Goethe-Institut

_____ @ \$101: 2-concert subscription – save 10%
_____ @ \$56: Sun Mar 14 – The Colors We Inherit
_____ @ \$56: Sun May 2 – Songs in the Key of Life
_____ Students & seniors: \$5 off single tickets

Please indicate your selections:

All of the chamber music series concerts are at First Church in Boston

Chamber 1 – I dwell in Possibility –

_____ **Sat Oct 10** _____ **Sun Oct 11**

Chamber 2 – The Tipping Point

_____ **Sat Nov 21** _____ **Sun Nov 22**

Chamber 3 – Paths & Pilgrimages

_____ **Sat Feb 20** _____ **Sun Feb 21**

Chamber 4 – Collected Stories

_____ **Sat Apr 3** _____ **Sun Apr 4**

Chamber 5 – Sonnets to Orpheus

_____ **Sat May 22** _____ **Sun May 23**

Payment Method:

☐ Check (payable to Chameleon Arts Ensemble)

☐ Visa/Mastercard/Discover:

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

CVV Code (required): _____

Total Ticket Order: \$ _____

Tax-Deductible Contribution: \$ _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Return to: Chameleon Arts Ensemble
6 Rocky Nook Terrace, Boston, MA 02130

Thank you for your support!





Chameleon
Arts Ensemble
of Boston

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Boston, MA 02130
617-427-8200
www.chameleonarts.org

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**“One of the safest bets you can make is that a Chameleon
Arts Ensemble concert will be extraordinary.”
–The Boston Musical Intelligencer**



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please share it with a friend.