LA FOLLIA AUSTIN BAROQUE

presents



Collage Photo by Stephanie Noori

Herd of Harpsichords New Wine in Old Bottles

20th and 21st century music featuring harpsichords with Anton Nel and Liz Cass

Friday, September 15, 2023 at 7:30 PM Saturday, September 16, 2023 at 3 PM

Redeemer Presbyterian Church 2111 Alexander Ave, Austin, TX







PROGRAM

Selections from Mikrokosmos (1940)

Béla Bartók (1881-1945)

122 Akkorde (Molto Vivace)

098 Hommage a J.S.B. (Calmo)

142 From the Diary of a Fly

139 Merry Andrew

Anton Nel, harpsichord

Songs for Ariel (1962)

Michael Tippett (1905-1998)

Come Unto These Yellow Sands

Full Fathom Five

As the Bee Sucks, There Suck I

Liz Cass, mezzo soprano

Sonata da camera (1952)

Ilja Hurník (1922-2013)

Allegretto

Quasi marcia funebre

Allegretto innocente

Prestissimo

Concertino for Harpsichord and Strings (1934)

Walter Leigh (1905-1942)

Allegro

Andante

Allegro vivace

Anton Nel, harpsichord

INTERVAL

PROGRAM

Phyllis Fugue (1937)

Phyllis Diller (1917-2012)

Keith Womer, harpsichord

Láska (2008)

Chris Lastovicka

Ian Davidson, oboe d'amore, and Anton Nel, Harpsichord

Beatles Songs (1967)

John Lennon and Paul McCartney arranged by Luciano Berio (1925-2003)

Michelle I

Ticket to Ride

Yesterday

Michelle II

Liz Cass, mezzo soprano

Concerto for Harpsichord and Strings (2016)

Roberto Di Marino (b. 1956)

Moderato

Largo-Adagio

Allegro

Keith Womer, harpsichord

PERFORMING



Winner of the 1987 Naumburg International Piano Competition at Carnegie Hall, **Anton Nel** continues to tour internationally as recitalist, concerto soloist, chamber musician and teacher. Highlights in the U.S. include performances with the Cleveland Orchestra, and the Chicago, San Francisco, Dallas, Seattle, and Detroit Symphonies as well as coast to coast recitals. Overseas he has appeared at the Wigmore Hall in London, the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, Suntory Hall in Tokyo, and major concert halls in China, Korea and South Africa. He holds the Joe R. and Teresa Lozano Long Endowed Chair at the University

of Texas at Austin where he heads the Division of Keyboard Studies. He is also a Visiting Professor at the Manhattan School of Music and teaches annual masterclasses at the Glenn Gould School in Toronto. During the summers he is on the artist-faculties of the Aspen Music Festival and School, the Steans Institute at the Ravinia Festival as well as the Orford Music Academy in Quebec. Mr. Nel also frequently performs as harpsichordist and fortepianist. His teachers include Adolph Hallis at the University of the Witwatersrand and Bela Siki and Frank Weinstock at the University of Cincinnati. More information at antonnel.com.



Keith Womer, winner of the Austin Critics Table Award for classical instrumentalist in 2015-2016, has been director of La Follia since 2004. He studied organ with Raymond Ocock of Westminster College and harpsichord with Will Volcker in Houston, Texas. He was named "Artist of the Year" by Keyboard Arts, Inc. and twice won the National Federation of Music Clubs award. He has performed as soloist with the Chautauqua Symphony and the Victoria Symphony, as well as with Conspirare, the Victoria Bach Festival Orchestra, and Texas Early Music Project. He is currently organist at University Presbyterian Church in Austin.

PERFORMING



Liz Cass, mezzo soprano, is a producer, educator, arts leader, and active operatic performer based in Austin, Texas. She is the founder and executive producer of the award-winning opera company LOLA (Local Opera Local Artists), and executive director of the Armstrong Community Music School. A passionate advocate for the arts, Liz is president of the Seagle Festival Alumni Association, secretary of Austin Classical Guitar and a member of the community advisory board of KMFA 89.5, Austin's classical music radio station.

Equally at home in opera and beyond, Liz's tour de force performance as Dinah LeFarge was nominated for the 2021-22 B. Iden Payne Outstanding Lead

Performance award, while Lardo Weeping was nominated for an additional twelve awards. Also in 2022, Liz premiered Donald Grantham's song cycle Love Songs Sweet and Sour, with pianist Carla McElhaney.



