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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ALARM WILL SOUND RETURNS TO THE SHELDON  
WITH JOHN ADAMS' "SON OF CHAMBER SYMPHONY"**

The Sheldon presents *Alarm Will Sound*, Thursday, December 15 at 8 p.m. in the perfect acoustics of the Sheldon Concert Hall (this program was originally scheduled for December 1). The cutting edge ensemble returns for their 5<sup>th</sup> "St. Louis Season," performing John Adams' *Son of Chamber Symphony*, written in 2007 for *Alarm Will Sound*.

John Adams built his career in the 1980s making unique and unmistakable music of pulsing sound masses for large ensembles. But a 1992 commission for a one-of-each-instrument chamber ensemble forced him to fundamentally rethink his music, and it was a combination of Schoenberg and old 1950s-era cartoons that guided him to a new way forward. The dense and manic *Chamber Symphony* that emerged shocked fans who thought they knew what to expect from Adams, and its ferocious challenges pushed performers to their limits. Fifteen years after writing the original *Chamber Symphony*, Adams composed a sequel, called *Son of Chamber Symphony*, for *Alarm Will Sound*.

This special performance combines music, recorded interviews with the composer and others, as well as voices from the performers onstage to tell the story of the creation of these two seminal works, and of the struggle required to perform them.

Tickets for *Alarm Will Sound* on December 15 are \$20 general admission/\$10 student. Ticket buyers who purchased tickets for the original date may retain their tickets and present them on December 15. For tickets, call MetroTix at 314-534-1111 or visit [TheSheldon.org](http://TheSheldon.org).

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