# ALEA III 2018 – 2019 SEASON

(continues from previous page)

## <u>Memorial Gathering</u>

Saturday, April 13, 2019, 1:00 p.m. Annunciation Cathedral 514 Parker Street, Boston

A celebration of Theodore Antoniou's life and work.

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# Music from Ukraine and Russia Friday, May 3, 2019, 8:00 p.m.

Marsh Chapel 735 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston Admission is Free

Ukrainian pianist and conductor **Alex Poliykov** presents a program featuring works by Ukrainian and Russian Composers.

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Europe Day 2019 Thursday, May 9, 2019, 8:00 p.m. Old South Church 645 Boylston Street, Boston Admission is Free

Curated by the Consulate General of Ireland in Boston

An evening with music to celebrate Europe Day, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019

# ALEA III 2019 Summer Meetings

August 23 – September 1, 2019 Island of Naxos, Greece

A workshop for composers, performers, audio/visual and other artists to present their work and collaborate in new projects to be featured in 2019, 2020 and 2021 events. Daily meetings and concerts.

### **ALEA III**

Contemporary music ensemble in residence at Boston University since 1979

# **Memorial Gathering**

to celebrate the life and work of **Theodore Antoniou** 

Annunciation Cathedral 514 Parker Street, Boston

Saturday, April 13, 2019 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

#### FOUNDER

Theodore Antoniou

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Secretary Apostolos Paraskevas

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#### CORRESPONDENCE

10 Country Lane Sharon, MA 02067 (781) 793-8902

aleaiii@bu.edu

# OFFICE

855 Commonwealth Avenue Boston, MA 02215 Mario Davidovsky Spyros Evangelatos John Harbison Leonidas Kavakos Dimitris Nanopoulos Krzysztof Penderecki Yehudi Wyner

ALEA III was conceived by Boston University faculty and has been operating in affiliation with and with major intellectual, artistic and financial contributions from Boston University faculty, students and alumni.

#### ALEA III STAFF

Leonidas Raisis, Office Manager and Concert Coordinator

The Greek word *alea* taken from Homer, means "to wander." In Latin, it refers to "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

www.aleaiii.com

# ALEA III 2018 – 2019 SEASON

# Young Composers Workshop 2019 February 15-24, 2019

Athens, Greece

The second phase of an ongoing project that started in August 2018 and will be completed with a USA tour in Spring of 2021. Five young composers collaborate with the guitar duo **Alexandra Christodimou** and **Yannis Petridis** to produce new works for two guitars.

> Ty Katsarelis, René Nikolaou, Dimitris Makris Maddie Stephenson, Aidan Ramsay

# <u>Music from Portugal</u>

Friday, March 22, 2019, 8:00 p.m. Marsh Chapel 735 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston Admission is Free

An evening featuring works by Portuguese composers from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century until our days, as part of the Instituto Camões 2019 season in the US.

Curated by pianist Inês Andrade

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<u>Pluck'n'Bow</u>

Wednesday, April 3, 2019, 8:00 p.m. Marsh Chapel 735 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston Admission is Free

An evening featuring music for guitar and strings

Dimitris Kotronakis, guitar

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## **Theodore Antoniou**

February 10, 1935 - December 26, 2018



**Theodore Antoniou**, one of the most eminent and prolific contemporary artists, led 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 served as professor of composition at Boston University from 1978 until his retirement in 2008.

As a conductor, Professor Antoniou was 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 of 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 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 was also director of the ALEA III International Composition Competition, president of the Greek Composers' Union since 1989 and former 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 around three hundred of his works have been published by Bärenreiter Verlag (Germany), G. Schirmer (USA) and Philippos Nakas (Greece). He 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 was 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 recipients of 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», 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 received 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. Additional distinctions include 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), and the 2011 "Honoring Greek Culture" Award of Harvard University. In May 2014, he became a full member of the Academy of Athens.

- - Eftychia Papanikolaou

# **ALEA III**

Theodore Antoniou, Founder

# Memorial Gathering

to celebrate the life and work of Theodore Antoniou

> Saturday, April 13, 2019 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Annunciation Cathedral 514 Parker Street, Boston

# In the Cathedral

Memorial Service

Presided by His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios of Boston

#### In the Davis Hall

Welcoming remarks by Margaret McAllister Composer Professor, Berklee College of Music

Yehudi Wyner Composer, pianist Professor Emeritus, Brandeis University The Forgotten excerpts from Suite for Guitar by Theodore Antoniou

> Movements V and VI (arranged by A. P.)

