Press release

Mythic Dramas By Judith Shatin

Sunday April 12, 2009 7PM Libby Gardner Hall, University of Utah
Wednesday April 15, 2009 7.30PM Fine Arts Center, Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, CO
Tuesday April 21, 2009 7PM Roshong Hall, Ft. Lewis College, Durango CO

Join the **Borup/Ernst** Violin/Piano Duo, known for their "interpretative warmth" and "searing concentration" in a musical exploration of acclaimed composer **Judith Shatin**'s mythic dramas.

The two featured Shatin compositions offer dramatic journeys inspired by mythic topics: Icarus and the Greek gods of the winds. The composer notes that the myth of Icarus seemed an apt metaphor for the creative process: the attempt to transcend, and the riskiness of the endeavor. The story of the escape of Daedalus, noted for his wonderful sculptures, together with his son Icarus is a compelling one that has inspired many artists to attempt their own interpretive flights. *Tower of the Eight Winds*, named for the Tower of the Winds, still standing below the Acropolis in the ancient Roman agora in Athens, soars windward, reflecting the gods of the winds depicted in friezes at the octagonal tower's top.It also plays with elements of time suggested by the ancient waterclock, as well as the sundials and hour pointers on its octagonal walls.

Judith Shatin (www.judithshatin.com) is a composer whose music "…pulls one in with artistic embrace." (The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette). She is William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor and Director of the Virginia Center for Computer Music, which she founded at the University of Virginia. She is an intrepid sonic explorer whose music spans chamber, choral, dance, electroacoustic, installation, multimedia and orchestral genres. Her music has been featured at festivals including the Aspen, BAM Next Wave, Grand Teton, Havana in Spring, Moscow Autumn, Soundways and West Cork. Orchestras that have performed her music include the Denver, Houston, Illinois, Knoxville, Minnesota, National and Richmond Symphonies. Shatin's music has been widely recorded. It has been commissioned by groups including the Ash Lawn Opera, Barlow Foundation, Core Ensemble, Kronos Quartet, Library of Congress, Music-at-LaGesse Foundation and the National Symphony. The Washington Post wrote: "*Of Thursday's two world premieres and Friday's two D.C. ones, Judith Shatin's Tower of the Eight Winds [] stood out for its acuity and engaging vivacity as music one would like to hear again."*

Violinist **Hasse Borup** is Artist Teacher of violin at University of Utah and previously served on the faculty of University of Virginia and George Washington University. He was a founding member of the award-winning Coolidge String Quartet, heard by audiences in America, Europe, Central America and Asia. Pianist **Mary Kathleen Ernst** served on the faculties of the University of Virginia and Shepherd University. She holds Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from the Juilliard School. She released *Two by Three* (North-South Consonance) featuring works by women composers and a live recording of Beethoven Concerto No. 4 with the Charlottesville Symphony. Visit hasseborup.com or marykathleenernst.com for additional information. The Strad wrote about the duo's debut recording, *American Fantasies* (Centaur Records) *"...a compelling whole, made all the more gripping here by Borup and Ernst's interpretive empathy and watertight ensemble."*

The works by Judith Shatin are framed by W.A. Mozart's Sonata K.454 and C. Franck's Sonata in D Minor. For more information about these events, please call 801 587 9375 or visit hasseborup.com