

## ONE OR TWO SHORT MUSICAL REFLECTIONS

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*A new connection:* Irina Muresanu is excited by her new job as violinist with the Boston Trio. She makes her official debut with pianist Heng-Jin Park Ellsworth and cellist Allison Eldredge at the Rockport Chamber Music Festival on June 14.

"We make each other play better, sound better, and this is something very rare," she says. "It happens to me when I play with the pianist David Deveau; it's a miracle, but every time with him I can play 10 times better! And it's the same with the other women in the trio: We connect on a musical and personal level."

Muresanu came to the United States from her native Romania in 1994 and arrived in Boston two years later. "I had three hours between my artist diploma audition at the New England Conservatory and my interview, so I went for a walk, and when I arrived in Copley Square, I knew I belonged here," she says.

Muresanu performs internationally but has become a regular presence in local concerts. Her next local solo gig is the Tchaikovsky Concert with the Boston Pops on the Esplanade on July 12. Next season she will play with the Boston Classical Orchestra and the New England String Ensemble, among others.

The violinist was showing New York to family members from Romania last week when we were preparing a tribute to her teacher, the French violinist Michele Auclair (who is retiring from the New England Conservatory), so she missed our call. But she wanted to pay her own tribute to Auclair. "She has the rare gift of seeing in her students their own qualities and then bringing them out," Muresanu says. "She can customize her advice, depending on what she sees in somebody's personality, musical gifts, and technical abilities ... and talking to her is like reading a wonderful history book; she has so many insights into music and into the great musicians she has known."

At Rockport, the Boston Trio will play music by Beethoven, Smetana, and Leon Kirchner. "I worried at first that it might be hard to get the attention of the audience beyond the fact that we look a little like Charlie's Angels, which we do in a funny way - one blonde, one brunette, one dark-haired," Muresanu says. "But we are already beyond that."

