

LES DÉLICES PRESENTS MIRAGES & MONSTROSITIES  
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Les Délices' 2010-11 season begins at the William Busta Gallery (2731 Prospect Ave., Cleveland) on Saturday, October 30, 2010 at 8pm with a Halloween-inspired program of French-baroque character pieces ranging from the quirky to the bizarre! Les Délices will repeat the program on Sunday, October 31, 2010 at 4:00pm inside Herr Chapel at Plymouth Church in Shaker Heights.

French baroque music can have a reputation for being mild-mannered. Les Délices' "Mirages and Monstrosities" program is anything but. It will take listeners on a journey – through a labyrinth? or is it a house of mirrors? – where illusion and artifice will at turns surprise and delight. Wild and experimental music abounds...

The program begins with incidental music from *Platée*: Jean-Philippe Rameau's comic opera about a hideously vain water nymph. Chromatic meanderings will guide listeners through the maze of Marin Marais' viol solo *La Labyrinthe* and one of the rarely-heard Quartets from *L'Art de la Modulation* by the world's first chess-master François-André Philidor. Marais' bizarre, narrated depiction of a *Gall-bladder Operation* (administered without anesthetic, of course!) and Jean-Philippe Rameau's frenzied harpsichord solo *Les Cyclopes* round out the program.

Cleveland-based chamber ensemble Les Délices is committed to making a big impact in Cleveland (and beyond) with entertaining, thought-provoking programs presented in unique and intimate settings. Audiences clearly appreciated Les Délices' informal, up-close-and-personal programs last season, and ClevelandClassical.com singled out Les Délices' first season of concerts as among the most memorable of 2009. Les Délices' director and founder Debra Nagy explained, "Standing-room only audiences packed our salon-style gallery shows last year; it makes for a very exciting concert experience for both the audience and performers."

Les Délices will bring together a fantastic roster of nationally-acclaimed artists - with strong Cleveland roots - for this program. Baroque violinists Julie Andrijeski & Karina Fox (both CIM/Case graduates, and Apollo's Fire principal players), join baroque oboist Debra Nagy and harpsichordist Michael Sponseller (an Oberlin alum and former teacher of harpsichord at Baldwin Wallace College). Josh Lee, a standout among the younger generation of viola da gamba players in the U.S., is featured in the solos by Marais.

Tickets for all concerts in Les Délices' 2010-11 series are available at [www.lesdelices.org](http://www.lesdelices.org).

### **About Les Délices**

Les Délices' (pronounced *Lay DEH-lease*) performances of French Baroque music have been called "exquisite," "superb," and "breathtakingly gorgeous." In addition to touring performances, Les Délices presents its own annual three-concert series in modern art galleries, where audiences enjoy intimate, informal performances in venues that celebrate Cleveland's flourishing arts community. Les Délices are Artists in Residence at Plymouth Church in Shaker Heights. Les Délices' debut CD "The Tastes Reunited" was named one of the Top Ten Early Music Discoveries of 2009 by NPR's *Harmonia*, and their live performances have been featured on WCPN and on WKSU's *In Performance*. The group will make their New York debut in May 2011 at Frick Collection. Visit [www.lesdelices.org](http://www.lesdelices.org) for more information.

Upcoming concerts in Les Délices 2010-11 series include "La Guitarre Royale" on Feb 12 & 13, 2011, and "Myths & Allegories" on May 14 & 15, 2011.

**About Debra Nagy**

One of the few outstanding baroque oboists in the U.S., Cleveland resident Debra Nagy has been hailed for her "dazzling technique and soulful expressiveness" (Rocky Mountain News) and deemed a "baroque oboist of consummate taste and expressivity" by the Cleveland Plain Dealer. A graduate of the Oberlin Conservatory, and Case Western Reserve University, she was the First Prize winner of the 2002 American Bach Soloists Young Artists Competition. In addition to maintaining a busy national performing schedule, Debra is currently a Lecturer in Early Music Performance Practice at Case Western Reserve University. Debra was also awarded a 2010 Creative Workforce Fellowship. The Creative Workforce Fellowship is a program of the Community Partnership for Arts & Culture, generously funded by Cuyahoga Arts and Culture.

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