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**Serafin Ensemble Opens 2019-2020 Season at The Arts at Trinity on October 20, 2019**

(Wilmington, Del.) September 9, 2019 - [Serafin Ensemble](#), "The Serafins," a group of internationally acclaimed performing artists (string, wind, piano and vocalists) devoted to collaborative chamber music performances, opens its inaugural season at **The Arts at Trinity on Sunday, October 20 at 4:00 p.m.** The concert features artists [Kate Ransom](#), *violin*, [Charae Krueger](#), *cello*, and [William Ransom](#), *piano*.

The program includes:

- **Bedeřich Smetana *Two Pieces From My Native Land***: two charming pieces for violin and piano that echo the sounds from "the homeland." Considered the first composer to develop a distinctive "Czech" signature in compositional style, Smetana's importance as a seminal figure in "Bohemian nationalist style" is unquestioned, although his contributions as a composer have been somewhat eclipsed by those of Antonin Dvořák.
- **Mozart Sonata in Bb Major, K. 378**: this sonata provides contrast to the Slavic styles, with its classical perfection and its elegantly crafted exchange between the violin and piano.
- **Gaspar Cassadó Preludio-Fantasia (a Zarabanda) from Suite for Solo Cello**: this work for solo cello explores a new Catalan voice of nationalism. Cassadó, from Barcelona, was a pupil of Pablo Casals, and consequently explores and exploits the many colors and sounds that can be produced on the cello.
- **Dvořák Trio for Violin, Cello and Piano in E Minor, Op. 90**: the "Dumky" trio is famed for its extremes of character and mood - typical of the "dumka." The word literally means "thought" and has become a moniker for a style of Slavic music that conveys folk ballad or lament, and is typically melancholy with contrasting lively sections.

**IF YOU GO: The Arts at Trinity presents Serafin Ensemble & Friends**

**WHEN:** Sunday, October 20, 2019, at 4:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** Trinity Episcopal Church, 1108 N. Adams Street, Wilmington, DE 19801

**ENTRY:** Free, donations appreciated



Kate Ransom,  
violin



Charae Krueger,  
cello



William Ransom,  
piano



About the Artists:

**Kate Ransom, artistic director, violin (Wilmington, Del.)\***

Hailed by *The New York Times* for "impassioned" playing, violinist Kate Ransom is artistic director of Serafin Ensemble and a distinguished chamber musician, recitalist and teacher who has presented hundreds of concerts in major chamber music concert halls in North America and Europe. Ms. Ransom pursued post-graduate chamber music study at The Juilliard School with Robert Mann and holds master's and bachelor's degrees in violin performance from Yale University and University of Michigan, respectively. She currently serves as president of The Music School of Delaware and plays a violin made in 1728 by the Venetian master, Sanctus Serafin.

**Charae Krueger, cello (Atlanta, Ga.)\***

Charae Krueger is Principal Cellist for the Atlanta Opera Orchestra and the Atlanta Ballet Orchestra, and is lecturer and artist-in-residence in cello at Kennesaw State University (KSU) in Georgia. Ms. Krueger is an avid chamber musician and is a member of the Summit Piano Trio, the Peachtree String Quartet, the Leaptrott Piano Trio and the KSU Faculty String Trio. Ms. Krueger studied at the Regina Conservatory of Music (Canada) and Brandon University, and received bachelor's degree from New England Conservatory. She also holds an artist diploma from the Longy School of Music and continued her training at the Banff Centre and with the Juilliard Quartet at The Juilliard School.

**William Ransom, piano (Atlanta, Ga.)**

Pianist, artistic director, master teacher, editor and judge for international competitions, William Ransom appears around the world as soloist with orchestras, recitalist and chamber musicians. His performances have been broadcast on National Public Radio and Television in the US, Argentina, Poland and Japan. As a master teacher, he also performs and gives master classes at numerous schools of music and universities around the world. Mr. Ransom is the Mary Emerson Professor of Piano at Emory University and founder and artistic director of the Emory Chamber Music Society of Atlanta. A graduate of The Juilliard School and the University of Michigan, Ransom is artistic director of the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival and the Juneau Jazz & Classics Festival.

*\*Serafin Ensemble roster artist*

**About Serafin Ensemble**

Serafin Ensemble, "The Serafins," is a group of internationally acclaimed performing artists (string, wind, piano and vocalists) devoted to collaborative chamber music performances of repertoire for up to eight players. The ensemble evolved from the former Serafin String Quartet and continues the nearly two-decade-long Serafin legacy of passionate commitment to presenting exceptional performances of small ensemble repertoire. Serafin Ensemble artists have been heralded around the globe for concerts and recordings, acclaimed in the press, and received international prizes and awards. Their current and former affiliations and distinctions are impressive and include: "official Steinway artist;" Fulbright scholar; performances with Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Alexander, Attacca, Oxford, Serafin and Vega String Quartets, "Alarm Will Sound," Boston Chamber Orchestra, I Musici de Montreal, Del'Arte Wind Quintet; prizes from the London String Quartet Competition and Concert Artists Guild; participation in summer programs such as Aspen, Aria, Banff, Brevard, Casals, Chataouqua, Ravinia, Spoleto and Tanglewood; appearances on NPR's Performance Today, St. Paul Sunday Morning, WQXR, WRTI, Radio France, and National Radio of China; and degrees from major music schools including Juilliard, Peabody, Yale, Indiana, New England and Boston Conservatories, Royal Academy of Music, Mannes, Michigan, Eastman, and the Longy School. Serafin Ensemble takes its name from master violin maker, Sanctus Serafin, who in 1728 crafted the violin currently played by Serafin founder and Artistic Director, Kate Ransom. The Serafin String Quartet thrived for over two decades thanks, in part, to generous support from Dr. William J. Stegeman, Ph.D. For more information, please visit [www.serafinensemble.org](http://www.serafinensemble.org).