



BOSTON ATHENÆUM

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Boston Athenæum Hosts Pulitzer Prize-Winning American Composer and Pianist Yehudi Wyner

[November 21 Concert](#) with **Ecce Ensemble** and Special Guest **Charles Neidich** Celebrates Wyner's Achievements in Chamber Music

Boston, MA – November 8, 2016 – The [Boston Athenæum](#), in partnership with [Ecce](#), a community of culturally and socially engaged creative and performing artists, will host a concert dedicated to American composer and pianist [Yehudi Wyner](#) on Monday, November 21, 2016, from 6:00pm to 7:00pm. Wyner will speak during the event on his own music and his vision for classical music in contemporary culture. The performance is open to the public, with tickets available on the Athenæum's [website](#).

President of the [American Academy of Arts and Letters](#) and member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Yehudi Wyner (b. 1929) received the Pulitzer Prize in music for his 2005 concerto "Chiavi in Mano." His compositions include over one hundred works for orchestra, chamber ensemble, solo voice and instrument, piano, chorus, and music for the theater, as well as liturgical services for worship. He has received commissions from Carnegie Hall, the Boston Symphony, the BBC Philharmonic, the Library of Congress, the Ford Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts, among others. Wyner's numerous accolades include a Pulitzer Prize, a Grammy, two Guggenheim Fellowships, and the Elise L. Stoeger Prize given by the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center for his "lifetime contribution to chamber music."

The evening's focus will be Wyner's cultural contribution in the field of chamber music. Noted works, including "Commedia" for clarinet and piano and "Trio 2009" for clarinet, cello, and piano, will feature renowned clarinetist [Charles Neidich](#), recognized by the *New York Times* as "an obvious master of his instrument."

Founding Director of the Ecce ensemble, John Aylward, has placed the group's mission at the intersection between composition and community, expressing a keen desire to "cultivate the composer in a community setting." The *Boston Globe* [notes](#) that Ecce is "trying to recreate an intensely communal encounter for our own time."

About the Ecce Ensemble:

Ecce is a community of accomplished musicians who are committed to presenting music, theater, and interdisciplinary art in a captivating and visionary way. Integral to its mission is fostering collaboration among creative thinkers across disciplines: performing arts, science, technology, and social justice. By engaging science, technology, and a full range of multidisciplinary artistic media, Ecce seeks to create experiences that inspire original thinking and social change.

About the Boston Athenæum:

The Boston Athenæum, a membership library and fine art museum, first opened its doors in 1807 as a sanctuary of arts and letters for Bostonian intellectuals. Notable Athenæum members and readers include George Cabot, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Margaret Fuller, Archibald Henry Grimké, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Amy Lowell. Today, the Athenæum remains a vibrant institution that serves members, researchers, and the Boston community, offering a distinguished circulating collection, rich and varied special collections, extensive electronic resources, a dynamic programming schedule, and handsome reading spaces. The exhibition gallery and many events are open to the public. Membership is open to all.