

Gotham Early Music Scene (GEMS) presents



Thursday May 30, 2024 1:15 pm  
St Malachy's Church – The Actors' Chapel in New York City  
Live Streamed to [midtownconcerts.org](http://midtownconcerts.org) and [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/)

## The Berwick Fiddle Consort *Money in Both Pockets*

*Lydia Becker, Julia Connor & Sarah Douglass ~ violins*

### Strathspeys & Reels

Duke of Fife ~ Miss Ann MacNamara ~ Dusky Meadow ~  
Sandy Cameron ~ St. Kilda's Wedding ~ Trip to Windsor

Cape Breton, Canada

### Slip Jigs

Philip McCue ~ The Rakes of Westmeath

Ireland

### The Bush aboon Traquair

Sonata No. 2: Bush aboon Traquair

Neil Gow (1727–1807)

Francesco Geminiani (1687–1762)

### Hornpipes

Downfall of the Ginn  
Rondeau from *Abdelazar*  
Cobbler's Hornpipe ~ Rowling Hornpipe

England

Henry Purcell (1659–1695)

### Slow Set

Slaunt Ri Pluilil ~ Limbrick's Lament ~ Captain Higgins

Ireland

Continued over

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Gotham Early Music Scene, 340 Riverside Drive, Suite 1A, New York, NY 10025 (212) 866-0468  
Robby Meese, Midtown Concerts Manager Kevin Devine, Midtown Concerts Assistant Manager

Toby Tadman-Little, Program Editor Paul Arents, House Manager Christina Britton Conroy, Announcer and Make-up Artist  
Live stream video crew: Gene Murrow, Murat Eyuboglu, Dennis Cembalo  
Naomi Morse, Director of Marketing John Thiessen, Executive Director



[www.gemsny.org](http://www.gemsny.org)

## Continued

### Reels

East Clare, Ireland

**Tie the Ribbons ~ The Hunter's Purse ~ Money in Both Pockets**

### Slip Jigs

Donégál, Ireland

**Humours of Whiskey**

**Spring from *The Four Seasons***

Antonio Vivaldi (1678–1741)

**Gift from the Fairies ~ Spring ~ Humours of Whiskey**

## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Combining historical folk music from Cape Breton, Scotland, and Ireland, 18th-Century settings of traditional Scottish tunes, and well-known Baroque pieces, this lively, wide-ranging program explores the deep connections between aural folk traditions and the Baroque canon. Audiences are encouraged to tap their feet to the music, and cheer after tune changes.

## ABOUT THE ENSEMBLE AND ARTISTS

Founded in 2018 by Lydia Becker, Julia Connor, and Sarah Douglass, **The Berwick Fiddle Consort** (BFC) performs historical folk music on period instruments. Approaching fiddle tunes from a multi-faceted perspective that combines baroque violin technique, aural folk traditions, and study of historical manuscripts, BFC offers an exciting counterpoint to the traditional canon of historical repertoire and the classical music experience.

**Lydia Becker** is an innovative violinist who is passionate about building a vibrant audience relationship through historical performance practices, sincerity, and artistic diversity. Her quest for authenticity in all areas of life has forged her eclectic career path. Born near Bordeaux, France, Lydia Becker studied violin at the Conservatoire de Bordeaux Jacques Thibaud where she earned awards in violin, music analysis, and music theory/aural skills. Lydia is a founding member of multiple ensembles, including La Forza delle Stelle. Lydia performs internationally in festivals and concerts with renowned artists, including Cynthia Roberts, Paul O'Dette, and Maxim Vengerov and in the US with Pegasus Rising, NYS Baroque Young Artists, Tafelmusik Winter Institute, and The Juilliard School at the Piccola Accademia (Phyllis and Charles Rosenthal Fellow), among others.

**Julia Connor** developed a love of folk music in 6th grade when she joined the Celtic Band of Flaming Destruction at school. She has since developed a wide-ranging musical voice, performing everything from baroque music on period instruments to fiddle music from Ireland to new works by living composers. In addition to her work with BFC, Julia is a founding member of violin and piano duo Room to Spare, which composes and performs original groove based new music. She has studied the East Clare Irish Music tradition in County Clare, Ireland and in the US. Julia performs regularly on Baroque violin, modern violin, and fiddle in the Boston area and has been featured on the Society for Historically Informed Performance (SoHIP) summer concert series (Boston), Kings Chapel Concert series (Boston), the Music by Women Festival (MS), and ClareFM radio (Ireland). Julia has been an artist in residence at PLAYA (Summer Lake, OR) and Avaloch Farm (Boscawen, NH).

**Sarah Douglass** is a versatile Baroque violinist who has charmed audiences in North America and Europe in both her fields of Baroque music and traditional fiddling. In November 2021, she and her duo partner Shelby Yamin released their debut album as the premiere recording of the violin duets by Maddalena Sirmen Lombardini. Respected for her dedication, fiery energy and attention to detail, Sarah serves as Co-Artistic Director of Chamber Muse Historical Music Society and performs with Rosa Barocca in Calgary and Arion Baroque Orchestra in Montreal. She is also a founding member of the Berwick Fiddle Consort: [sobleile@espi.ca](mailto:sobleile@espi.ca).

**Next Week: Relic**  
*At the Temple of Juno*