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| About the Artists and the Music  **The Bergmann Piano Duo's** dynamic and energetic performances of uniquely eclectic programs have inspired audiences for more than two decades. Their recitals and concerts with orchestra have taken them to many parts of the world, including Italy, Germany, Holland, and Greece as well as to Canada and the United States. Recordings by The Bergmann Duo include William Bolcom's complete works for 2 pianos for Naxos and of Stravinsky's Les Noces for Koch International Classics  Nominated for Three Awards from the 2011 Midtown International Theatre Festival, actor **Charles Murray** has an extensive theatre resume including performances at Carnegie Hall, in films, on television, in videos and stages around the world. Charles made his Broadway debut in Michael Bennetts original company of Dreamgirls in 1981; he was also on Broadway in Honky Tonk Nights. He recently finished a year starring in the Off Broadway Comedy LMAO and is currently performing with the R&B/Jazz Quartette Lathans Way.  Composer **Ray Luedeke**, born in New York City, has an output that runs the gamut from entertaining theater pieces for children, through a long list of sophisticated solo, chamber, and orchestral music. Recordings of his music include *Shadow Music* with the Louisville Orchestra and *The Transparency of Time* with pianist Andre LaPlante and the Winnipeg Symphony. In the summer of 2007, in Toronto, Ray and wife Dulce started a new music theater company, **Voice Afire Pocket Opera and Cabaret**. In the summer of 2010 they moved to NYC.  The eclectic life of videographer and photographer **Ronald Hurwitz** has spanned the artistic disciplines of both music and photography. His second home after more than twenty years of regular visits, Paris continues to be the focal point of his photographic oeuvre. He is represented there by Jane Roberts Fine Arts – Paris, The visuals for ***The Art of Love*** were shot almost entirely in Paris.  **The Art of Love / Into the Labyrinth**  2500 years ago, on the island of Crete, there was said to have been a Labyrinth: an underground maze of caves so complex and confusing that once in it there was no escape. What's more, at the center of the Labyrinth there was a monster, a man-eating creature, half bull and half man - the Minotaur. The actor in *Into the Labyrinth* assumes a variety of roles and recounts the story in nine versions, each time from a different point of view. The text is adapted from the works of Ovid, the Roman poet, who lived from 43 B.C. to 17 A.D. It includes sections from ***Metamorphosis***, from ***Ibis,*** from the***Tristia*,** and from ***The Art of Love*,** a work banned for the last 2000 years. | Merkin Concert Hall at the Kaufman Center  Monday, 9 Jan. 2012, 8 PM  **Voice Afire Pocket Opera and Cabaret**  presents  **The Art of Love / Into the Labyrinth**  With The Bergmann Piano Duo and  Charles Murray, actor  György Ligeti……….**Monument from 3 Pieces**  (1921-2006)  William Bolcom…………**The Serpent’s Kiss**  Marcel Bergmann……………**Double Spiral**  Intermission  Ray Luedeke…………………..**The Art of Love /**  **Into the Labyrinth**  Mixed media for 2 pianos, actor, and visuals  Videography by Ronald Hurwitz  Text adapted from the works of Ovid (43 B.C. – 17 A.D.) by Ray Luedeke |