

## BEAUX ARTS TRIO CELEBRATES GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

By Lisa Golda

A triumphant celebration of a half-century milestone, a return to the recording studio after a long hiatus, and cultural honors from two countries for Beaux Arts Trio co-founder and IU Distinguished Professor Menahem Pressler are but the most recent indications that this trio is much, much more than the sum of its virtuosic parts.

In celebration of Beaux Arts' fiftieth anniversary, pianist Pressler, with cellist Antonio Meneses and violinist Daniel Hope, re-enacted the group's 1955 maiden voyage, performing their inaugural all-Beethoven program (the Ghost and Archduke trios) at Indiana University's 2005 Summer Music Festival. They later performed the same program at the Tanglewood Festival, where they had presented their very first concert a half century ago.

"No one who has heard the trio play the Beethoven Ghost Trio comes away without a real sense of awe, for the performers and Beethoven in equal measure," said Steve Krahnke, director of National Production Development at Indiana University's television station, WTIU.

Krahnke is executive producer of a new documentary featuring the Beaux Arts Trio. The film premiered last December during the station's winter fundraising drive, and is due to be broadcast nationally on public television.

Taking additional steps to preserve their legacy, the Beaux Arts Trio recently returned to the recording studio after a hiatus of more than 10 years to record new material for Warner. Having already recorded virtually the entire trio repertoire (on the Phillips label), they will add new music by living composers Mark-Anthony Turnage, Jan Muller-Wieland, and Jacobs School of Music composition student Alexandra Du Bois to their playlist. A CD recorded during the IU 2005 Summer Music Festival, featuring Shostakovich trios and song literature in collaboration with soprano Joan Rodgers, will be released by Warner in February.

The Beaux Arts Trio recently achieved new notoriety as a cultural icon by virtue of its association with Pressler who, in September, received the highest cultural honors that France and Germany have to offer: the Commandeur



Founder Menahem Pressler



Violinist Daniel Hope, pianist Pressler, and cellist Antonio Meneses during the trio's fiftieth anniversary concert on July 2, 2005

in the Order of Arts and Letters, and the German President's Deutsche Bundesverdienstkreuz (Cross of Merit) First Class. Pressler left Nazi Germany for Israel in 1938.

These awards are just the latest in a long list of honors he has accumulated, including four Grammy nominations and a Distinguished Professorship at Indiana University.

The Beaux Arts Trio will return to perform at the 2006 IU Summer Music Festival. See [music.indiana.edu](http://music.indiana.edu) for details.

### EXCITING NEWS JUST IN!

Two new video documentaries profiling activity in the Jacobs School of Music will be shown on public television stations around the United States in upcoming months.

**Beaux Arts at 50** features the ensemble's historic 50th anniversary performance at the 2005 IU Summer Music Festival and will be shown on all public television stations around the US in late spring this year. The film was produced by WTIU in Bloomington.

**Circling Around: The Violin Virtuosi** documents the extraordinary life journey taken by talented young violinists from IU's Violin Academy directed by Mimi Zweig. Produced by RIAX in association with WTIU, the film will be shown in March on more than 220 US stations.

For more information on the exciting national releases: [music.indiana.edu](http://music.indiana.edu).