

2009-2010 Season Brochure

Theodore Antoniou, *music director*
 Contemporary Music Ensemble in residence at Boston University
 Winner of the ASCAP Award for Advanturesome Programming of Contemporary Music



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"What a blessing for us Bostonians to have Theodore Antoniou's Alea in our midst!"

—Günther Schuller

Boston University College of Fine Arts
 School of Music: Alea III

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Theodore Antoniou, one of the most eminent and prolific contemporary artists, leads a distinguished career as composer, conductor, and professor of composition. He studied violin, voice, and composition at the National Conservatory and the Hellenic 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, president of the Greek Composers' Union since 1989, and director of the Experimental Stage of National Opera of Greece.

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-premiere 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 1,234 works by 716 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.

The Greek word "alea" taken from Homer, means "to wander." In Latin, it refers to "a die or dice used for playing at games of chance." The term *aleatoric music* indicates music based upon the principles of indeterminacy as evidenced by certain random and/or statistical procedures of composition. In regard to the ensemble, *aleatoric* is concerned with the expression of a multiplicity of musical directions, historical styles, and performance practices.

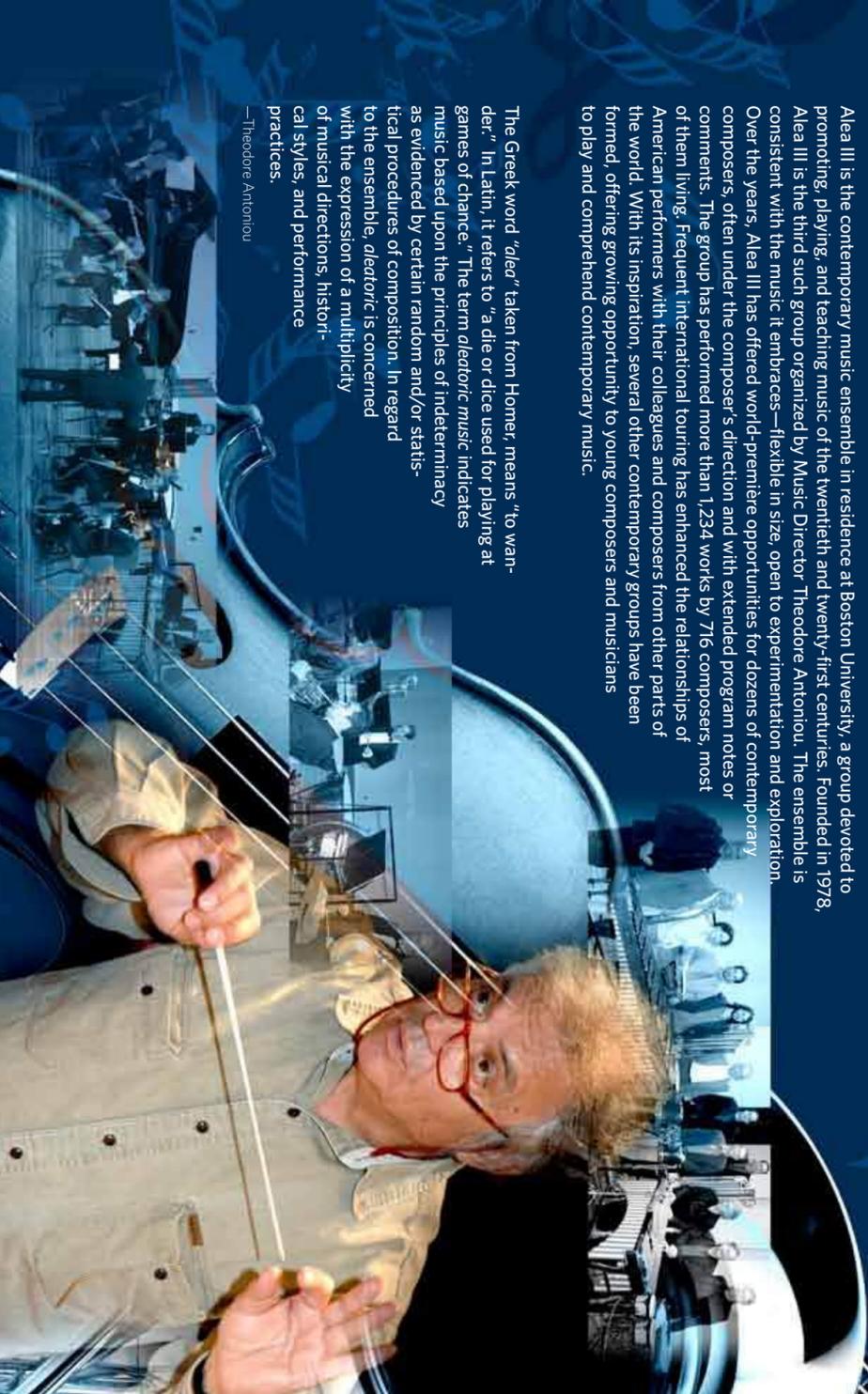
—Theodore Antoniou

Many of Professor Antoniou's compositions were commissioned by major orchestras around the world, and around three hundred of his works have been published by Bärenreiter 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 Hellenic Broadcasting Corporation awarded him the Dimitri Mitropoulos Award for his lifelong contribution to music. In 2004 the University of Vienna and the Alfred Töpfer Foundation of Hamburg, Germany, awarded him the prestigious 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 an honorary doctorate, while in December 2005 the CFA faculty of Boston University awarded him with The Distinguished Faculty Award, which is pre-

sent 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 has also been awarded with the Karolos Koun Award (he was the first one to receive it in 1988) and the Dimitris Mitropoulos Award (for 2006) by the Museum and Study Centre of the Greek Theatre and the Judging Committee for Distinguished Awards awarded to stage artists, in appreciation of his prominent presence in that area until today. His most recent distinctions are the Commander of the Order of Honor, presented by the President of the Hellenic Republic (February 2007), Professor Emeritus at the College of Fine Arts at Boston University (October 2008) and an Honorary Doctorate bestowed upon him by the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (March 2009).

