

Scharoun Ensemble of the Berlin Philharmonic
4-6 May 2010
9pm, Villa Aurelia
L.go di Porta S. Pancrazio, 1

PROGRAM

May 4 2010

George Crumb
Vox Balaenae (1971)

Lisa Bielawa
Hurry (2004)

Johannes Brahms
Serenade no.1 in D Major, Op. 11 (1857), arr. Jorge Rotter

5 May 2010

Erwin Schulhoff
Concertino (1925)

Don Byron
Beautiful Insults in Random Order (2007)
Blinky Blanky Blokoe (2005)
Basquiat (1996)

Franz Schubert
Quintet in A Major, D. 667 (1819)

6 May 2010

Guillaume Dufay
Nuper rosarum flores (1436), arr. Andrew Norman 2010

Sofia Gubaidulina
Hommage à T.S. Eliot (1987)

Andrew Norman
The Companion Guide to Rome (2010), world premiere

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Quintet in A Major, K. 581 (1789)

BIOGRAPHIES

Lisa Bielawa

Lisa Bielawa is the Frederic A. Juilliard/Walter Damrosch Rome Prize Fellow in Musical Composition at the American Academy in Rome. A composer-vocalist, Bielawa takes inspiration for her work from literary sources and close artistic collaborations.

She received a B.A. in Literature in 1990 from Yale University. In 1992, she began touring with the Philip Glass Ensemble. In 1997, she co-founded the MATA Festival, which celebrates the work of young composers. In 2007-2008, she was a Radcliffe Institute Fellow. Bielawa was Composer-in-Residence with the Boston Modern Orchestra Project (BMOP) from 2006 to 2009; the orchestra has recorded a 2-CD set for release on their BMOP/sound label. Her performance project *Chance Encounter* takes as its text language overheard in public places. Written for migrating ensemble and soprano Susan Narucki, it has been performed in New York and will be presented in Rome later this month. It has also been recorded for release on Orange Mountain Music. Bielawa's music has been performed at venues including Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, the Whitney Museum, the American Academy in Rome, Jordan Hall in Boston, and Town Hall in Seattle. She has recordings on Tzadik, *A Handful of World*; Albany Records, *First Takes*; and Innova, *Hildegurls: Electric Ordo Virtutum*.

In addition to being a vocalist with the Philip Glass Ensemble, Bielawa tours and records with John Zorn and has premiered and recorded works by numerous composer colleagues. For more information, please visit www.lisabielawa.net.

Don Byron

Don Byron is the Samuel Barber Rome Prize Fellow in Musical Composition at the American Academy in Rome. For over two decades, he has been a singular voice in an astounding range of musical contexts, exploring widely divergent traditions while continually striving for what he calls "a sound above genre." As clarinetist, saxophonist, composer, arranger, and social critic, he redefines every genre of music he plays, be it classical, salsa, hip-hop, funk, rhythm & blues, klezmer, or any jazz style from swing and bop to cutting-edge downtown improvisation. He has been consistently voted best clarinetist by critics and readers alike in leading international music journals since being named "Jazz Artist of the Year" by *Down Beat* in 1992. He was named a Guggenheim Fellow and USA Artists Fellow in 2007, and was a fellow at the Sundance Institute Film Composer's Lab in 2005. He taught composition at SUNY Albany from 2005-2009 and was the Martin Luther King Visiting Professor at MIT in 2007. His CD *Ivey-Divey* (2004) was nominated for the 2005 Grammy Award for Best Instrumental Solo. His latest release, *Seven* (2009), is a collection of solo piano music featuring his *7 Etudes*, commissioned by pianist Lisa Moore. The *Etudes* were finalists for the 2009 Pulitzer Prize in Music. For more information, please visit www.donbyron.com.

Andrew Norman

Andrew Norman, FAAR'07, is the Berlin Prize Fellow in Musical Composition at the American Academy in Berlin. Educated at the University of Southern California and at Yale University, he is a composer of chamber and orchestral music who has been commissioned by the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Minnesota Orchestra, the Tonhalle Orchester Zurich, and the Aspen Music Festival among others. He is a committed educator who enjoys helping people of all ages explore and create music. Next season Norman will be composer-in-residence for the city of Heidelberg, Germany. His works

are published by Schott Music. For more information, please visit www.andrewnormanmusic.com.

Scharoun Ensemble Berlin

The Scharoun Ensemble Berlin was founded in 1983 by members of the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra. The name of the architect Hans Scharoun (1893–1972) is inextricably linked with the Berlin Philharmonie, his greatest work. This concert hall has set standards worldwide, creating a space for making music in the spirit of tradition and experimentation in order to promote human communication and understanding. In honoring the legacy of Hans Scharoun, the eight musicians express an artistic self-concept which reflects their commitment to both the heritage of the past and the challenges of the present.

The ensemble comprises the standard octet instrumentation. Beethoven's *Septet*, Schubert's *Octet*, and chamber works of Mozart and Brahms are the focus of its classical and romantic repertoire, as well as 20th-century classical Modernist works and contemporary music. The Scharoun Ensemble has performed numerous works by leading contemporary composers, many of which have been commissioned by the ensemble. Works by Hans Werner Henze, György Ligeti, Isang Yun, György Kurtág, Wolfgang Rihm, Matthias Pintscher, Thomas Adès, Jörg Widmann, and many others form an integral part of the ensemble's repertoire.

The Scharoun Ensemble's programs are often enhanced through collaboration with other members of the Berlin Philharmonic, renowned soloists and conductors. In recent years, concerts by the ensemble have been conducted by Claudio Abbado, Daniel Barenboim, Sir Simon Rattle, Peter Eötvös, and Pierre Boulez.

Frequent concert tours and appearances at major European music festivals have established the Scharoun Ensemble's reputation as one of Germany's most distinguished chamber music ensembles.

In 2008, the ensemble received the Echo Award 2008, together with the RIAS Chamber Choir, for their recording of Frank Martin's *Le vin herbé*. For more information, please visit www.scharounensemble.de.

Lisa Bielawa, the Frederic A. Juilliard/Walter Damrosch Rome Prize Fellow in Musical Composition at the American Academy in Rome, is soprano soloist in her composition, *Hurry*. Don Byron, the Samuel Barber Rome Prize Fellow in Musical Composition at the American Academy in Rome, will perform along with members of the Scharoun Ensemble in Brahms' *Serenade* no. 1.