

Concerts
Conducted
#84

THE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC PRESENTS

ucd early music ensemble
david nutter, director

*franco-flemish music
from the high renaissance*

*josquin desprez: missa pange lingua
music by pierre de la rue
and jacob obrecht*

8:00 p.m. saturday, 17 may 1997
st. martin's episcopal church
640 hawthorn lane, davis
suggested donation \$5.00

accommodations for patrons with disabilities are available.

UCDAVIS

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The Department of Music
presents

Early Music Ensemble

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David Nutter, director

Saturday, 17 May 1997
St. Martin's Episcopal Church
8:00 p.m.

Early Music Ensemble

David Nutter, director
with
Concerto Bassano

PROGRAM

Miss Pange lingua
Kyrie
Gloria
Credo
Sanctus
Agnus Dei

Josquin Desprez
(c. 1450–1521)

—INTERMISSION—

Salve Regina

Josquin

Pavana del povero soldato

Moritz, Landgrave of Hesse

Almaine

Anthony Holborne

Il premiato

Anon. Italian

Beatus es Maria

Jacob Obrecht
(c. 1450–1505)

Laudes Christo

Jacob Obrecht

Fantasia on *Innsbruck ich muss dich lassen*

Paul Lütkeman

Almaine

Holborne

Canzona

Claudio Merulo

Gaude virgo mater

Pierre de la Rue
(c. 1460–1518)

Concerto Bassano

Kristine Holmes cornetto
Jonathan Harris, cornetto
Richard Hessel, alto sackbut
Lyn Elder, tenor sackbut
David Hogan Smith, bass sackbut

The Early Music Ensemble

Soprano

Valerie Brons
Margaret Grayden
Carole Hom
Jocelyn Olander
Cecilia Seufert

Alto

Jacki Amos
Rebecca McKenna
Emmett Rahl
Suzanne Elder Wallace
Kathleen Whalen

Tenor

John Westbrook Ostrom
Frazier Stevenson
Jeremy Wright

Bass

Charlie Monson
Neil Willits

Texts and Translations

SALVE REGINA

Salve Regina
Mater misericordiae:
vita dulcedo, et spes nostra, salve.
Ad te clamamus, exsules, filii Eveae.
Ad te suspiramus, gementes, et flentes
in hac lacrimarum valle.
Eia ergo, advocata nostra,
illos tuos misericordes oculos ad nos converte.
Et Jesum, benedictum fructum ventris tui,
nobis post hoc exilium ostende.
O clemens, O pia, O dulcis Virgo semper
Maria.

Hail, O Queen,
Mother of mercy:
our life, sweetness and hope, hail.
To thee we cry, exiles, sons of Eve.
To thee we sigh, mourning and weeping
in this vale of tears.
O you, our advocate,
turn on us your merciful eyes.
And after this our exile, show
unto us Jesus, the blessed fruit of your womb.
O merciful, O pious, O ever sweet Virgin
Mary.

BEATUS ES MARIA

Beatus es Maria,
Virgo clemens et pia,
Candore vincis lilia.
Es rosa sine spina,
Sanctorum melodia.
Kyrie eleyson.
Christe eleyson.
O Christe audi nos.
Sancta Maria, ora pro nobis ad Dominum.

Blessed art thou, Mary,
Merciful and piteous virgin,
In whiteness thou surpassest the lilies.
Thou art a rose without thorn,
and melody of the saints.
Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, hearken unto us.
Holy Mary, pray for us unto the Lord.

Ave Maria, gratia plena,
Dominus tecum, virgo serena.
Benedicta tu in mulieribus,
et benedictus fructus ventri tui, Jesus.
Sancta Maria, ora pro nobis peccatoribus.
O Christe audi nos.

Hail Mary, full of grace,
The Lord is with thee, serene maiden.
Blessed art thou among women,
And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, pray for us sinners.
O Christ, hearken unto us.

LAUDES CHRISTO

Laudes Christo redemptori voce modulemur
supplici: omnes in hac die rerum natura
iubilans personet immensas filio Dei gratias.
In ara crucis hostiam se pro nobis Christus
obtulit Deo patri, morte sua nostra
mortificans crimina. Alleluia.

Hec est dies que illuxit post turbida Ethiopum
tempora, Christus in qua resurrexit ultra
victurus cum carne quam assumpsit de Maria
virgine. Qui ovem cum gaudio patri quam
perdiderat humero revexit suo. Ergo die ista
exsultemus in qua nobis viam vite resurgens
patefecit Jesus. Astra, solum, mare
iocundentur et cuncti gratulentur in celis
spiritales chori. Alleluia.

GAUDE VIRGO MATER

Gaude virgo mater Christi, tu qui sola
meruisti, O virgo dulcissima, esse tante
dignitatis ut sis sancte trinitatis sessione
proxima. Gaude flore virginali que honore
speciali transcendis splendiferum; Et
sanctorum decoratum angelorum principatum
dignitate muneratum. Gaude nexus voluntatis,
et amplexu caritatis, juncta sic altissimo, ut ad
votum consequaris, quod vis totum ac
precaris ab illo. Gaude splendens vas
virtutum, cuius pendens est ad nutum, tota
celi curia, te benignam et felicem, Jesu
dignam genetricem venerans in gloria. Gaude
sponsa cara Dei, nam ut clara lux diei solis
datur lumine, sic tu facis orbem vere, tue
pacis resplendere lucis plenitudine. Gaude
mater miserorum, quia pater seculorum, dabit
te coalentibus, congruentem hic mercedem, et
felicem polisedem, regnis in celestibus.
Gaude parens virgo pura, certa manens et
secura, quod hec tua gaudia. Non cessabunt,
nec decrescent, se durabunt ac florescent per
eterna secula. Amen.

