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**Triumph for the Morgenstern Trio:  
German Piano Trio Awarded Prestigious  
Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson International Trio Award**

**- National Tour Planned for 2010-2011 & 2011-12 Seasons -**

FARMINGTON HILLS, MI. – The Chamber Music Society of Detroit today announced that the 2009 winner of the **Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson International Trio Award** (KLRITA) is the **Morgenstern Trio**. After a call for nominations sent internationally to classical music presenters, musicians, educators and other professionals, the trio was selected in **New York by a panel comprising musicians Jonathan Biss, Joel Krosnick, Jamie Laredo, Sharon Robinson and Michael Tree, and two Award presenters, Jeremy Geffen, Carnegie Hall, and Shauna Quill, the University of Chicago Presents.**

**SUGGESTED STORY LINES**

- Award supported by \$30,000 gift from each of twenty participating presenters
- Only existing piano trio award worldwide
- Catapults the careers of talented, young piano trios
- As a benefit of the Award, the Morgenstern Trio will make its first U.S. tour
- Prestigious Award now announcing the winners of its fourth cycle
- Named for the Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio, now in its 34th year
- Personal Interest: Unaware of their nominations, the musicians are surprised and thrilled to win the Award: one ensemble thought the news was "a hoax," too good to be true, another trio danced in the streets and the current winners said they needed no other gifts for Christmas.

**ABOUT THE WINNING ENSEMBLE**

Taking its name from the popular German poet, author and humorist Christian Morgenstern (1871 – 1914), the Morgenstern Trio was formed in 2005 at the Folkwang Academy in Essen, Germany; its membership consists of pianist Catherine Klipfel from France, violinist Stefan Hempel from Germany (who joined the ensemble in the summer of 2009, succeeding violinist Nina Reddig) and cellist Emanuel Wehse from Germany. In 2007, after only two years of intensive collaboration, the Trio was awarded first prize at the International Joseph Haydn Competition in Vienna, second prize at the Fifth Melbourne International Chamber Music Competition and second prize and the audience prize at the prestigious ARD Competition in Munich.

The Morgenstern Trio has toured throughout Europe under the auspices of the Bundesauswahl Konzerte Junger Künstler (a national concert organization for Germany's rising young artists) and the "Best of NRW" concert series. Festival appearances include the Pablo Casals Festival in Prades, France, the Festspiele Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, the Heidelberger Frühling, the WDR Musikfest and the Kuhmo Chamber Music Festival in Finland. The Trio was recently invited to participate in the European Concert Hall Organization (ECHO) "Rising Stars" series and is making its debut during the 2009-2010 season at leading concert halls across Europe in such major cities as Paris, Vienna, Amsterdam, Cologne, Brussels, Birmingham and Stockholm. The ensemble has appeared on numerous radio broadcasts throughout Europe and released its debut CD of works by Beethoven and Brahms in 2008. **Providing the Morgenstern Trio's debut appearances in the United States, the Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson International Trio Award tour will take on a special significance for this accomplished trio.**

### **ABOUT THE AWARD**

A biennial piano trio award, the Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson International Trio Award derives its impetus from the desire to honor the Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio (Joseph Kalichstein, piano, Jaime Laredo, violin, Sharon Robinson, cello) in perpetuity by giving recognition to this prestigious trio's contribution to chamber music worldwide for over 30 years. In addition, the award was created to encourage and enhance the careers of accomplished and extraordinarily promising young and "rising" piano trios that will be chosen every other year. To be considered for the award, trios must have been together for approximately 5-10 years, be actively engaged in touring and have professional management. The KLRITA is administered by the Chamber Music Society of Detroit.

Originated by Lois R. Beznos, President of the Chamber Music Society of Detroit, the KLRITA is based upon the collaboration of 20 participating chamber music presenters. The winning trio benefits from presentation on the series of these 20 participating presenters nationwide over the two-year award period. Moreover, the Award provides for a CD recording of the winning trio by **Azica Records**. The winning trio also benefits from the contribution by **Kenneth Warren & Son, Ltd.** of instrument maintenance services by its workshop in addition to its efforts to identify the highest quality violins and cellos as prospective loans to the trio winners during the award period.

### **SUPPORT**

The KLRITA is supported in part by the contribution of \$30,000 each by the 20 participating chamber music presenting organizations across the U.S., including the Chamber Music Society of Detroit. A unique advantage to presenters is that, in perpetuity, they will have the benefit of an endowed concert, paid for by the award endowment fund, every other season. Additional support for the KLRITA comes from Jean and Sam Frankel, the Matilda R. Wilson Fund and the Whitney Fund.

### **RECOGNITION OPPORTUNITIES**

Significant recognition opportunities are available for additional major donors to the award endowment. For information, please contact Lois Beznos, President, Chamber Music Society of Detroit at 248-737-9982.

**KLRITA WINNERS**

The winners of the KLRITA to date have been:

Claremont Trio, 2003  
Trio con Brio Copenhagen, 2005  
ATOS Trio, 2007  
Morgenstern Trio, 2009

The ATOS Trio, current winner of the KLRITA, will complete its Award tour during the 2009-2010 season after which the Morgenstern Trio will embark upon its twenty-concert KLRITA Award tour during the 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 seasons.

**KLRITA PRESENTERS**

The following chamber music presenters have contributed to the KLRITA endowment fund to participate in the award:

***Ames Town & Gown Chamber Music Association***  
***Arizona Friends of Chamber Music***  
***Carnegie Hall***  
***Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts***  
***Chamber Music Cincinnati***  
***Chamber Music Monterey Bay***  
***Chamber Music Sedona***  
***Chamber Music Society of Detroit***  
***Chamber Music Society of Louisville***  
***Chamber Music Society of Utica***  
***Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, University of Maryland***  
***El Camino College Center for the Arts***  
***Friends of Chamber Music - Kansas City***  
***Irving S. Gilmore International Keyboard Festival***  
***Raymond F. Kravis Center for the Performing Arts***  
***Naples Philharmonic Center for the Arts***  
***Purdue Convocations - Purdue University***  
***San Antonio Chamber Music Society***  
***Thomasville Entertainment Foundation***  
***University of Chicago Presents***

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:**

For press information & photographs, please contact:  
Marx Layne & Company, 248-855-6667 or [www.marxlayne.com](http://www.marxlayne.com).

For the Chamber Music Society, please visit its web site at [www.ComeHearCMSD.org](http://www.ComeHearCMSD.org).  
Please follow the link to the Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson International Trio Award.

For the Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio, please visit [www.franksalomon.com](http://www.franksalomon.com).

For personal interviews, please see contact numbers at the top of page 1.