

A Spaced-Out Concert
by
the Renaissance
Street Singers

*Sacred Music from
the Golden Age
of Polyphony*

2:30 pm Sunday September 20, 2020
Central Park Bridle Path
Near West 67th Street

Today's Concert

The comment for each piece is a partial summary of the text.

Intonuit de celo Andreas de Silva (Spanish? c.1478-c.1530)

From Psalms. The Lord thundered from heaven and fountains appeared. Alleluia. His right hand exalted me. Alleluia. He made this day: We rejoice in it. Alleluia.

Ecce panis angelorum Antoine Bruhier (French; d. after 1521)

For Corpus Christi. The bread of angels. What you don't understand, faith confirms beyond natural order. Good shepherd Jesus, make us see goodness of the earth.

Lauda Jerusalem Dominum Maistre Jhan (French in Italy; c.1485-1538)

From Psalm 147. Praise the Lord, Jerusalem. He has strengthened your gates, blessed your sons, made peace in your borders. He sends snow and ice; who could stand the cold? He sends his word and it melts, wind blows, water flows. He gave his word to Jacob and Israel. He did not do as much for any nation. Alleluia.

Tota pulchra es Orlando de Lasso (Franco-Flemish; c.1532-1594)

.From the Song of Songs. You are all fair, my love. Honeycomb, fragrant oils. Winter and rain are over, flowers appear. Come from Lebanon, you shall be crowned.

Te matrem Dei laudamus Jean Lhéritier (French; c.1480-c.1552)

We praise you, Mother of God. All entities of Heaven proclaim you holy. Prophets foretold your bearing of God. Martyrs and Confessors hail you. The chorus of holy virgins boasts of your virginity and humility. O loving one, have mercy on us.

Angelus ad pastores Costanzo Festa (Italian; c.1488-1545)

The angel proclaimed to the shepherds: Born is the savior of the world. The shepherds hastened to Bethlehem and found Mary, Joseph and the baby, and worshipped him, saying the Word is made flesh by the Virgin Mary. Alleluia.

Intermission

Nunc dimittis Costanzo Festa

From Luke 2, the words of Simeon. Now you let your servant depart in peace, for I have seen your salvation, prepared for all peoples. A light to Gentiles and glory to Israel. Glory to Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Christum ducem Josquin des Prez (French; c.1452-1521)

Christ the guide we praise. Your death, O Jesus, is our redemption. May spit, whips, lashings purify Christ's gifts. May we lament your wounds and rejoice, O creator of the stars. Fill us with the gifts of your suffering, and grant us joys. Amen.

Magnus es, Domine Josquin des Prez

You are great, O Lord, glorious offspring of God, consolation to those grieving, unique reward of celestial citizens. You are refuge, medicine, hope, strength, and the way. To you alone I flee, my salvation. Help, lest my spirit falls asleep in death.

Elisabeth Zachariae Jean de la Fage (French; fl.1518-30)

From Luke 1. Elizabeth, Zachariah's wife, bore the great John the Baptist, sent by God as the forerunner of the Lord. Holy John, pray for us. There is none greater than Jphn. He will drink no wine, and many will rejoice. Holy John, pray for us.

Congratulamini mihi Costanzo Festa

Rejoice with me, for while I wept at the tomb, I saw the Lord. Alleluia. An angel of the Lord came down and rolled away the stone, and said: Fear not, the Lord has risen, he is not here. Come and see the place where they laid him. Alleluia.

Thank you for listening!

**See more about the Renaissance Street Singers
on the next page.**

Polyphonic Sacred Music

In polyphony (meaning “many sounds”), the dominant form of religious music in Europe during the Renaissance, each voice (soprano, alto, etc.) sings an interesting melodic line, with rhythmic complexity, and the voices intertwine to make a complex weaving of sound. The composers, writing with serious intent, put their best efforts into the music. The result is beautiful music that transcends the religious beliefs from which it springs.

The Renaissance Street Singers

The Renaissance Street Singers, founded in 1973 by John Hetland, perform polyphonic late 15th- to early 17th-century sacred music *a cappella* on the sidewalks and in the public spaces of New York. The motivation is a love for this music and the wish to share it. Concerts are two or three Sundays a month, usually from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m., always free.

For more information
and a performance schedule, visit

www.StreetSingers.org