

2009/2010 Season

Argento at the Phillips Collection

November 12, 2009

Phillips Collection

1600 21st Street, NW, Washington, DC

Argento performs the stunning, subtle, and often unpredictable musical creations of Tristan Murail, the leading spectralist composer in America. The composer and Argento musicians speak about his work and spectralism as a modern art.

PROGRAM

All works by Tristan Murail

Unanswered Questions

for solo flute

Feuilles à travers les cloches

for flute, violin, cello and piano

Cloches d'adieu, et un sourire... in memoriam Olivier Messiaen

for solo piano

The Blue-Footed Booby

for flute and piano

Les Ruines circulaires

for clarinet and violin

La Barque mystique

for flute, clarinet, violin, cello and piano

Composer Portrait: Ralph Shapey

November 17, 2009

Miller Theatre

2960 Broadway (at 116th Street), New York

Subway: 1 train to 116th Street/Columbia University

Admission: \$25; \$15 students; \$7 Columbia University students

Argento violinist Miranda Cuckson leads the Argento New Music Project, New York Woodwind Quintet, and the Talujon Percussion Quartet in this showcase of the unique American voice of Ralph Shapey.

PROGRAM

All works by Ralph Shapey

Five (1960)
for violin and piano

Interchange (1996)
for percussion quartet

Movements (1960)
for woodwind quintet

Etchings (1945)
for solo violin

Concerto for Clarinet and Chamber Group (1954)
Charles Neidich, clarinet

Three for Six (1979)
for flute, clarinet, percussion, piano, violin/viola and cello

Argento at the the Sonorities Festival of Contemporary Music

November 21, 2009
Sonic Arts Research Centre, Queen's Univeristy Belfast
Belfast, Northern Ireland

Argento duo Erin Lesser and Carol McGonnell performs with Alex Lipowski.

New Sound Worlds

November 24, 2009
Kevin Barry Room, National Concert Hall
Dublin, Ireland

An exciting and eclectic concert featuring Carol McGonnell and Erin Lesser of the Argento New Music Project. Program includes the world premiere of Anne Cleare's *Eyam*, along with works by Nono, Meltzer, Gaussin, Furrer, Scelsi and Lunsqui.

[Click here for a concert review](#)

PROGRAM

Allain Gaussin – *Satori* for solo clarinet
Harold Meltzer – *Trapset* for solo alto flute
Harold Meltzer – *Focus Group* for solo piccolo
Luigi Nono – *À Pierre* for contrabass flute, contrabass clarinet and live electronics
Ann Cleare – *Eyam* for contrabass clarinet and electronics (world premiere)
Alexandre Lunsqui – *Topografia* for solo bass flute
Beat Furrer – *Fama* for contrabass flute and actor
Giacinto Scelsi – *Piccola Suite* for flute and clarinet

Argento at Modfest

January 24, 2010

Skinner Hall of Music, Vassar College
Poughkeepsie, NY

Program includes works by Milton Babbitt, Harold Meltzer, and Jonathan Chenette.

Composer Portrait: Sebastian Currier

March 05, 2010

Miller Theatre

2960 Broadway (at 116th Street), New York

Admission: \$25; \$15 students; \$7 Columbia University students

Grawemeyer-award winning composer Sebastian Currier (b. 1959) creates music that is “lyrical, colorful, firmly rooted in tradition, but absolutely new,” says The Washington Post. His ability to evoke an array of emotions and instrumental colors are his stylistic trademarks. This concert includes a world premiere for chamber orchestra, along with an encore performance the 2006 piano concerto performed by the brilliant pianist Christopher Taylor.

PROGRAM

All works by Sebastian Currier

Night Time (1998)

Bodymusic (2010) (world premiere)

Piano Concerto (2006)

American Composers Forum, Philadelphia

April 19, 2011

Prince Music Theater

1412 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia

Argento premieres six works by Philadelphia composers, topping off the concert with a rarely performed Davidovsky gem *Festino Notturmo*.

This event is made possible by the American Composers Forum's New Voices program. New Voices, designed by the American Composers Forum, Philadelphia Chapter, funded by the William Penn Foundation and The Musical Fund Society of Philadelphia, enables emerging composers to work closely with professional ensembles in the production of original musical works for concert performance.

MATA Festival

April 22, 2010

Le Poisson Rouge

158 Bleecker Street (between Thompson and Sullivan), New York

Admission Free

Argento showcases young American composers at the 12th annual MATA Festival, performing Michelle Lou, world premieres of Alexander Sigman and Filippo Perocco, and the New York premiere of Argento's own Ryan Beppel.