Apostolos Paraskevas, guitar

Samuel Headrick Composer Professor, Boston University

Aria from the 1986 film *The Girl from Mani* Music by Theodore Antoniou

> Maria LaVita, *mezzo soprano* John McDonald, *piano*

Apostolos Paraskevas Composer, Guitarist Professor, Berklee College of Music

*Octet* by Theodore Antoniou

Sue-Ellen Hershman-Tcherepnin, *flute* Peggy Pearson, *oboe* Diane Heffner, *clarinet* Janet Underhill, *bassoon* Aija Reke and Jessica Amidon, *violin* Scott Woolweaver, *viola* Karen Kaderavek, *violoncello* Tiffany Chang, *conductor* 

Reception to follow

Theodore Antoniou founded ALEA III at Boston University in 1979, and served as the artistic director from its beginning until his passing.

He was a rare and exceptional human being who embodied a selfless commitment to promoting the future of music, and whose influence was profound.

With unlimited generosity and endless energy, he contributed in extraordinary and unprecedented ways to the training of thousands of composers and performers worldwide.

Gifted, charismatic and always kind, he touched and changed the lives of everyone who had the good fortune to meet and work with him.

As a composer of an artistically significant, extensive catalogue of compositions, he embraced a selfless vision of what it means to be a composer, performer and music educator.

> His vision will always inspire us and lead us to the future.

> > He will be missed greatly.

Theodore was the best. Period. I often think of him and smile, because I just adored him.

Eric Ruske, horn Professor, Boston University

Dear William, first let me express to you my deepest sympathy in the passing of your dear/our dear Theodore.

> He was always most gracious to me and my students....and a real treasure for us here at Boston University.

He wrote 2 pieces for me, with accompanying trombonists, my students... that I performed on an Alea III concert.... and also a piece written for me and the BU Wind Ensemble.

> Don Lucas, trombone Associate Professor, Boston University

Theodore Antoniou was our dearest friend and colleague with whom we had the privilege to work with at Boston University.

Theodore composed and dedicated to us a Violin Concerto and a Concerto for 2 Violins and Orchestra which we performed with him in the US and Greece.

Theodore's passing is a big loss for the musical world and for us personally.

Dana and Yuri Mazurkevich, violin duo Faculty Members, Boston University

Theodore clearly recognized music as serving deeply human and humane purposes. It shone through in his conducting and his teaching, and of course in his music.

> Arnold Friedman, composer, cellist Professor, Berklee College of Music

I performed with ALEA III and Theodore Antoniou for about 15 years until 2002 when I had to leave Boston for Western New York.

When I left Boston, and particularly was no longer able to be with "the gang" and the fantastic "Chief", that marked the end of the best music making with amazing musicians and the awe inspiring Theodore.

His infinite depth and love for what he believed was what pulled us all together with much excitement and fun during those rehearsals.

His sense of humor and his cheerful banter with us was so uplifting. And we played (and sang) with infinite love for the new music!

We miss you very much, Theodore.

I am forever grateful to Theodore and ALEA III for granting me the opportunity to be a part of series of fantastic creation.

With much Gratitude,

Shinobu Takagi, soprano Assistant Professor, State University of New York, Fredonia Theodore gave me the opportunity to play my first professional piano gig in Boston in 1983. This was an Alea III performance of Boulez's 'Eclat."

He was a magnet for players who wanted fun and challenge playing new music.

My earliest "Theodore Memory:"

I wake up at Tanglewood and look out the window of the house where I was staying.

I see a flash of running: a deer? No: I make out Theodore Antoniou, <u>sprinting</u> around his house (next door to us composer fellows) in circle after circle, furiously starting his day with the blood flowing.

I remember him like that!

John McDonald, Composer and Pianist Professor of Music, Tufts University "Theodore Antoniou Conducting", usually at the Tsai Auditorium on Comm. Ave., was always an event to look forward to.

Everything in the air told you that a rare treat was coming your way. Even his dress told you that you were about to encounter the unusual and the sublime. And you were never disappointed, not even once. Antoniou's presence was a delightful bonus of being a staff member at Boston University.

His own compositions evoked in you memories of imagined worlds, where recurring strains very precisely melded into shimmering unities.

Of great importance to him was the nurturing of young talent. Alea III's Annual competition of Compositions brought new melodies from every corner of the Globe. A Taiwanese Glimpse of Passing Beauty would be followed by a Chilean Convergence.

And specially fascinating, from the audience perspective, were the Workshops for young composers. We saw a chrysalis-like transformation of rough-hewn ideas; what emerged took you home in a reverie.

Thank you for having given so much to so many of us.

Sushil Chandani Department of Biology, 2000-2011 Boston University Thank you so very much for the invitation to the memorial for Theodore, our dear friend!

Unfortunately it will be difficult for us to attend. I wish we could!

Theodore was not only a very dear friend but a model for our son Alexander who became a composer and was helped by Theodore during his early years and who performed his music with Alea III.

He was not only a very important asset for the University, but also for Boston.

> He is dearly missed!!!! God bless him!

Rodolfo and Electra Cardona Boston University ALEA III