



Luna Nova Music

*Taking the Long View*

Monday, December 6, 2021, 7:30 p.m.

Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Memphis, Tennessee

# Welcome

Every arts organization in the country has been having to deal with the changes brought about by the Covid epidemic. We have had to cancel events, change venues, learn how to livestream and how to hold Zoom rehearsals. Everyone's life has been disrupted at least to some degree. Some organizations have been forced out of business. Even as we had begun to think that the worst was over other threats seem to be arising that will have to be dealt with.

During the beginning of the pandemic I watched a *Great Courses* documentary on the history of the bubonic plague. I was struck by how similar outbreaks go back to the 6<sup>th</sup> century and beyond. That made me wonder how artists had dealt with similar situations in the past. I thought it would be meaningful to organize a Luna Nova concert featuring works that were created in the midst of other historic plagues and unexpected disasters. Such a concert would be a reminder that artists over the ages have overcome similar and much worse circumstances than ours, and have even done it with some amount of humor and good will.

Looking over tonight's program we see English composer John Dowland who survived three outbreaks of plague in London in 1603, 1606, and 1609. Solare's piece *Shakespeare's Winks* remind us that there were outbreaks of plague in Shakespeare's time that forced playhouses to be closed and performances cancelled. There were 30,000 deaths in London during the outbreak around 1606. Yet it was during this period that he wrote *Hamlet*, *King Lear*, *Antony and Cleopatra* and more. Our program also includes arrangements of works by 14<sup>th</sup> century composers Guillaume de Machaut, Jacopo da Bologna, and Francesco Landini. They survived the Black Death of 1348 that killed over 25 million people in Europe. Their compositions here are not about death or mourning, but about welcoming the springtime and about falling in love and looking to the future.

Tonight's program is designed to make us smile and to remind us that artists through the ages have been able to put things in perspective and take the long view. We hope to profit from their example.

Patricia Gray  
President

## ***PROGRAM***

### **Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella (17<sup>th</sup> c.)**

arr. Keith Chapman  
(1945-1989)

Patrick Scott, organ

### **Fantasia No. 1**

John Dowland  
(1563-1626)

Benjamin Minden-Birkenmaier, guitar

### **Shakespeare's Winks (2013)**

Juan Maria Solare  
(b. 1953)

- I. Puck's Pranks
- II. Cesario's Trap
- III. Mercutio's Puns

Kelly Herrmann, piccolo

### **Division on a Ground in G major**

Thomas Baltzar  
(1639-1663)

Daniel Gilbert, violin

### **Ars Nova Duets (14<sup>th</sup> c.)**

arr. Ken Singleton

- I. "Ecco la primavera" (Francesco Landini)
- II. "Riches d'amour" (Guillaume de Machaut)
- III. "Fenice fu" (Jacopo da Bologna)

Susanna Whitney, bassoon • Robert Patterson, horn

### **Renaissance Suite (14<sup>th</sup> c.)**

arr. Ronald Roseman

- I. Donna, di dentro dalla tuo casa (Heinrich Isaac)
- II. J'ay pris amours (Heinrich Isaac)
- III. Il est bel et bon (Pierre Passereau)
- IV. Ricercar bello – Canzon sopra "Il est bel et bon" (Girolamo Cavazzoni)
- V. In meinem Sinn (Heinrich Isaac)

Kelly Herrmann, flute • Nobuko Igarashi, clarinet • Michelle Vigneau, oboe  
Susanna Whitney, bassoon • Robert Patterson, horn

Reception to follow in Trezevant Hall

## Special thanks to

Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal Church  
Faithful Donors to Luna Nova Music

Plan ahead for the spring!

Check [www.lunanova.org](http://www.lunanova.org) for 2022 concert dates

15<sup>th</sup> Belvedere Chamber Music Festival  
[www.belvederfestival.org](http://www.belvederfestival.org)  
June 15-18, 2022

We are grateful for your support!

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