PROGRAM

Michelle Lou – *Weeds, Grass, Rock, Slopes* (2008/2009) for flute, clarinet, oboe, trombone, violin, cello and double bass

Alexander Sigman – *Mi(e)s(e)-En-abÓMe* (world premiere)

Filippo Perocco – *Veglia* for soprano, bass clarinet, saxophone, trombone, piano, accordion, guitar, violin, and cello (world premiere)

performed in collaboration with ensemble l'arsenale

Ryan Beppel – *Receptive Aphasia* – winner of the American Composers Forum Philadelphia Chapter New Voices Project (New York premiere)

American Composers Showcase: Galante, Iglesia, and Adán

April 30, 2010

Miller Theatre

2960 Broadway (at 116th Street), New York

Admission free

Argento premieres works by Michel Galante, Daniel Iglesia and Victor Adán. Concert also includes Igor Stravinsky's masterwork *Les Noces* with the Princeton Chamber Choir and Columbia Classical Performers.

PROGRAM

Michel Galante – World premiere of new work for flute and percussion

Daniel Iglesia – *American Engineer* for live ensemble, recorded sounds, electronics, percussion, and 3D projection (world premiere)

Victor Adán – *fonoptera* for 8 custom-made instruments and prepared piano (world premiere)

Igor Stravinsky – *Les Noces* with the Columbia Classical Performers and the Princeton Chamber Choir

This concert is made possible with the support of the Fritz Reiner Fund, the Columbia University Music Performance Program, and The Harriman Institute for Russian, Eurasian, and Eastern European Studies at Columbia University.

Residency at New York University

May 10, 2010

Skirball Center for the Performing Arts

566 LaGuardia Place (at Washington Square South), New York

Admission free

Argento workshops and performs new works by New York University graduate composers.

PROGRAM

All world premieres

Ryan Carter – *Impaired contact with reality*
Friedrich Heinrich Kern – *Von Taufendern und Sternen*
Clara Latham – *Devil in Blue-Blue Sea*
Adam Mirza – *Partial Knowledge (Situational Ethics)*
Kurt Nelson – *Ingenium*
Yoni Niv – *Formaldehyde*

Argento at Dawn: a musical event in No Man's Land

June 03, 2010

Open rehearsal WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2, 2010, 6:00 PM

Park Avenue Armory

643 Park Avenue (at 66th St), New York

Free with admission to installation

Lexington Avenue, a door opens... Daylight breaks into the Armory. Outside, a bell rings. The choir enters silently before singing a hymn that has no nation. A voice rises, as if it were a reply from above. The choir disappears, the door closes... Around the mountain, musicians along the balconies call one another. The bell rings again...

A unique musical event composed by long-time collaborator Franck Krawczyk, *Dawn* will be performed to accompany Christian Boltanski's monumental installation *No Man's Land*. Argento will perform this one-time-only event from within the installation--moving through the drill hall and balconies.

PROGRAM

Franck Krawczyk - *Dawn* for woodwind quintet, guitar, keyboard, percussion, and choir (world premiere)

Fabien Lévy

June 03, 2010

Austrian Cultural Forum

11 East 52nd Street, New York

Admission free, ticket required

Argento showcases compositions by Columbia University Professor Fabien Lévy, accompanied by a conversation and discussion of his music. Argento rounds up the concert with Gérard Grisey's Spectral classic, *Talea*.

PROGRAM

Fabien Lévy – *à propos* for flute, clarinet, violin, cello and piano

Fabien Lévy – *Risâla fi-l-hob wa fi'Im al-handasa (Small Treatise on Love and Geometry)* for flute, clarinet, trombone, violin and cello

Fabien Lévy - *à peu près de* for two trumpets (American premiere)

Gérard Grisey – *Talea* for flute, clarinet, violin, cello and piano

Birthday Series – Schumann at 200: Three Perspectives

June 03, 2010

Chelsea Art Museum

160 11th Avenue (at 22nd St), New York

Tickets: please contact Chelsea Art Museum

Argento inaugurates its Birthday Series with three perspectives on Robert Schumann at his 200th. Argento pianist Joanna Chao will perform Liszt's stunning arrangements of two Schumann songs. In György Kurtág's *Homage a R. Sch.*, music emerges from silence to a powerful climax as the imaginary Robert Schumann brings a small pantheon of characters in his circle back to life. Argento completes the concert with the premiere of Schumann's *Second Symphony* in an 11-player chamber arrangement by Kimmy Szeto.

PROGRAM

Robert Schumann – *Widmung*
arr. Franz Liszt for solo piano
Joanna Chao, piano

Robert Schumann – *Frühlingsnacht*
arr. Franz Liszt for solo piano
Joanna Chao, piano

György Kurtág – *Hommage à R. Sch., op. 15d*
for clarinet, viola and piano

Robert Schumann – *Symphony No. 2 in C Major*
arr. Kimmy Szeto for chamber ensemble
world premiere (1st/4th mvts); U.S. premiere (2nd/3rd mvts.)