Oboist Ian Davidson has appeared as soloist and chamber musician on six continents as part of forty-nine international concert tours. He is Principal Oboe of the Austin Opera Orchestra and English Horn and Associate Principal Oboe of the Austin Symphony Orchestra. In the summer Ian serves as Principal Oboe at the Victoria Bach Festival, Blue Lake Festival, and Solo English Horn of the Bear Valley Music Festival. Other engagements include stints as Principal Oboe of the Dallas Bach Orchestra, Lyric

Opera of Dallas and the Austin Sinfonietta as well as Assistant Principal Oboe of the Santa Fe Opera Orchestra, Principal Oboe of the Dallas Chamber Orchestra, and Principal Oboe of the Texas Bach Festival. In addition, Ian has appeared as Guest Principal Oboe with the San Antonio Philharmonic, Dallas Opera Orchestra and Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra. Ian teaches at Texas State University, where he holds the dual ranks of Regents' Professor and University Distinguished Professor.

THE HERD ORCHESTRA



Elise Winters, violin, concertmaster, has performed with the Austin Symphony and Austin Lyric Opera for 25 years and been featured as a soloist with organizations including Salon Concerts, Victoria Bach Festival, Austin Chamber Music Center, and Chamber Soloists of Austin. She has served on the faculty at the Austin Chamber Music Center for 18 years. She is the author of *Kaleidoscopes for Violin* (discoverviolin.org), which synthesizes two dec-

ades of research and development into a comprehensive and illustrated violin method based upon Montessori and Suzuki principles and designed for young beginners.

Bruce Colson, violin, winner of the Austin Critics Table 2017 award for Best Classical Instrumentalist, holds a degree in music from the University of Texas. He is a member of the Austin Opera orchestra and the Victoria Symphony Orchestra.

Dr. Amy Harris, violin, maintains an elite private violin studio in the Austin area working with students age 3 and up. Dr. Harris was conferred her Doctor of Violin Performance at the Butler School of Music at the University of Texas at Austin, Butler School of Music. Dr. Harris maintains memberships with the Suzuki Institute of the Americas, Pi Kappa Lambda honorary music fraternity, and the Delta Omicron music fraternity.

Bruce Williams, viola, is Austin Symphony principal **violist**, Artisan Quartet founder, Allegro Chamber Trio member, Mason Chamber Music Festival Artistic Director, and Chamber Music Director for the Texas Bach Festival. He's a past Austin Critics Table Instrumentalist of the year and part of several Harmonia Mundi recordings with Conspirare

Martha Carapetyan, viola, has been playing viola since the age of 12. She has performed as a member of the Austin Symphony Orchestra and is an avid chamber musician, playing in every genre and instrumental combination that includes a viola. In addition to her performing career, Martha loves teaching. Her fascination with how the brain works has led her down many paths in search of answers to the question of how to connect through music, no matter the level of the player.

Eric Taeyang Mun, cello, performs throughout the US as a soloist, chamber musician, and conductor. In addition to serving as Artistic Director of the American Baroque Opera Co., Eric has collaborated with ensembles including the Dallas Bach Society, Orchestra of New Spain, Ars Lyrica Houston, Ensemble VIII, Dallas Chamber Players, Bach Society of Houston, New York's Concert Royal, and Texas Camerata. Eric performs on a rare cello made in 1751 by Leonhardt Maussiell in Nuremberg, Germany.

David Dawson, bass, winner of a Grammy® Award, currently teaches bass, music theory and humanities at Texas State University. A former member of the professional orchestras of San Antonio and Ft. Worth, he is Principal Bassist for Austin Opera.

THE HERD ORCHESTRA

Marcus McGuff, flute, holds degrees in flute performance from the Eastman School of Music and Indiana University, as well as a Doctor of Musical Arts in flute from the University of Michigan. In addition, he holds degrees in mathematics from the University of Rochester. He has taught flute at Austin Community College and at Concordia University. Currently, he is Professor of Mathematics at Austin Community College and teaches flute privately. He has studied Baroque flute with Wilbert Hazelzet, Michael Lynn, and Jed Wentz and modern flute with Bonita Boyd.

Nuria Canales, flute, piccolo, started her flute studies at the age of 9 in Madrid, where she obtained her Diploma and the Special Final Award in 2011. She completed her B.Mus. studies in 2015 at Musikene (Basque Country), graduating with and in 2017 she obtained an M.Mus. in flute at the Conservatorium van Amsterdam. Nuria has been playing the baroque flute since 2013, studying with Jed Wentz at the Conservatorium van Amsterdam. Nuria made her debut as a soloist at the early age of 10, and she played again as a soloist in the RSMM (Madrid's High School of Music). In 2013 she was the prize winner of the Soloists Contest MUSIKENE.

