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ALEA III TO PERFORM POLITIS PRIZE COMPOSITIONS  
AND COMMISSIONED WORKS AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY

Led by the distinguished Greek composer and conductor Theodore Antoniou, Alea III will perform a series of three concerts at the Boston University Concert Hall, May 9-11 at 8:00 P.M. Presented by the Boston University School of Music, the concerts will feature works by the Finalists of the Politis Composition Prize Competition, pieces commissioned by Alea III, and other works of the Twentieth Century.

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"Through the competition and our performances," says Theodore Antoniou, "we're hoping to select the very best of today's music and introduce it to new audiences."

The Politis Composition Prize was established in 1979 by the Greek industrialist Charles Politis to promote and encourage new music. Mr. Politis is a Greek American with cultural attachments in both countries, and is a graduate of both the New York School of Music and the Athens Conservatory in piano. The competition, which is administered by the Boston University School of Music, is open to composers of all nationalities and offers a cash award of \$3000 to the winner. Mr. Politis will be present to hear the performances of works by the 8 finalists who were chosen from over 350 entrants from around the world.

"This is an event," says Antoniou, "in which Americans, Greeks, and composers around the world are unified. Americans and Greeks are making significant contributions in the composition of new music, and it is exciting to be able to have an event in which their work can be compared to works of composers internationally."

"We hope and expect that this competition will soon become one of the most important composers' competitions in the world. There are a number of reasons why this should happen. Firstly, the prize money we offer is substantial in comparison to other competitions. Also, our advisors are many of the most exciting people in international music."

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Judges for the Politis Competition include Leonard Bernstein, Gunther Schuller, George Crumb, Ernst Krenek, Donald Martino, Mario di Bonaventura, Robert di Domenico and Joseph Castaldo.

"More importantly," says Antoniou, "a major feature of our competition is that we perform the compositions which are chosen as finalists. Most competitions don't offer that opportunity. And because the Politis Competition is open to composers of all ages, nationalities and aesthetic directions, we're offering a forum for composers around the world to have their artistic vision realized."

Alea III, performing arts ensemble in residence at Boston University, was organized in 1978 by Theodore Antoniou. The members of the ensemble are expert interpreters of all music from the traditional to the most avant garde, including chance, open-form, serial, sound-action, and instrumental theatre.

Their programming is both selective and adventurous, and while the emphasis is on contemporary music, performances frequently include works from the more standard repertory. Alea III annually commissions new works as part of its commitment to serve contemporary artists world-wide. The group participates in several music festivals internationally and is the principal vehicle for the performances of works chosen for the Politis Composition Prize.

"Alea III will not only perform the Politis finalists' works in our upcoming concerts," says Anontiou. "We will also perform commissioned works by Roger Bourland (an American), George Couroupos (a Greek) and Oliver Knussen (an Englishman). Rounding out the programs will be important musical works of our century."

Admission to the Alea III performances is free. The Boston University Concert Hall is located at 855 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston. For further information call 353-3345.