

International

A concert by ALEA III
featuring
chorus, orchestra and soloists.

Wednesday, February 7, 2007, at 8:00 PM
Tsai Performance Center
685 Commonwealth Avenue

Six diverse pieces by composers from around the world,
including Debussy's masterpiece *Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun*
as transcribed for 11 musicians
by Arnold Schoenberg.

Admission is free



More information is available in the included attachments and at

<http://www.aleaIII.com>

The works:

Debussy/Schoenberg (France-Austria) - *Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun*
Stefan Hakenberg (Germany) – *Apollo Metamorphoses (world premiere)*
Michalis Economou (Greece) – *The Return of Odysseus*
Richard Danielpour (USA) – *Sonnets to Orpheus (selections)*
György Ligeti (Hungary) – *Etudes for Piano (selections)*
Thomas Shimaku (Albania) – *Soliloquy I*

The soloists:

Rebekah Alexander, *soprano*
Vagelis Maniatis, *baritone*
Krista Buckland Reisner, *violin*
Yukiko Shimazaki, *piano*

Michalis Economou, *conductor*

The event is sponsored by Boston University.
Boston University's Tsai Performance Center, is located on the B branch
of the MBTA Green Line,
at the Boston University East stop, and is wheelchair-accessible.

There is parking available behind the building.
Entrance from Bay State Road

For more information please call (781) 793-8902, or email to
kalogeras@earthlink.net

Check our web site:
<http://www.aleaIII.com>

Alea III is the contemporary music ensemble in residence at Boston University, a group devoted to promoting, playing, and teaching music of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Founded in 1978, Alea III is the third such group organized by Music Director Theodore Antoniou. The ensemble is consistent with the music it embraces--flexible in size, open to experimentation and exploration. Over the years, Alea III has offered world-première opportunities for dozens of contemporary composers, often under the composer's direction, and with extended program notes or comments. The group has performed more than 1,150 works by 648 composers--most of them living. Frequent international touring has enhanced the relationships of American performers with their colleagues and composers from other parts of the world. With its inspiration, several other contemporary groups have been formed, offering growing opportunity to young composers and musicians to play and comprehend contemporary music.

-Theodore Antoniou, Music Director

Born in Greece in 1973, **Michalis Economou** studied musicology at Athens University as well as violin, theory, and composition at the National Conservatory of Athens. Having received five scholarships he moved to Boston in 1997 where he studied orchestral conducting and composition with David Hoose, Lukas Foss and Theodore Antoniou at Boston University. In 1999 he earned his Master of Music degree in conducting while in 2001 he became a Doctor of Musical Arts in composition. He is the winner of eleven national and international competitions including the “ALEA III International Composition Competition” and the “Dimitris Mitropoulos International Composition Competition”. Recently, he was awarded first prize at the International Conducting Festival held at Accademia Musicale Chigiana in Siena.

Since January 2000 Mr. Economou has been the permanent conductor of the Athens Symphony Orchestra and the music director of the Athens New Music Ensemble. He has also conducted the Athens State Orchestra, the National Symphony Orchestra, the Orchestra of Colors, the Contemporary Radio Orchestra of Greece and various orchestras and ensembles in the world including the Thailand Philharmonic Orchestra, the Festival Orchestra di Sofia and the Boston University Symphony Orchestra.

His works have been performed all over the world and he has been commissioned to compose music for Carnegie Hall and for the Athens Megaron Concert Hall. Mr. Economou taught theory at Boston University for four years and he currently teaches orchestral conducting in Athens. He also works as a producer for the Greek Radio Classical Music Station. He is a member of the Greek Composers Union. Finally, in May 2004 he was elected Chairman and Artistic Director of the Music Department of the National Technical University of Athens.

Theodore Antoniou, one of the most eminent and prolific contemporary artists, leads a distinguished career as composer, conductor, and professor of composition at Boston University. He studied violin, voice, and composition at the National Conservatory in Athens, with further studies in conducting and composition at the Hochschule für Musik in Munich, and the International Music Center in Darmstadt. After holding teaching positions at Stanford University, the University of Utah, and the Philadelphia Musical Academy, he became professor of composition at Boston University in 1978.

As a conductor, Professor Antoniou has been engaged by several major orchestras and ensembles, such as the Boston Symphony Orchestra Chamber Players, the Radio Orchestras of Berlin and Paris, the Bavarian Radio Orchestra, the Tonhalle Orchestra (Zurich), the National Opera of Greece, and the Berkshire Music Center Orchestra. In 1974 he became assistant director of contemporary activities at Tanglewood, a position he held until 1985. An ardent proponent of new music, Professor Antoniou has founded various contemporary music ensembles, including ALEA II at Stanford University; ALEA III, in residence at Boston University; the Philadelphia New Music Group; and the Hellenic Group of Contemporary Music. He is also director of the ALEA III International Composition Competition and since 1989 the president of the National Greek Composers' Association and director of the Experimental Stage of National Opera of Greece.

Many of Professor Antoniou's compositions were commissioned by major orchestras around the world, and about two hundred of his works have been published by Baerenreiter Verlag (Germany), G. Schirmer (USA) and Philippos Nakas (Greece). He has received many awards and prizes, including the National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship grants and the Richard Strauss Prize, as well as commissions from the Fromm, Guggenheim, and Koussevitzky Foundations, and from the city of Munich for the 1972 Olympic Games. He has been recognized with ASCAP Awards for several years, and in 1991 he was awarded the Metcalf Award for Excellence in Teaching by Boston University. In December 1997 he was presented with the Music Award from the Greek Academy of Arts and Letters, one of the most prestigious awards and the highest academic distinction in music; and in January 2000, the Greek National Radio Broadcast Corporation awarded him the Dimitris Mitropoulos Award for his lifelong contribution to music. In 2003 the Ionian University conferred upon him an honorary doctorate. In 2004 the University of Vienna and the Alfred Toepfer Foundation of Hamburg, Germany, awarded him the prestigious 2004 Herder Prize, in recognition of his contribution to mutual cultural understanding and peace among the countries of southeastern Europe. Kodaly, Lutoslawski and Penderecki, are among the personalities, awarded this Prize. In January 2005 the Ionian University conferred upon him a second honorary doctorate, while in December 2005 the CFA faculty of Boston University awarded him with “The Distinguished Faculty Award”, an award which is presented to honor CFA faculty members for their outstanding achievements, contributions to the arts, and distinguished service to the community.

Theodore Antoniou's works are numerous and varied in nature, ranging from operas and choral works to chamber music, from film and theatre music to solo instrumental pieces – his scores for theatre and film music alone number more than a hundred and fifty compositions. Among his works, the opera *Bacchae* premiered in the Athens Festival in Greece. His newest opera, *Oedipus at Colonus*, commissioned by the SWF (Sued-West Funk), Baden-Baden, in Germany, received the prestigious Music Award presented by the Hellenic Union of Music and Theatre Critics. For his theatre music, he was the first to receive the “Karolos Koun” award in 1988. His most recent distinction (03/2006) is the “Dimitris Mitropoulos” award by the Museum and Study Centre of the Greek Theatre and the Judging Committee for Distinguished Awards (a prize usually awarded to stage artists), in appreciation of his prominence in the theatrical arena.

- - Eftychia Papanikolaou