Stephen Girko is principal **clarinetist** with the Austin Symphony. He has also served as principal clarinetist with the San Antonio, Dallas, and Houston Symphony orchestras. He made his debut appearance with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra by performing the Clarinet Concerto of Aaron Copland, with the composer conducting. Since then Mr. Girko has appeared as soloist performing the concertos of Mozart, Nielsen, & Weber, as well as the Introduction, Theme & Variations of Rossini & the Premiere Rhapsodie of Debussy.

Patrick Hughes, horn, is the horn professor at the University of Texas at Austin where he heads the Brass Wind and Percussion division and conducts the award-winning UT Horn Choir. He previously taught horn and theory at the University of New Mexico, where he played principal horn with the Santa Fe Symphony and Santa Fe Pro Musica Chamber Orchestra.

Bob Cannon, trumpet, is Principal Trumpet with the Austin Symphony, Austin Opera Orchestra and performs with the Pinnacle Brass of Austin. He teaches trumpet at Texas State University in San Marcos, Texas. Bob has also performed with the San Antonio Symphony, Conspirare, Chorus Austin, the Louisville Orchestra, the Mid-Texas Symphony, the Laredo Philharmonic, and Summer Stock. Bob received degrees from the University of Texas at Austin (D.M.A.), the University of Southern Mississippi (M.M.) and the University of Louisville (B.M. and B.M.Ed.),.

Kim Vitray, percussion, holds a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of South Carolina and a Master of Music degree from the University of Texas. She is currently Director of Music at University Presbyterian Church. She also serves as President of the Board of Directors of community chorus Inversion Ensemble.

THE HERD OF HARPSICHORDS



1977 Dowd French

Double-manual harpsichord by William Dowd of Boston in 1977. It is built in the French tradition, modeled after a 1733 harpsichord by Blanchet similar to one in Francois Couperin's possession. It features the rich sound characteristic of French harpsichords. The soundboard painting is in the French style by Sheridan Germann, who is perhaps the greatest instrument decorator in modern times.

1981 Tkach Flemish Dulcken

Double manual harpsichord built for Mr. Womer by the late Peter Tkach of Webster Grove, MS. It is a copy of the famous 1745 Dulcken instrument at the Smithsonian, with a rich, powerful sound suitable for large spaces. The soundboard is decorated in the Flemish tradition by Andrea Tkach, with birds and insects indigenous to Oklahoma.



THE HERD COMPOSERS



Béla Bartók



Sir Michael Tippett



Ilja Hurník



Walter Leigh



Phyllis Diller



Chris Lastovicka



John Lennon



Luciano Berio





Roberto Di Marino

UPCOMING EARLY MUSIC

Texas Early Music Project London City Limits: Town & Country

This repertoire for voices, viols, and lutes creates an extremely colorful account of life in London at the end of the 16th century. This is music from the streets, the theater, the Tudor courts, and the cathedrals.

Saturday, Oct. 7, 7:30pm Arts on Alexander, on the campus of

Sunday, Oct. 8, 3:00pm Redeemer Presbyterian Church, 2111 Alexander, Austin

Ensemble viii Echos of Heaven –Music of 16th Century Rome

For nearly 1,000 years, Rome was the largest and most politically significant city in the Western world. As the seat of the Bishop of Rome, better known as The Pope, here the finest music, art and architecture were cultivated in the region, leaving for us a treasure trove of vast riches still to be experienced today. While legends have been refuted regarding the myth that the Roman Catholic church nearly eliminated choral polyphony during the Counter-Reformation had it not been for Palestrina's Pope Marcellus Mass and its carefully set text, there is little doubt that the "Palestrina style" was and is the ultimate expression of this genre. Ensemble VIII opens our season with a signature "renaissance splendor" experience as we explore the music of Palestrina, Victoria, and others who sought to capture a glimpse of heaven through music.

Friday, October 13, 7:30pm St. Louis Catholic Church Chapel 7601 Burnet Rd., Austin

Arts on Alexander Vox Luminis: Bach Cantatas

Early Music Ensemble from Belgium. Lionel Meunier, artistic director

Friday, Oct. 27, 7:30pm Redeemer Presbyterian Church, 2111 Alexander, Austin

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for music and the arts in East Austin

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