

MIDTOWN CONCERTS

FALL 2020



**EVERY
THURSDAY
AT 1:15 PM**

**September 3, 2020 –
June 24, 2021**

Until audiences can return to our superb, intimate venue in the Chapel at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church on Park Avenue in New York City, enjoy our concerts online via Facebook and YouTube. As conditions allow, we all will return to the Chapel, conforming to any applicable regulations for masks, sanitization, and social distancing.

We look forward to seeing you online and/or in person, and having you join our loyal audiences on Thursday afternoon.

CLICK HERE

*for the latest updates
on artists & locations.*



GOTHAM EARLY MUSIC SCENE

presents

MIDTOWN CONCERTS

Welcome to the largest and most diverse series of free chamber music concerts in the nation, comprising weekly performances by over 40 different professional ensembles & artists.

Our 23rd season begins with all-new recorded performances as well as live concerts that are streamed to you as they happen! View them all on both Facebook or YouTube channels. Then join us for post-concert chats with the artists via Zoom.

Our specialty is early music.

Early Music is the beautiful and uplifting music of the period from the Middle Ages through the 18th century. The series includes seasoned artists with international reputations earned over decades, as well as recent graduates of the most prestigious conservatories.

Enjoy a wide range of instrumental and vocal ensembles, virtuoso soloists, narrators, and dancers. Hear instruments you won't find in the usual concert hall, including theorbo, cornetto, sackbut, clavisimbalum, piston horn, and recorder, as well as harpsichord, viola da gamba, baroque strings and winds. Repertoire includes contemplative medieval chant, sonorous Renaissance consorts and dances, dazzling baroque sonatas, lively songs, and more.

Click below to join us online!



MIDTOWNCONCERTS



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When allowed later in the season: Chapel at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church,
Park Avenue at 50th Street, New York City



SEPT 3 WALKER/PATTON DUO

Peter Walker, *musette de cour*, voice
Christa Patton, *baroque harp*, flute

l'Isle Enchantée

Our program explores the pastoral repertoire published for the *musette de cour* during the century or so when it was fashionable, including solo suites with continuo, duets with another treble instrument (here a flute), and songs sung while playing the musette, as well as solo works for the baroque harp.



Evan Few, *violin*
Elena Smith, *viola da gamba*
John Walthausen, *harpischord*

Harmony of Nations

Celebrating the free-flowing exchange of musical ideas among seekers and sages as well as the distinctive, newly inflected voices developed through the merger of seemingly disparate national styles. Highlights of the program will include Georg Muffat's iconic violin sonata, chamber sonatas by Rosenmüller and Krieger, and music of the visionary Élisabeth Jacquet de la Guerre.



FILAMENT SEPT 17

SEPT 10 ARNIE TANIMOTO & FRIENDS

Arnie Tanimoto, *viola da gamba*
Gwendolyn Toth, *harpsichord*
Adam Cockerham, *theorbo*

Suite D'Un Goût Etranger

Join us for an afternoon of strange and foreign music, as seen through the eyes and ears of 18th-century France: Marin Marais' monumental collection of virtuosic character pieces from his fourth book of *pièces de viole*.



Joseph Jones, *baroque bassoon*
Ana Kim, *baroque cello*
Caitlyn Koester, *harpsichord*

Naturally Expressed in Music: the pioneering musical style of J.E. Galliard

Virtuoso oboist Johann Ernst Galliard was one among many talented young artists who emigrated to London in the first decades of the 18th century. We explore his lyric and danceable style through his bassoon sonatas, written at the height of his success as a composer of wildly popular pantomimes.

JOSEPH JONES & FRIENDS SEPT 24



OCT 1 JEFFERSON CARRIAGE



Leah Gale Nelson, *baroque violin*
Dongsok Shin, *harpsichord*

From a Leather-Bound Volume

Music from Thomas Jefferson's library, offering a glimpse of entertainments enjoyed at home and at public concerts in Colonial America. From Vivaldi to Boccherini, selections from Jefferson's personally bound volume together with other favorites Mr. Jefferson enjoyed with his family—his wife, his daughters, granddaughters, and sons.

Richard Kolb, *lute*

The 10-course lute: Music of Robert Ballard and Michelangelo Galilei

Robert Ballard (c.1572–c.1650) was the most famous French lutenist of the early 17th century, and an important pioneer in the development of French Baroque musical style. Ballard's Italian contemporary Michelangelo Galilei (c.1575–c.1640) spent much of his career at the musically cosmopolitan courts of Poland and Bavaria. While he was heavily influenced by French lute style, his music retains much of the intensity and rhythmic drive favored by Italian lutenists.

RICHARD KOLB OCT 15



OCT 8 BURNING RIVER BAROQUE



Malina Rauschenfels, *voice*
Paula Maust, *harpsichord*



A Mad, Burning Desire

The right for women to legally appear on the English theater stage converged with early modern society's fascination with mental illness. Mad songs consequently became quite popular, and singing them catapulted English soprano-actresses to fame as they portrayed characters who violently descended into lovesick madness on the Restoration stage.

