

# CRESCENDO CONCERT SERIES

*Presents*

*Michael Barta, Violin*

*and*

*Arthur Houle, Piano*

**SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2011 AT 3:00 P.M.**

**PRE-CONCERT TALK BY  
MUSICOLOGIST, NANCY RUBENSTEIN, PH.D. AT 2:30 P.M.**

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
801 FIRST CAPITOL DRIVE, ST. CHARLES, MO**

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With major assistance from:



*Michael Barta, Violin*

*And*

*Arthur Houle, Piano*

*Program*

In Memory of John Lennon.....Arthur Houle

Fantasy Duo.....Haruka Watanabe  
(b. 1942)

Sonata in A major, Op. 100, No.2.....Johann Brahams  
(1833-1897)

*I. Allegro amabile*

*II. Andante tranquillo*

*III. Allegretto grazioso*

***Intermission***

Fantasy in C major for Violin and Piano, Op. posth. 159 D 934.....Franz Schubert  
(1797-1828)

*I. Andante molto*

*II. Allegretto*

*III. Andantino*

*IV. Allegro*

*V. Allegretto*

*VI. Presto*

Romanian Folk Dances.....Bela Bartok  
(1881-1945)

**AUDIO OR VIDEO RECORDING OF THIS RECITAL IS PROHIBITED.**

## Biography

**Michael Barta** specializes in violin, viola, and chamber music. He attended the Franz Liszt Academy in Budapest and later studied with Arthur Grumiaux. He has won many international prizes and in 1974 was a finalist at the Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow. During 1975-1980, he toured the world as the first violinist of the Kodaly String Quartet. He has served as professor of violin at Central Michigan University and Concertmaster of the Saginaw and Midland Symphonies. He is currently Professor of Music at Southern Illinois University since 1996 and Assistant Concertmaster of the Illinois Symphony and Chamber Orchestra. He has performed nationally at Alice Tully Hall, twice at Carnegie Hall in New York, and in many other concert venues in the U. S. and abroad.

**Arthur Houle** is Professor of Music and Director of Keyboard Studies at Mesa State College in Grand Junction, Colorado. An exponent of both classical and jazz improvising, Dr. Houle is in frequent demand throughout the country as a clinician, adjudicator, and performer. He is founder and director of the Festival for Creative Pianists ([www.pianofestival.org](http://www.pianofestival.org)), a unique competition that celebrates improvisation and repertory excellence in all styles. Houle was the only pianist to be invited to perform in the 1995 International Chopin Music Festival and has given coast-to-coast lecture/recitals and master classes at institutions such as Eastman School of Music, Dartmouth College, New England Conservatory, Longy School of Music, and for various teacher organizations. His Carnegie Recital Hall debut with cellist Dennis Parker was critically acclaimed.

Houle has degrees from the University of Massachusetts-Lowell, New England Conservatory, and the University of Iowa. His *Cowboy Jazz*, a collection of original compositions for intermediate level students, was recently published by the Hal Leonard Corporation. A private teacher since the age of thirteen, Houle has taught previously at New England Conservatory, Boston Conservatory, the Universities of Iowa, North Dakota and Texas-Austin, and Albertson College (now College of Idaho).

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Our thanks to **First United Methodist Church** for the use of their sanctuary today. Special thanks to **Parkview Gardens Florist and Greenhouse** for the loan of decorative plants.

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