EMMANUEL MUSIC FALL CHAMBER SERIES BEGINS

Haydn/Schoenberg SERENADES

On October 25, 2009, Emmanuel Music, led by Acting Artistic John Harbison and Associate Conductor Michael Beattie, presents its first chamber concert in a season featuring the music of Franz Joseph Haydn and Arnold Schoenberg. This concert, titled Serenades, presents both composers in informal dress.

The first half of the program explores both solo and multi-part songs of Haydn. The solo songs (mostly on texts of Anne Hunter, a successful songwriter in her own right) are well crafted, charming, and enormously entertaining. The multi-part songs show Haydn well on his way to the sophisticated vocal writing we find in The Creation and The Seasons.

Schoenberg’s Serenade, one of his most comprehensive, characteristic, and attractive pieces, completes the program. Its scale and form follow the lines of the big Mozart Serenades, some forty minutes of music – march, menuet, variations, dance-scene, song, and a synoptic finale. Most curious and personal is the insertion midway through of a thorny and incongruously anguished setting of a Petrarch sonnet (in a German version much more bitter and accusatory than the original). This jars and unsettles the piece for a while. Are we misunderstanding the rest? Are they less lighthearted than they seem?

Program:

Haydn: Vocal solos, ensembles with piano
Schoenberg: Serenade Op. 24

Performers:

Haydn:
- Michael Beattie, piano
- Heidi Braun-Hill, violin
- William Buonocore, mandolin
- Michael Curry, cello
- Pamela Dallal, mezzo-soprano
- Eran Egozy, clarinet
- Aaron Engebret, baritone

Schoenberg:
- Frank Kelley, tenor
- Rane Moore, bass clarinet
- John Muratore, guitar
- Mary Ruth Ray, viola
- Jayne West, soprano
- Robert Levin, piano

Date & Time: Sunday, October 25, 2009, 4:00 PM
Place: Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury Street, Boston

For more information, call (617) 536-3356 or visit our website at www.emmanuelmusic.org.

Emmanuel Music is the Ensemble-in-Residence at Emmanuel Church.
Emmanuel Music programs are sponsored in part by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Massachusetts Cultural Council, and the Boston Cultural Council,