



\*\*\*\*\*PRESS RELEASE\*\*\*\*\*

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Nikola Radan  
Artistic Director, BalMUS  
617.633.4935 nikola@balmus.com

Heidi A. Hendricks  
Director of Communications, Pandemos Music Initiative (PMI)  
617.439.8912 communications@balmus.com

## NO FLAGS, JUST MUSIC

The Very Best of BalMUS  
Music of Radan and Tkachenko

**Location:**

Saturday, May 6, 2006  
8:00 P.M.  
Pickman Concert Hall at the Longy School of Music  
27 Garden Street Cambridge, MA 02138  
\*Pickman Concert Hall is accessible to persons with disabilities\*

**Admission:**

\$15 general/ \$12 for students and seniors  
[www.balmus.com](http://www.balmus.com) | 617.439.8912

**Tickets:**

Available at the door or by advance reservation: 617.439.8912

**Additional Press Information:**

Press Images and MP3 sound clips: <http://www.balmus.com>

**Players:**

Nikola Radan – flute  
Cristi Catt – soprano  
Daniela Tosic – mezzo-soprano  
Katy Gillian – violin  
Javier Caballero – cello  
Jane Wang – bass  
Igor Tkachenko – piano  
Taki Masuko – percussion  
David Patterson – guitar  
Charles Odwara – human beat-box

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**Boston, MA:** The Pandemos Music Initiative, a recently established non-profit organization with a mission to support “new music for all people,” announces their spring presentation of *BalMUS*’s performance of *No Flags, Just Music* on **May 6, 2006 at 8 p.m.** in **Pickman Concert Hall** at the Longy School of Music in **Cambridge, Massachusetts.**

Comprised of musicians from around the globe, *BalMUS* creates “new world” music; their unique sound fuses ‘traditional’ and ‘contemporary’ aspects of converging world cultures and musical styles to speak to a long forgotten part of our humanity.

The ensemble’s signature program, *No Flags, Just Music*, features arrangements of new music born from Balkan, Byzantine, and Middle Eastern traditions by composers Nikola Radan and Igor Tkachenko. Performances of these works throughout the first four years of *BalMUS*’s existence have consistently mesmerized audiences with their imaginative instrumentation, hauntingly beautiful vocals, and indefinable musical character. *No Flags, Just Music* has been hailed as “miraculously new, yet authentically old,” (Professor Tomas Butler, Harvard University) and reminds us that regardless of our origins, we all belong to the same tribe.

### **About BalmUS**

Since its establishment, **BalmUS** has found itself on the cutting-edge of contemporary music and continues to draw its inspiration from the wealth of the world's traditions and evolving cultures.

Frustrated by the trappings of classical music, Serbian flautist Nikola Radan developed his own style of playing and composition, inspired by music as varied as that of Balkan gypsies, the ancient Byzantine and Jimi Hendrix. In 2002, Mr. Radan assembled a group of Boston-based musicians from around the world (Japan, Russia, Puerto Rico, Kansas---to begin the list) with equally eclectic musical sensibilities and influences (Ginger Baker, western Romantic and Classical music, free jazz, medieval cantigas, klezmer---just to name a few) to explore creating collaborative compositions with improvisational trimmings from their myriad of cultural and musical perspectives.

For more information on **BalmUS**, its members and samples of their music, please visit: [www.balmus.com](http://www.balmus.com)

### **New World, New Music for All People: Pandemos Music Initiative**

Two opposing forces -- one of separation, isolationism and clashes of civilizations; the other, a drive towards 'sameness,' where all things are viewed through the one lens and cultural backgrounds are seen as something to be overcome-- seem to dominate our world today. The Pandemos Music Initiative was founded to support **BalmUS** in its championing of a third force; offering a new perspective outside the frame of gray globalization and cultural separatism, where the tales and tones of far-away (and not-so-far-away) cultures are woven into an intricate tapestry of sound, whole spectrum of color, banquet of taste and full range of emotion to celebrate the multiplicity and commonality of humanity. PMI is committed to the concept that music is truly the common tongue of all people.