

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

Argento Chamber Ensemble Austrian Cultural Forum New York

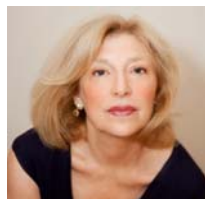
present

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 9, 2012, 4:00 PM

Pierrot Lunaire + music of Elliott Carter, Salvatore Sciarrino, and Max Grafe
with Joanna Chao, piano

Max Grafe - *Parthenogenesis* for piano & electronics

Salvatore Sciarrino - *Lo spazio inverso* for flute, clarinet, violin, cello & celeste

Elliott Carter - *Gra* for solo clarinet

Morton Feldman - *I met Heine on the rue Fürstenberg* for soprano and ensemble

Arnold Schoenberg - *Pierrot Lunaire*

Joanna Chao, piano, **Carol McGonnell**, clarinet, **Sharon Harms**, soprano
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.

Musically encapsulating modernity's cultural and social dislocations, the heterogeneous timbres of Schoenberg's *Pierrot* ensemble have served as an endless source of fascination and inspiration for living composers. Featured are works by Feldman and Sciarrino that explore the various potentials of this most quintessential of twentieth-century instrumental contingents, along with contrasting solo compositions by Elliott Carter and Max Grafe.

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 Lieder. 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.