Let us sing praises unto Christ the redeemer
with suppliant voice; let all nature this day
shout for joy and raing with boundless thanks
unto the son of God. On the altar of the cross
Christ offered himself as a victim unto God
his father, by his death mortifying our sins.
Alleluia.

This is the day that dawned after the troubled
times of the Ethiopians, on which Christ rose
to live hereafter with the flesh that he took
upon him from the virgin Mary; he that with
rejoicing bore on his shoulder back unto his
father the sheep that he had lost. Therefore let
us exult upon this day in which Jesus rising
again laid wide unto us the path of life. Let
stars, earth, and sea be joyful, and let all the
choirs of spirits in the heavens give thanks.
Alleluia.

Rejoice, virgin Mother of Christ, you who
alone have deserved, O sweetest virgin to be
so worthy that you are next to the holy seat of
the Trinity. Rejoice, maidenly flower, who
with special honor, you transcend radiance;
and the preeminent beauty of the sacred
angels has been worthily bestowed. Rejoice
in the binding of will and the embrace of
love, joined thus most highly, so that you
proceed toward the vow you wish and pray
him to fulfill. Rejoice, shining vessel of
virtue, whose selection was commanded by
all the council of heaven, you, kind and
happy, worthy bearer of Jesus, worshipping in
glory. Rejoice, dear bride of God, for as the
clear light of day is given by the light of the
sun, so you make the world shine by the
fullness of your serenity and light. Rejoice,
Mother of mercy, because the Father of the
world will give you to the reverent worshipers,
a suitable reward here and a joyous
bright resting place in the kingdom of heaven.
Rejoice, pure virgin Mother, dependable,
enduring and secure, because these are your
joys. They will not cease, nor decrease, but
will endure and blossom forever. Amen.

Masterful performance by UC Davis Early Music Ensemble

◆ Enthralled audience captivated by diverse program of 15th and 16th-century music

By MARILYN MANTAY
Enterprise music critic

When the UC Davis Early Music Ensemble ended the concert with the phrase, "will endure and blossom forever," the singers could very well — as far as an enthralled audience was concerned — have meant their music.

The words refer to the joys of the Holy Mother, but Renaissance music has a quality — time as cyclic, rather than linear — that evokes eternity. It has a beauty that one could enjoy, not merely at St. Martin's Church last Saturday evening, but for much longer.

Director David Nutter invited (from the Bay Area) the Concerto Bassano, to enhance by secular and instrumental (but related) pieces, the Ensemble's vocal works. It turned out to be a most satisfying combination.

The vocal works, by Josquin Desprez, Jacob Obrecht and Pierre de La Rue, were Franco-Flemish and Netherlandish ecclesiastical masterworks of the 15th century. The seven instrumental works — for cornetto and sackbut — were lively secular pieces with a wider geographical range, from the English composers Thomas Weelkes and Anthony Holborne, to the Italian

Claudio Merulo: all of them 16th century.

The physical arrangement of the instruments — cornetti of Kristine Holmes and Jonathan Harris framing the sackbuts of Richard Hessel, Lyn Elder and David Hogan Smith — as in Holborne's "Almaine," allowed each sackbut to be heard, and was an effective way to connect the cornetti as a duet.

The 15-member Early Music Ensemble opened the concert with Josquin's "Missa Pange lingua," in which the singers quickly established themselves as a smooth, balanced group. Cecilia Seufert, with her light soprano, was heard first, but after that the melismatic, measured music was sung by sections or by the whole.

One heard an occasional short solo by alto Suzanne Elder Wallace, tenor Jeremy Wright, bass Neil Willits or soprano Carole Hom, but this was not a concert for soloists. The important effects — the joyful rise of the Hosanna, and the complex harmonies of the Agnus Dei — were group efforts.

In singing Josquin's "Salve Regina," the Ensemble demonstrated a wonderful clarity in the face of the work's complex canon, repetitive structure. Obrecht's "Beatus es Maria" seemed, in contrast, to move ever forward. The duets of parts — bass and soprano — and the alto lead on the last lines were striking.

Obrecht's "Laudes Christo" was

MUSIC REVIEW

EARLY MUSIC ENSEMBLE

inspired, the opening canon executed with an insistent symmetry. The rising pitch, the crescendos and decrescendos in the second part, and the changes in texture as voices entered and later became silent, were executed beautifully. Although there were solo parts by individual sections, the voices overall seemed entwined.

The last piece, La Rue's "Gaude virgo mater," was notable for the clean and audible separation of sections, and for their duets.

Members of the Early Music Ensemble, in addition to those already noted, are: Valerie Brons, Margaret Grayden, Jocelyn Olander, Jacki Amos, Rebecca McKenna, Kathleen Whalen, Emmett Rahl, John Ostrom, Frazier Stevenson and Charlie Monson.

Upcoming UC Davis music and drama events include:

Alfred de Musset's "Don't Fool with Love" opens Friday, at the Main Theater, and plays May 24, 29, 30 and 31, at 8 p.m., and May 25 and June 1, at 2 p.m.

On Wednesday, May 28, at 8 p.m., the UCD Jazz Band, Michael McMullen, director, and the UCD Sound and Poetry Source and "Liquid Pentatone Project", John Tchicai, director, perform at the Varsity Theater, 616 2nd St., Davis.