

## PROGRAM NOTE

### ***Soleil sur mer (Sun on Sea)* for clarinet, cello and piano (2007)**

- I. Barcarolle –Brouilliard (Fog)
- II. Barcarolle –L'été (Summer)

*Soleil sur Mer (Sun on Sea)* was inspired by Bargemusic's unique space and has two main parts—both of which were influenced by the *barcarolle*, a boating-song that invokes the rowing motion of the gondoliers of Venice or of France. Although both movements embrace a similar barcarolle, the first was composed with the imagery of fog (*Brouilliard*), and the second with summer (*L'été*) and festivity. However, both movements, played without pause, are related to the idea of sun on water, or sea—the depths that we travel in our mind or heart when gazing at these two elements. *Soleil sur mer* was commissioned by and written in honor of Bargemusic's 30th anniversary in 2007. Described by the *New York Times* as "contemplative, lyrical...evoked gloomy skies with a melancholy cello melody and wistful intertwining of the dark colors of the clarinet and the cello. The musical clouds parted for the brighter mood and jaunty melodies of the second movement, subtitled 'L'Été' ('Summer'), although there were reflective moments amid the sunshine....composed with the understanding of a painter who knows exactly where her picture will be hung," *Soleil sur Mer (Sun on Sea)* was premiered on 29 August 2007 at Bargemusic in New York. —Alexandra du Bois