Gotham Early Music Scene (GEMS) presents

MIDTOWN CONCERTS

Thursday, September 17, 2026 at 1:15 pm

St Malachy's Church – The Actors' Chapel in New York City
Live Streamed to http://www.youtube.com/c/MidtownConcerts

Dan McCarthy, historical violas
Violas! A Rose by any other Name

Dan McCarthy, viola d'amore, tenor viola, and viola & Nicola Canzano, harpsichord

Sonata No. 4 from *Recueil de pièces* — Attilio Ariosti (1666–1729)
Pozato ~ Andante ~ Corrente ~ Air en Rondeau

Sonata in G Major, BWV 1027 — Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)
Adagio ~ Allegro ma non tanto ~ Andante ~ Allegro Moderato

Passacaglia from *The Mystery Sonatas* — Heinrich Ignaz Franz von Biber (1644–1704)

Midtown Concerts are produced by Gotham Early Music Scene, Inc., and are made possible with support from St. Malachy's Church–The Actors' Chapel, The New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature; the Howard Gilman Foundation; and by generous donations from audience members.

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ABOUT THE PROGRAM

There are many "Violas" in the Baroque era. Yet sadly for a host of reasons they are not often played and the true variety of the era is not represented. Music for tenor violas is mistakenly played on smaller altos and inferior muted violins play music meant for the viola d'amore. Today's concert will illustrate what historical performance can be!

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Multi-instrumentalist **Dan McCarthy** is sought after as an expert and performer on a number of instruments that are conspicuously absent from the field of early music in the United States. Recent and upcoming performances on viola d'amore include concerts with the Washington Bach Consort, Clarion Music Society, and The Bach Choir of Bethlehem. ARTEK, Bach Vespers, Yale Institute of Sacred Music, and Washington Bach Consort have featured him on both tenor viola and tenor violin. Dan was a part of the first class of Baroque violists ever to be accepted into the Historical Performance program at The Juilliard School.

Nicola Canzano is a composer, harpsichordist, and organist specializing in historical composition and improvisation. His compositions in Baroque style have been widely performed. He teaches improvisation at Juilliard in the Historical Performance division, and was formerly adjunct professor of harpsichord at Michigan State University. He also teaches improvisation and composition privately in New York City where he resides, and maintains a schedule as a continuo player with ensembles throughout the United States and Europe — most recently joining the Musicians of the Old Post Road based in Boston.

Next Week, September 24, 2026 at 1:15 pm ~ Euterpe Quartet
The Art of the Quintet

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