Edson Scheid, *violin*
Isabelle Seula Lee, *violin*
Balint Karosi, *harpsichord/organ*
Ana Kim, *cello*

Sanguineus und Melancholius

The title represents the two extreme psychological states from ancient Greek medical theory: Sanguineus und Melancholius. We explore the Trio Sonata genre that vividly displays both melancholic and fiery constitutions, with works from Isabella Leonarda, Georg Friederich Handel, Elizabeth-Claude Jacquet de la Guerre, and C.P.E. Bach.

SCHEID, LEE, KAROSI & KIM OCT 22



OCT 29 BACH ENSEMBLE IN NEW YORK



Mili Chang, *flute*
Robert Warner, *harpsichord*
Isabelle Seula Lee, *violin*
Ana Kim, *cello*

*Music of the Spheres:
Concert at Sanssouci*

Music of the early Enlightenment and the late Baroque as heard at the palace of Frederick the Great. He was surrounded by many artists and musicians, and the musical events at Sanssouci were a mix of stylish works from the flutist Quantz, J.S. Bach, and C.P.E. Bach.

Kevin Devine, *harpsichord*

*Historia: Tales at
the Harpsichord*

Susannah and the Elders, Pygmalion, The Kuruc Rebellion, Jacob's wedding. The birth of programmatic instrumental music during the early modern era resulted in some incredibly engaging and enigmatic harpsichord repertoire. Enjoy music from the 16th–18th centuries that will uncover riveting stories from the past.

KEVIN DEVINE NOV 12



NOV 5 SARAH JANE KENNER & FRIENDS



Sarah Jane Kenner, *violin*
Adam Cockerham, *theorbo*
Jeffrey Grossman, *harpsichord*
Matt Zucker, *cello*

The Pandolfi Project

Save for a few details surrounding his employment and likely involvement in a murder, very little is known about the life of Giovanni Antonio Pandolfi Mealli. He left behind a very meager catalog; his twelve violin sonatas, about half of his total surviving output, are unique, inventive, and often bizarre in nature, offering a rare glimpse into Pandolfi's eccentric world and personality.

André Laurent O'Neil, *baroque cello*

*Gabrielli and Bach:
The Scordatura
Connection*

A common cello tuning C-G-d-g in late 17th-century Bologna used by Domenico Gabrielli had become an exotic tuning by the time Bach employed it, once only, in his C minor Suite. This program contrasts two approaches to the cello as a solo instrument, just 1000 km and 30 years apart.

ANDRÉ LAURENT O'NEIL NOV 19



DEC 3 REBECCA PECHEFSKY



Rebecca Pechesky, *harpsichord*

Antonio Soler: Sonatas from the Pierpont Morgan Library

The Pierpont Morgan Library recently acquired a manuscript (Cary Ms. 703) that includes several newly discovered sonatas by the great Spanish keyboard composer Antonio Soler. This program will include six sonatas from Cary Ms. 703, as well as two from another manuscript also held by the Morgan Library. Two of the sonatas, R. 184 & 185, have not been recorded to date and will likely be New York premieres.

DEC 10 QUARTET SALONNIÈRE



Majka Demcak, *violin/viola*
Aniela Eddy, *violin/viola*
Natalie Kress, *violin/viola*
Cullen O'Neil, *cello*

Shadows of Haydn

This program will explore the development of the string quartet by composers from different national backgrounds: Franz Joseph Haydn from Vienna, Maddalena Sirmen from the Venice *Ospedale*, and Joseph Boulogne from upper-class Paris.

Jude Ziliak, *violin*
Elizabeth Weinfeld, *viola da gamba*
Elliot Figg, *harpsichord*

Sonate guerrierri ed amoroso

More than a century before Liszt's and Berlioz's names became synonymous with programmatic music, Giuseppe Tartini's instrumental evocation of Tasso and Virgil was so powerful that he himself was reported to go into a mystical trance while playing. Trio Coprario will present some of the earliest and most transporting program music ever written.

John Mark Rozendaal, *viola da gamba*
Adam Young, *viola da gamba*

Fugitive Fantasies, Fantastic Fugue

Last year's program drew a dazzling array of colors, textures, tonalities, and affects from two bass viols in the works of three composer/performers of the 17th century. This season the duo ups the ante, offering Martin Davids' masterful transcription of J.S. Bach's Fugue in C Major from the Sonata III for solo violin. The piece is J.S. Bach's longest fugue, one of his most exciting, challenging, and beloved works.

TRIO COPRARIO DEC 17



ROZENDAAL AND YOUNG DEC 31



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G•E•M•S

GOTHAM EARLY MUSIC SCENE

Deemed “essential” by Anthony Tommasini, lead classical music critic for *The New York Times*, Gotham Early Music Scene was founded in 2007 as a 501(c)(3) non-profit service organization to support and promote early music in New York. We pursue our mission with a wide range of marketing, logistics, and administrative services for emerging ensembles as well as seasoned veterans; collaboration with major cultural institutions; booking of New York ensembles for prestigious concert engagements throughout North America; production of dozens of concerts in the City; publication of a semi-monthly newsletter; maintenance of a website covering all our activities; and regular feeds on social media.

Photos by: Peter Walker, Jiyang Chen, Kate Overton, Rebecca Reed, Julie Lemberger, Tom Hughey, Harry Summerfield, Jonathan Slade, Christopher Schulz, Stefan Momirov, Brent Cline, and Paul Ross. Design by Sean Keepers.