—Elychnia Papanikolaou



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1 | Twenty-Seventh International Composition Competition

CompetitionSunday, October 4, 2009, 7 p.m.
Free admission

Special event for the premiere performance of the finalists' works. At the end of the concert, the ALEA III Prize will be awarded by a distinguished panel of judges.

Juan José Bárcenas Cardona (Mexico) *who lights the hearth of dawn...*Janet Jieru Chen (Taiwan) *Beyond Distance*Constantinos Chizaris (Greece) *November Rain*Young-Shin Choi (Korea) *Lines of Hues*Otto H. Muller (USA) *Eurydissos*Simone Scazzocchio (Italy) *Sensations from a Faded Dream*Miguel Fariás Vásquez (Chile) *Convergencias*

Theodore Antoniou, conductor



John Heiss

"I believe in Antoniou and I will heartily endorse and help any project dear to him, since what is good for him is inevitably good for music."
—Leonard Bernstein

"You've done so much for so many.
I hope Alea continues forever. ALEluiA !!!"
—Lukas Foss



Theodore Antoniou

"I enjoyed so much the beautiful performance by ALEA III of my *Ancient Voices of Children*. Each time Theodore Antoniou delivers a bravura performance of my music. I wish ALEA all the best success for the future."
—George Crumb

—George Crumb

2 | Generations

Monday, November 16, 2009, 7:30 p.m.
Free admission

Chamber music by senior and younger composers from around the world.

Elliott Carter *Poems of Louis Zukofsky*Robert DiDomenica *Hebrew Melodies*George Dousis *New Work*John Heiss *Whimsies*Davide Ianni *Inter Nos*Francois-Bernard Mache *Kengir, 5 Sumerian Love Songs (excerpts)*Lawrence Moss *Korea for Kwartludium*Altin Volaj *New work*

Soloists include: Karyl Ryczek, soprano, Penelope Bitzas, mezzo soprano, Katherine V. Matasy, clarinet, Philipp Staedtlin, saxophone



Robert DiDomenica



Penelope Bitzas

Alea



Karyl Ryczek



Eric Ruske



Pierre Boulez



Eric Hewitt

3 | A Young Composers' Workshop

Wednesday, January 27, 2010, 7:30 p.m.
Free admission

New works by talented young composers specially written for ALEA III.

Graham Dixon

Aaron Krerowicz

Lina Tonia

Eun Young Lee

Antonis Anestis

Sunggone Hwang

Mohammed Fairouz

Miles Bergsma

Iakovos Konitopoulos, conductor



Iakovos Konitopoulos

4 | Celebrating Lukas

Tuesday, March 2, 2010, 7:30 p.m.
Free admission

Alea III celebrates the life and work of Lukas Foss, a great master, with an evening devoted exclusively to his music.

*Echoi**For Toru**Elegy for Anne Frank**For Aaron*Plus *Eighteen Epigrams*, a new work written by Lukas Foss's students:

Apostolos Paraskevas, Panos Liaropoulos, Michalis Economou, Jakov Jakoulov, Mark Berger, Frank Wallace, Ronald G. Vigue, Julian Wachner, Jeremy Van Buskirk, Mauricio Pauly, Matt Van Brink, Ivana Lisak, Ramon Castillo, Pedro Malpica, Paul Vash, Po-Chun Wang, Margaret McAllister, Sunggone Hwang.

Soloists include: Kathleen Boyd, flute, Yukiko Shimazaki, piano

Theodore Antoniou, conductor



Yukiko Shimazaki

5 | Saxes and Horns

Wednesday, April 28, 2010, 7:30 p.m.
Free admission

Works of unusual instrumentation, featuring 18 saxophones and 9 French horns.

Pierre Boulez *Dialogue de l'ombre double*Theodore Antoniou *Music for Nine*Gunther Schuller *Perpetuum mobile*Sofia Gubaidulina *Duo*Georgia Spiropoulos *Rotations*Eric Hewitt *la grenouille*

Soloists include: Eric Ruske, horn, Tsuyoshi Honjo, Eric Hewitt, and Jared Sims, saxophones

Special guest: Radnofsky Saxophone Ensemble

Eric Hewitt, conductor

All concerts are held at The Tsai Performance Center, Boston University, 685 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston. The Tsai Performance Center is located on the B branch of the MBTA Green Line at the Boston University East stop and is wheelchair-accessible. Parking information is available at www.bu.edu/tsai/directions.

Programs are subject to change. Please call 617-353-8724 for tickets or 617-353-3340 for additional information.

This season is funded by Boston University, the Greek Ministry of Culture, and corporate and individual contributions.

www.aleaiii.com**BOSTON UNIVERSITY**