

Sunday, March 6, 2011, 3pm
Hertz Hall

Scharoun Ensemble Berlin

Aleksandar Ivic *violin*
Rachel Schmidt *violin*
Micha Afkham *viola*
Richard Duven *cello*
Peter Riegelbauer *double bass*
Alexander Bader *clarinet*
Markus Weidmann *bassoon*
Stefan de Leval Jezierski *horn*

PROGRAM

Keeril Makan (b. 1972) Tender Illusions (2010)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–1791) Quintet for Clarinet and Strings in A major,
K. 581 (1789)
Allegro
Larghetto
Menuetto
Allegretto con Variazioni

INTERMISSION

Franz Schubert (1797–1828) Octet in F major, Op. 166, D. 803 (1824)
Adagio — Allegro
Adagio
Allegro vivace
Andante
Menuetto
Andante molto — Allegro

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FOUNDED IN 1983 BY MEMBERS of the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, the **Scharoun Ensemble** is one of Germany's leading chamber-music organizations. With its wide repertoire, ranging from composers of the Baroque period by way of Classical and Romantic chamber music to contemporary works, the Scharoun Ensemble has been inspiring audiences in Europe and overseas for more than a quarter of a century. Innovative programming, a refined tonal culture and spirited interpretations are hallmarks of the ensemble, which performs in a variety of instrumental combinations.

The permanent core of the Scharoun Ensemble is a classical octet (clarinet, bassoon, horn, two violins, viola, cello and double bass), made up of members of the Berlin Philharmonic. When called for, the ensemble brings in additional instrumentalists as well as noted conductors. The Scharoun Ensemble has prepared and presented various programs under the direction of Claudio Abbado, Sir Simon Rattle, Daniel Barenboim and Pierre Boulez. It has also performed with such singers as Thomas Quasthoff, Annette Dasch, Simon Keenlyside and Barbara Hannigan, and, for interdisciplinary projects, the ensemble has engaged such artists as Fanny Ardant, Lioriot and Dominique Horowitz.

Bridging the gap between tradition and the modern is the Scharoun Ensemble's principal artistic focus. It has given world premieres of many 20th- and 21st-century compositions

while dedicating itself with equal passion to the interpretation of works from past centuries. Among the cornerstones of its repertoire are Franz Schubert's Octet, D. 803, with which the ensemble made its public debut in 1983, and Ludwig van Beethoven's Septet, Op.20.

Cultivating an active relationship with today's composers has been a matter of special interest to the Scharoun Ensemble since its inception. György Ligeti, Hans-Werner Henze, Pierre Boulez, György Kurtág and Wolfgang Rihm have accompanied the group on its artistic journey, as have composers of the younger generation, including Jörg Widmann and Matthias Pintscher.

Complementing the Scharoun Ensemble's international concert activity is its annual residence at and artistic directorship of the Zermatt Festival, founded in 2005. Along with concerts by major artists, each summer's festival includes musical workshops offering young musicians the chance to work with the members of the Scharoun Ensemble.

Lending his name to the Scharoun Ensemble is the architect of its musical home. In designing the Berlin Philharmonie, Hans Scharoun (1893–1972) created a concert hall that was unique in the world, undertaking a synthesis between innovation and awareness of tradition and opening up new approaches to artistic communication—ideals to which the Scharoun Ensemble is also committed.

The Scharoun Ensemble is represented in North America by Columbia Artists Management, Inc.

Aleksander Ivic received his first violin lessons when he was six. At age 16, he began appearing as a soloist and chamber player. He completed his studies with Kritijan Petrovic, later continuing his training with Igor Ozim and the Amadeus Quartet and with Rosa Fain. In 1988, he began his orchestral career as a first violin in the Cologne Radio (WDR) Symphony Orchestra; in 1996, he moved to the Berlin Philharmonic.

Violinist **Rachel Schmidt** completed her musical studies with Valery Klimov at the Hochschule für Musik in Saarbrücken and with Thomas Brandis at the Universität der Künste in Berlin. The winner of numerous competitions, she received further encouragement as a scholar at the Villa Musica of the German state of Rhineland-Palatinate and in master courses given by Ruggiero Ricci, Ida Haendel and Isaac Stern. Ms. Schmidt joined the Berlin Philharmonic in 2001 and became a member of the Scharoun Ensemble in 2010.

Micha Afkham was born in Freiburg and studied the viola with Hatto Beyerle in Hanover and Tabea Zimmermann in Berlin. He rounded off his training in masterclasses given by Yuri Bashmet Wolfram Christ, Serge Collot and Herman Krebbers. As a chamber player, he has collaborated with, among others, Isabelle Faust, Tabea Zimmermann, Boris Pergamenschikow, Gidon Kremer and the Beaux Arts Trio. Mr. Afkham has been a member of the Berlin Philharmonic since 2004, joining the Scharoun Ensemble as violist two years later.

Richard Duven was born in Cologne and studied the cello with Daniel Cahen in Wuppertal and Wolfgang Boettcher in Berlin. As an ensemble player he first won his spurs in the Junge Deutsche Philharmonie and Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie. Since 1986, Mr. Duven has been a member of the Berlin Philharmonic and the Scharoun Ensemble.

Peter Riegelbauer was born in the Middle Franconia region of Bavaria, near Nuremberg, where he studied with Georg Hörtnagel, continuing in Berlin with Rainer Zepperitz. Before joining the ranks of the Berlin Philharmonic in 1981, he was a scholar in the orchestra's Academy. In 1983, he and seven Philharmonic colleagues founded the Scharoun Ensemble.

Alexander Bader studied the clarinet with Manfred Preis and Peter Rieckhoff in Berlin. In 1990, he became a member of the Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie of Bremen, moving in 2002 to Berlin's Komische Oper. Mr. Bader, who also devotes himself to historical performance practice on original instruments and appears regularly with such ensembles as the Vienna Concentus Musicus, Balthasar Neumann Ensemble and Berlin's Akademie für Alte Musik, has been a member of the Berlin Philharmonic and the Scharoun Ensemble since 2006.

Markus Weidmann studied the bassoon with Klaus Thunemann in Hanover. From 1993 to 1995 he was a scholar of the Berlin Philharmonic's Orchestra Academy. Before becoming a member of the orchestra in 1997, he played in numerous ensembles, including the European Union Youth Orchestra, Kiel Philharmonic Orchestra and Southwest German Philharmonie of Konstanz. Mr. Weidmann has been a member of the Scharoun Ensemble since 2006.

Born in Boston, **Stefan de Leval Jezierski** studied the horn at the North Carolina School of the Arts and with Myron Bloom at the Cleveland Institute of Music. In 1976, he became principal horn of the Kassel Staatstheater, two years later joining the Berlin Philharmonic. Along with numerous solo engagements, he teaches in the Philharmonic's Orchestra Academy and as an honorary professor at the Shanghai Conservatory of Music. In 1983, Mr. Jezierski became one of the founding members of the Scharoun Ensemble.