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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Wednesday, September 20, 2023**

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Durham, NC – Mallarmé Music presents *The Golem: How He Came into the World*, a 1920 silent film directed by Paul Wegener and Carl Boese based on Gustav Meyrink's 1915 novel, "Der Golem." The screening of the film will be accompanied by a live score written by bassist and composer Dr. Mark Bergman and performed by members of Mallarmé Music. This is Mallarmé's third foray into performing live accompaniments of German expressionist silent films that include *Nosferatu* and *The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari* with music composed by Eric Schwartz, both commissioned by Mallarmé.

*The Golem: How He Came into the World* tells the story of Rabbi Judah Loew (a real, historical figure), who was the Chief Rabbi of Prague. According to legend, he brought a giant clay creature to life to defend the Jewish people. The story takes place around 1600 CE, which coincides with the beginning of the Baroque era of music. The instruments used in the performance are either from that era or modern reproductions.

This project is part of a larger movement in classical music known as "Historically Informed Performance" or "HIP." The goal of HIP is rediscovering the sounds and expressive nature of early music usually from the 17<sup>th</sup> and early 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. Ironically, one of the most ahistorical aspects of HIP is an exclusive focus on repertoire from the past. Baroque composers like Bach didn't play music from hundreds of years before they were born; they mostly played music of their time. *The Golem* features music of *our* time employing the expressive language of the Baroque era to bring this setting of an early 17<sup>th</sup> century legend to life.

These performances are perfectly timed to occur around Halloween as *The Golem* is widely recognized as the source of the Frankenstein myth. Audiences find it frighteningly creepy even now, over 100 years since the film's premiere.

**CONCERT:** *The Golem, How He Came into the World*, a silent film with live chamber music accompaniment

**Sunday, October 29, 2023 @ 7:00 pm**

Lancaster Cultural Arts Center, 307 W Gay St, Lancaster, SC 29720

INFO: <http://lcshp.org/cultural-arts-center-concerts-events> Tickets: \$15

**Monday, October 30, 2023 @ 7:00 pm**

Cinema One – Carolina Theatre, 309 West Morgan Street, Durham, NC 27701

INFO: <https://carolinatheatre.org/events/film/the-golem-with-live-score/> Tickets: \$30

**ARTISTS:** David Wilson, Matvey Lapin – violin, Suzanne Rouso – viola, Barbara Krumdieck – cello, Mark Bergman – bass, Jennifer Streeter – harpsichord

**Mallarmé Music** is a flexible collective of professional musicians based in Durham, North Carolina, whose mission is to enrich the lives of its community through outstanding chamber music performance and education. The ensemble distinguishes itself by its innovative educational programs, its commitment to creative collaboration with musicians and other arts organizations, its creation of significant new works, and its dedication to serving a diverse population.

With some of the most gifted artists from North Carolina, Mallarmé Music performs programs that include rarely heard works from the traditional chamber music repertoire and celebrate the diversity in our community by featuring the music of African American, Asian, Latino and women composers. To date, Mallarmé has commissioned over 35 new works by American composers. Mallarmé also presents the biennial NC HIP Music Festival, a festival of music, lectures and master classes performed on historical instruments.

Concerts are held at venues across Durham and the surrounding areas in a variety of venues from churches to music halls. With its commitment to collaboration and to the inclusion of young artists, BIPOC and LGBTQ artists, Mallarmé continues to grow while reflecting the spirit of the community.

Mallarmé is led by violist Suzanne Rouso and is a non-profit, tax-exempt, 501(c) 3 organization. The 2023-24 concert season is made possible in part by grants from the Durham Arts Council's Annual Arts Fund and the North Carolina Arts Council.

**Dr. Mark Elliot Bergman**, bassist and composer, is the Director of Strings and Orchestral Studies at Sheridan College and the double bass studio instructor at the University of Wyoming. He teaches double bass, electric bass, cello, viola da gamba, composition, songwriting and music history. As an ensemble leader, Mark directs the Sheridan College Symphony Orchestra, the Sheridan College Viol Consort, and the professional early music ensemble Wyoming Baroque. He is also the Assistant Principal Double Bassist of the Billings Symphony Orchestra. During the summer, Mark performs with Assisi Performing Arts in Assisi, Italy, and the Peter Britt Festival Orchestra in Jacksonville, Oregon. Mark has an active background as an orchestral double bassist. He is the former Principal Double Bassist of the New Haven Symphony Orchestra and the Mato Grosso Chamber Orchestra in Cuiabá, Brazil. He formerly served as a Professor of Music History and Ensemble Director at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia.

With Wyoming Baroque, Mark released three CDs, two featuring his original compositions for historically informed performers. Mark published two books about popular music pedagogy and authored multiple articles selected for publication with the peer-reviewed Online Journal of Bass Research. In 2022, the International Society of Bassists awarded him their Grand Prize in Research for his article about e-portfolio learning. Mark received the 2018 Performing Arts Fellowship from the Wyoming Arts Council to recognize his work as a composer and performer. He earned his doctorate from George Mason University in 2015. He also holds degrees from Yale University, the Eastman School of Music, and the Manhattan School of Music.

A preview of the music with the film *The Golem: How He Came into the World* may be found on Mark Bergman's website, <https://www.markebergman.com/composer>