

"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

Sunday, December 16, 2012, 4:00 PM

Pierrot Lunaire + music of Elliott Carter, Elaine Lillios, David Fulmer and Michel Galante
with Erin Lesser, flute, Carol McGonnell, clarinet, and Matt Ward, marimba

Bonnie Mitchell and Elaine Lillios - *2BTextures* for video and electronics
Bonnie Mitchell and Elaine Lillios - *Sweeping Memories* (world premiere)
Elliott Carter - *Esprit Rude / Esprit Doux* for flute and clarinet
David Fulmer - *New Work* for soprano and ensemble, world premiere
Michel Galante - *Duos and Trios* for flute and marimba
Arnold Schoenberg - *Pierrot Lunaire*

Sharon Harms, soprano, **Erin Lesser**, flute, **Carol McGonnell**, clarinet, **Matt Ward**,
marimba, **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.

Argento presents a pair of virtuosic duos by Carter and Galante for subsets of the "expanded Pierrot" line-up, followed by a new work for the full ensemble by Fulmer. The *Lunar Movements* concert series is capped with a final performance of Schoenberg's century-old masterpiece, the work Igor Stravinsky famously dubbed the "solar plexus" of twentieth-century composition.

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.