

"an essential source of adventurous new music"
— Alex Ross, *The New Yorker*

Argento Chamber Ensemble Austrian Cultural Forum New York

present

The Argento Performers Series: Lunar Movements

A six-part concert series celebrating the centennial of Arnold Schoenberg's *Pierrot Lunaire*

featuring

Paula Robison in *Pierrot Lunaire*
Conducted by Michel Galante



Austrian Cultural Forum New York
11 East 52nd Street, New York, NY

Tickets: suggested donation \$10. No reservation necessary

Audience discussions with performers and composers at each concert

Saturday, December 15, 2012, 4:00 PM

Pierrot Lunaire + music of John Zorn and Elainie Lillios
with Erin Lesser, flute, David Fulmer and Christopher Otto, violin

Elainie Lillios - *Among Fireflies* for alto flute and live electronics
John Zorn - *Apophthegms* for two violins
Arnold Schoenberg - *Pierrot Lunaire*

Erin Lesser, flute, **David Fulmer** and **Christopher Otto**, violins
Paula Robison, voice, **Michel Galante**, conductor

One hundred years ago, Arnold Schoenberg conducted the premiere of *Pierrot Lunaire*, a work that Pierre Boulez aptly described as an 'inexhaustible resource.' *Pierrot Lunaire* is divided into 21 short movements, some of them less than a minute long, but these movements, even today, continue to be a wellspring of ideas, techniques, and cultural references that surprise, challenge, and provoke listeners who hear it for the very first time—as well as those who spend a lifetime probing its secrets.

Rarely employing full ensemble tutti, the restraint with which Schoenberg marshals his instrumental forces in *Pierrot Lunaire* has long been recognized as one of the work's most noteworthy qualities. Indeed, many important moments in the score are actually reserved for the reciter and a single monophonic instrument. Highlighting the delicate, chamber-like scoring of *Pierrot*, Argento presents mold-breaking solo and duo works by Lillios and Zorn, exploring the unique string and wind timbres that Schoenberg had at his disposal.

Argento Chamber Ensemble launches *the Argento Performers Series: Lunar Movements*, a six-part concert series celebrating the centennial of the world premiere of *Pierrot Lunaire*, featuring performances of Arnold Schoenberg's masterpiece juxtaposed with recent and premiere compositions. This exciting series will showcase different aspects of the piece such as Schoenberg's approach to the human voice, the parallels between his music and visual art, and his approach to the Lied. The *Performers Series* is part of Argento's ongoing mission to commission and perform new music that expands the range of possibilities for, and challenges conventional notions about contemporary classical music.