



Chameleon

Arts Ensemble
of Boston

Transforming experiences in chamber music.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 31, 2026

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Chameleon Arts Ensemble Announces its 29th Season Programs

July 31, 2026 – Boston, MA – The Chameleon Arts Ensemble is pleased to announce its 2026-2027 season programs.

Over the past 29 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 2026-2027 **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 10 and 11 and November 21 and 22, 2026, and continuing on February 20 and 21, April 3 and 4, and May 22 and 23, 2027 at First Church in Boston, 66 Marlborough Street. The **The Up Close** recital series includes concerts on March 14 and May 2, 2027 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."

2026-2027 CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES

Chameleon opens its 29th season with *I dwell in Possibility* – on **Saturday, October 10, 7:30 PM and Sunday, October 11, 4 PM** at First Church in Boston. The program features early works by composers who would become defining voices of their generations including Benjamin Britten's Phantasy Quartet for oboe and strings, Op. 2; Elliott Carter's neoclassic 1948 Woodwind Quintet; Beethoven's A Major Violin Sonata, Op. 12; John Cage's *Nocturne* for violin and piano; and Strauss' soaring Piano Quartet in c minor, Op. 13.

The Tipping Point – on **Saturday November 21, 7:30 PM and Sunday November 22, 4 PM** at First Church in Boston – reminds all of us to take chances, cross the threshold, and tip. It includes Ives' Sunrise for soprano, violin, and piano; Ravel's sumptuous *Chansons madécasses* for soprano, flute, cello, and piano; Kevin Puts' *And Legions Will Rise* for clarinet, violin, and marimba; and Béla Bartók's rarely heard Piano Quintet in C Major, Sz. 23.

Our first program of 2027 – ***Paths & Pilgrimages*** – takes place on **Saturday, February 20, 7:30 PM and Sunday, February 21, 4 PM** at First Church in Boston. It features works of devotion and bravado including Joaquín Turina's "The Toreador's Prayer" for string quartet, Op. 34; Behzad Ranjbaran's *Fountains of Fin* for flute, violin, and cello; the Suite for clarinet, violin, and piano from Stravinsky's *L'Histoire du soldat*; Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco's meditation on *Kol Nidre* for cello and piano; and Gabriel Fauré's Piano Quartet No. 2 in g minor, Op. 45.

Collected Stories on **Saturday, April 3, 7:30 PM and Sunday, April 4, 4 PM** at First Church in Boston includes works exploring the moments – both big and small – that define who we are, including Gershwin's miniature Short Story for violin and piano; Schumann's fairytale inspired *Märchenbilder* for viola and piano, Op. 113; Paquito D'Rivera's breezy *Aires Tropicales* for wind quintet; Libby Larsen's *Songs From Letters from Calamity Jane to her daughter Janey* for soprano and piano; and Dvořák's musical postcard from his idyllic summer in the Iowa countryside: his String Quintet No. 3 in E-flat Major, Op. 97.

We close our 29th chamber music series on **Saturday, May 22, 7:30 PM and Sunday, May 23, 4 PM** at First Church in Boston with a transcendent journey into the realm of the muses titled ***Sonnets to Orpheus***. It includes Rebecca Clarke's delicate homage to the god of dreams for cello and piano; Richard Danielpour's radiant cycle for soprano and chamber ensemble based on Rilke's visionary *Sonnets*; and Brahms' glorious B Major Piano Trio.

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 – *The Colors We Inherit* – takes place on **Sunday, March 17, 2027 at 4 PM** at Goethe-Institut, Boston. It features recent Avery Fisher Career Grant recipient violinist Nathan Meltzer and pianist Mika Sasaki in Ravel's youthful "Posthume" Sonata; Fauré's Sonata No. 1 in A Major, Op. 13; *The Wild Blue Yonder* by the esteemed Jamaican composer Eleanor Alberga; and George Enescu's Sonata No. 3 in a minor, Op. 25 "Dans le caractère populaire Roumain."

On **Sunday, May 2, 2027, at 4 PM** at Goethe-Institut, Boston, soprano Mary Mackenzie, baritone Nathaniel Sullivan, and pianists Vivian Chang-Freiheit and Yun Janice Lu team up for ***Songs in the Key of Life***. The program is anchored by Leonard Bernstein's brilliant *Arias and Barcarolles* (in its original scoring for soprano, baritone, and piano four-hands) and includes lieder by Clara

and Robert Schumann along with Robert Paterson's cheeky take on finding love in the 21st century, *Extraordinary* for soprano, baritone, and piano.

TICKETS & VENUES

For tickets or more information, concertgoers can call **617-427-8200** or visit [**chameleonarts.org**](http://chameleonarts.org). Individual tickets are \$56, \$45, and \$34; with \$5 discounts for students and seniors. Subscriptions range from \$92-\$325.

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."

2026-2027 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
Yebin Yoo, violin

CALENDAR LISTINGS – 2026-2027 SEASON

chamber series 1: I dwell in Possibility –

Program: 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

Dates/Times: Saturday, October 10, 2026, 7:30 PM

Sunday, October 11, 2026, 4 PM

Location: First Church, 66 Marlborough Street, Boston

chamber series 2: The Tipping Point

Program: 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

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

Sunday, November 22, 2026, 4 PM

Location: First Church, 66 Marlborough Street, Boston

chamber series 3: Paths & Pilgrimages

Program: 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

Dates/Times: Saturday, February 20, 2027, 7:30 PM

Sunday, February 21, 2027, 4 PM

Location: First Church, 66 Marlborough Street, Boston

Up Close 1: The Colors We Inherit

with Nathan Meltzer, violin and Mika Sasaki, piano

Program: 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”

Date/Time: Sunday, March 14, 2027, 4 PM
Location: Goethe-Institut, Boston, 170 Beacon Street

chamber series 4: Collected Stories

Program: 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

Dates/Times: Saturday, April 3, 2027, 7:30 PM
Sunday, April 4, 2027, 4 PM
Location: First Church, 66 Marlborough Street, Boston

Up Close 2: Songs in the Key of Life

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

Program: 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

Date/Time: Sunday, May 2, 2027, 4 PM
Location: Goethe-Institut, Boston, 170 Beacon Street

chamber series 5: Sonnets to Orpheus

Program: 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

Dates/Times: Saturday, May 22, 2027, 7:30 PM
Sunday, May 23, 2027, 4 PM
Location: First Church, 66 Marlborough Street, Boston

