



## Celebrity Series of Boston

Engaging • Entertaining • Enriching

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### For Immediate Release

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#### High-resolution photos:

[http://www.celebrityseries.org/Photo\\_Galleries/1005-WMIGOctet\\_Gallery.htm](http://www.celebrityseries.org/Photo_Galleries/1005-WMIGOctet_Gallery.htm)

[http://www.celebrityseries.org/Photo\\_Galleries/RobKapilow\\_Gallery.htm](http://www.celebrityseries.org/Photo_Galleries/RobKapilow_Gallery.htm)

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### Presents

## *Rob Kapilow's What Makes It Great?* with the **Borromeo and Ariel String Quartets** **Mendelssohn's Octet in E-flat Major**

on Saturday, November 7 at 8 pm  
at NEC's Jordan Hall

(Boston) Celebrity Series of Boston will present classical music commentator **Rob Kapilow** and the **Borromeo and Ariel String Quartets** in a lively examination of **Mendelssohn's Octet in E-flat Major** as part of **What Makes It Great?** on Saturday, November 7 at 8pm at NEC's Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough Street, Boston. This performance is sponsored by Joshua and Amy Boger.

The **Celebrity Series of Boston** has presented Rob Kapilow's What Makes It Great? series 18 times since its debut in 1997. The Borromeo String Quartet made its Celebrity Series debut in 1998 with Menachem Pressler. The quartet has appeared twice since, most recently with Richard Stoltzman in 2004. This is the Ariel String Quartet's Celebrity Series debut.

Since their debut in 1989, the critically acclaimed **Borromeo String Quartet** have made their mark with enlightening performances of Beethoven, Bartok, Schoenberg, Shostakovich, and Golijov. The Borromeo String Quartet's long-standing quartet in residence at both the Isabella Stewart Gardner and the New England Conservatory of Music. The ensemble is also an artist-in-residence at Dai-Ichi Semei Hall in Tokyo and the Taos School of Music's summer program. The Borromeo have been regularly heard in concert halls around the world, including the Concertgebouw, Opera Bastille, and Wigmore Hall. In the United States, the group is a favorite at Weill Recital Hall and Alice Tully Hall, Jordan Hall, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Kennedy Center. The Quartet has participated in the Spoleto Festival in Italy, the Orlando Festival in the Netherlands, the Stavanger Festival in Norway, Music Isle Festival in Korea, and in North America at the Ravinia, Tanglewood, Santa Fe, Cape Cod, and Vancouver chamber music festivals, among others.

In April 2007 the Borromeo Quartet was the recipient of the Avery Fisher Career Grant and in 2006 the Aaron Copland House honored the Borromeo's commitment to contemporary music by creating the Borromeo Quartet Award, an annual initiative that will premiere the work of important young composers to audiences internationally. It has enjoyed collaborations with Gyorgy Ligeti, Osvaldo Golijov, Steve Mackey, John Harbison, Gunther Schuller, Jennifer Higdon, Lior Navok, and Lera Auerbach.

Although still in their early 20's, the **Ariel String Quartet** (Alexandra Kazovsky and Gershon Gerchikov, violin; Sergey Tarashchansky, viola; Amit Even-Tov, cello) celebrated their 10th Anniversary in 2008. Formed in Israel, the Quartet moved to the United States in 2004 to continue their professional studies

(more)

at the New England Conservatory. The Ariel Quartet has performed extensively in Israel, Europe, and North America, including such venues as the Musée du Louvre in Paris, Kaisersaal in Frankfurt, the Washington Performing Arts Society, Neue Galerie in New York City, and Jordan Hall in Boston. Recent performances include the Corcoran Gallery and the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. In addition to performing the traditional quartet repertoire, the Ariel Quartet regularly collaborates with many Israeli and non-Israeli musicians and composers, including pianist Roman Rabinovich, the Jerusalem String Quartet, composer Menachem Wiesenberg, pianist Alexander Gavrylyuk, clarinetist Moran Katz, composer Matti Kovler, violist Roger Tapping, and the Zukerman Chamber players. Reflecting their dedication to music education and community service, the Ariel Quartet presents many outreach programs and special performances to a wide range of school and community groups, ranging from the public schools to retirement communities.

**Rob Kapilow's What Makes it Great?** made its debut on National Public Radio's "Performance Today" more than a decade ago, and with its accessible and digestible 10-minute format, quickly attracted a wide base of fans. It soon developed into a full-evening concert program regularly booked by presenters seeking to build new audiences. During each "What Makes It Great?" program, Mr. Kapilow dissects a selection of music in a listener-friendly way—pulling themes apart, demonstrating how melodies might sound in lesser hands, guiding listeners through the maze of themes, and finishing with a complete performance of the work.

**Rob Kapilow** is a graduate of the Yale School of Music and the Eastman School of Music, and is an accomplished pianist. He has brought the joy and wonder of classical music to audiences of all ages and backgrounds, opening their ears to musical experiences and helping them to listen actively. The reach and diversity of his interactive events is considerable, both geographically and culturally: from Native American tribal communities to inner-city high school students, and from children barely out of diapers to musicologists long out of Ivy League programs. Mr. Kapilow's popularity and appeal are reflected in notable engagements: on NBC's "Today Show" in conversation with Katie Couric; in a program for broadcast on PBS's "Live From Lincoln Center" in January 2008; and in his new book, *All You Have To Do Is Listen*, published by Wiley.

#### **TICKETING INFORMATION**

Tickets for Rob Kapilow's What Makes It Great? are priced at \$25, and are available by calling CelebrityCharge at (617) 482-6661 Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., online at [www.celebrityseries.org](http://www.celebrityseries.org), or at the Jordan Hall box office, 30 Gainsborough Street, Boston.

#### **About Celebrity Series of Boston**

Celebrity Series of Boston is New England's leading presenter of music, dance, and the performing arts from around the world. Founded in 1938, the Series incorporated as a not-for-profit corporation in 1989. Each year, the Celebrity Series brings to Boston's major concert halls performances by instrumental and vocal soloists, symphony orchestras, chamber ensembles, dance companies, jazz and popular music performers, folk and ethnic performance groups, and other performing artists. The Celebrity Series' Arts, Education and Community Program was initiated in 1984. The program reaches thousands of students annually in Boston area schools and communities. The program includes the award-winning AileyCamp Boston, a six-week summer dance program for Boston middle school students, and ACT 2, an after-school initiative for former participants of AileyCamp Boston. For more information on Celebrity Series of Boston, call (617) 482-2595 or visit us online at [www.celebrityseries.org](http://www.celebrityseries.org).

The Celebrity Series receives generous support from; The Little Family Foundation; Tufts Health Plan; Foley & Lardner LLP; Charlesbank Capital Partners; Comcast; PTC; Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center; Massachusetts Cultural Council; New England Foundation for the Arts.