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**ALARM WILL SOUND CONCERT ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6 AT THE SHELDON
TO INCLUDE WORKS BY VARESE, THE BEATLES, WUORINEN, NANCARROW AND MORE**

ST. LOUIS, MO - Alarm Will Sound, the acclaimed chamber orchestra dedicated to contemporary classical music, will return to St. Louis for their first concert of 2014 at 8 p.m., **Thursday, February 6** at the Sheldon Concert Hall.

The performance will feature seven works written or arranged specifically for Alarm Will Sound, including five that will be part of their next album. “St. Louis is where we develop projects,” explains managing director Gavin Chuck, which in this case means a program showing off the group’s established ability to translate music between idioms while also exploring human performance of sounds originally made by technology.

Two of the pieces they’ll play - Matt Marks’ arrangement of the Beatles’ “Revolution 9,” heard previously as part of the multimedia show *1969*; and Evan Hause’s arrangement of Edgard Varese’s *Poème électronique* - use traditional acoustic instruments to realize music originally created using tape machines and electronic manipulation.

A different form of interaction between man and machine is explored in Alarm Will Sound’s renditions of music by Conlon Nancarrow, whose works for player piano are essentially impossible for any human pianist to perform. The February 6 concert at The Sheldon will include Nancarrow’s “Study 2A,” arranged by Gavin Chuck, and “Study 3A,” arranged by Derek Bermel, which were recorded for Alarm Will Sound’s 2008 album *a/rhythmia*.

The three other works on the program destined for Alarm Will Sound’s next CD are *Big Spinoff* from the esteemed American composer Charles Wuorinen; *Will Sound* from Wolfgang Rihm, one of Germany’s most prolific contemporary composers; and *Zoetrope*, written by the young British composer Charlie Piper for the 2012 Mizzou International Composers Festival.

Tickets are \$20 for orchestra seats, \$15 for the balcony, and are on sale now at all Metrotix outlets; by phone at 314-534-1111; online at TheSheldon.org; and at The Sheldon box office (night of show only).

Alarm Will Sound’s 2013-14 “St. Louis Season” is part of a regional effort that began in 2010 when the group became the resident ensemble at the Mizzou International Composers Festival in Columbia. Through their continuing involvement with the MIFC, they forged a relationship with the Festival’s sponsors, philanthropist Jeanne Sinquefield and the Sinquefield Charitable Foundation (<http://sinquefieldcharitablefoundation.com/>) that led to the Foundation’s sponsorship of the group’s performances in St. Louis.

A 20-member ensemble dedicated to the creation, performance, and recording of today’s music, Alarm Will Sound (<http://www.alarmwillsound.com/>) has established a reputation for performing demanding music with infectious energy and consummate skill. The group was founded in 2001 by former students of the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY, and since then has performed regularly throughout the United States and in Europe.

MORE...

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The *New York Times* has called Alarm Will Sound “the future of classical music” and “the very model of a modern music chamber band.” ASCAP recognized their contributions to new music with a 2006 Concert Music Award for “the virtuosity, passion and commitment with which they perform and champion the repertory for the 21st century.”

Their performances have been described as “equal parts exuberance, nonchalance, and virtuosity” by the *London Financial Times* and as “a triumph of ensemble playing” by the *San Francisco Chronicle*, while *Time Out New York* has declared that Alarm Will Sound are “not just extraordinary musicians but also next-generation thinkers.”

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