

University of Washington  
THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC

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5-21

*presents*



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**MEDIEVAL MUSIC FROM  
SCANDINAVIA AND  
THE NETHERLANDS**

*performed by*

**THE COLLEGIUM MUSICUM  
Margriet Tindemans, *director***

DAT. / CASS  
12,394 / 12,395

8:00 PM, May 20 and 21, 1994  
Brechemin Auditorium

DAF  
102 Nobilis, humilis ..... (3'26) ..... Hymn to St. Magnus, Earl of Orkney  
(Scottish, 12th century)

St. Magnus was Earl of Orkney, one of the islands off Scotland, which in the Middle Ages belonged to Scandinavia. This hymn uses the very typical parallel thirds, widely used in English polyphony, but believed to have originated in Scandinavia and brought to the British Isles by the Vikings.

103 Lullaby (instrumental)..... Traditional Norwegian  
Lita Karin ..... Traditional Norwegian  
Deirdre Forman

Mith hierthæ brendher heth som boll..... Song to the blessed Virgin Mary  
(Danish, 15th century)

The melodies from the Lullaby were also used for songs in honor of St. Olaf, King of Norway. He spent his youth as a pirate before he was baptized. Belief in him spread rapidly after his death, and a chapel was built for him which became the Cathedral of Trondheim.

Lita Karin is based on the legend of St. Katherina, who served in the king's palace. She was as beautiful as starlight, and the king's eye fell upon her. This song, which is a dialogue between the king and St. Katherina was known throughout Scandinavia. This is a Norwegian variant.

The text of the last song, a 15th-century Danish hymn, is a mixture of Danish and Latin, which was not uncommon for religious songs in Northern Europe.

"My heart glows in holy flames just as it should to praise Maria. Were my tongue but made of steel, and had I only wit enough then would I in rhymes and verses intone her praises forever..."

CASS  
H 11

104 King Erik's Ballad (instrumental)..... Hymns to St. Canute  
Gaudet mater ecclesia  
Caterva nostra laudibus  
Martyr egregie Deo dilectie  
Primo proscriptos patria

St. Canute was a nephew of King Canute who reigned over England. He became King of Denmark in 1081. He aided the clergy and built many churches. He was forced to abandon his preparations for the invasion of England, and he was murdered in Odense. Reportedly, numerous miracles occurred at his tomb. King Erik was another Danish king who was killed.

105 Dream Ballad ..... (11'22) ..... (Scandinavian, 13th century)  
Anna Vinten-Johansen, Richard Hill

two-part round. Gaudete is a Christmas carol with a four-part refrain. The other pieces are performed instrumentally.

CASS SIDE A  
INTERMISSION  
SIDE B

108 Et te lux oritur o dulcis Scotia..... (5'15) ..... Wedding song

In 1281 Margaret of Scotland arrived in Norway to be married to King Erik Magnusson. The wedding took place in the Cathedral of Bergen, where Margaret was crowned Queen of Norway. It is likely that this song was performed during the wedding banquet, which was held in the large stone hall of the royal castle of Bergen. Et te lux oritur is the oldest piece of Norwegian secular music to survive in manuscript.

109 Comment suige de vostre coeur ..... Kopenhagen Chansonnier  
Garrison scay contre le mal d'amer..... Kopenhagen Chansonnier  
Tart ara mon coeur..... Molinet, Kopenhagen Chansonnier  
(15th century)

The Kopenhagen Chansonnier is the oldest polyphonic manuscript in the Royal Kopenhagen Library. It contains Franco-Burgundian chansons and was probably acquired by a Danish statesman in the 17th century.

1010 Tsinghen van den nachtegale ..... Utrecht and Leiden fragments  
Lara Asplund (Dutch, early 15th century)

Or t'am va (instrumental)

The Leiden and Utrecht chansonniers, both only fragmentarily preserved, are important in that they contain the earliest songs in Dutch. However, the influence of the French Ars Nova is strongly felt, both in the notation and the style of the pieces. Tsinghen van den nachtegale is a parody on a famous French bird song: Par maintes foyes. It starts as a courtly love song: *I can not enjoy the singing of the nightingale nor any other bird's song, because of her who has wronged me. I am forever in her service, yet the only thing she says is: "Bring me some hot mussels! There is nothing I like better than hot mussels!"*

1011 Nordan fro Throndheim..... Norwegian and Dutch traditional ballads  
Ebbe Skammelsen  
Villemann og Magnhild  
Venelite og bergjekongen (instrumental)  
Fanteguten

Anna Vinten-Johansen, Richard Hill

The "Dream Ballad" is a visionary poem from the pre-reformation period. It is found in the Telemark region of Norway. It tells the story of Olav Asteson who falls asleep on Christmas eve and awakes at Epiphany to tell about his dreams, wherein he visited Heaven and Hell. Different melodies are used with this long epic poem, one each for the different stages of his journey. It is said that "everyone" can sing some of it, but "nobody" should sing all of it. We have combined the song with instrumental versions of some of the numerous melodies associated with the Dream Ballad.

The ballad is divided into five sections: the introduction, journey through hell and death, glimpse of heaven, the Day of Judgment, and the epilogue.

*Will you listen to me? I will tell you of the brave Olave Asteson, who slept so long. On Christmas Eve, when he was resting he started to dream and did not wake up till Epiphany. It was Olav Asteson who slept so long, so long...*

*I have been up in the clouds and down in the shadowy ditches, I have seen all of hell, and I have seen a glimpse of heaven's riches. I came to Gjallar Bridge, which hangs so high in the wind, over hollows of flame and over hills of spikes and nails. Gjallar Bridge is gruesome, hard it is to cross, bitches bite you, serpents and bulls stand there. For the moon shines, and the road is so long...*

*Then I came to the Milky Way, where there was blue ice. God himself guided me. I saw Eden, better than any land, and my god-mother, red gold in her hand. I came to the Milky Way, and paradise was shining over the wide land. For the moon shines, and the road is so long...*

*From the North a troupe came riding, led by Grutte Graybeard in a fury of sound and pace. From the South a troupe came leisurely, led by Holy Michael with his trumpet in his hand. In the clouds judgment will be given. All poor souls trembling as a leaf in the wind; all the poor souls were crying for their sins. Lord of Souls, Saint Michael, help the sinners' souls. In the clouds of Heaven Judgment will be given...*

*Happy is he who on this earth gives the poor man shoes, he need never go barefoot on rough hellish moors. The tongue speaks and Truth answers on Judgment Day. All people, old and young, pay attention: It is Olav Asteson who has come to tell of his dreams.*

The last set on tonight's program consists of traditional Norwegian and Danish ballads, many of which date back to the Middle Ages. Fanteguten and Villemann were taught by Eli Storbekken and Agnes Buen Garnas.

*North of Trondheim a stream flows; there is a linden tree, and a house where my sweetheart sits and burns candles...*

*Skammel lives North of Thy and has five sons; two of them, Ebbe and Peder, are even more wanton than he is. While Ebbe goes to serve his King, at home Peder seduces Ebbe's love. Ebbe returns just in time to call off the wedding, but much blood flows in the process.*

*Villemann is the Norwegian Orpheus, who sings and plays his harp to retrieve the maiden Magnill from the arms of the troll.*

*Fanteguten, a vagabond, comes to a farm where he sees a beautiful maiden combing her hair. He tells her that he is the son of the King of England and that he has saddles, horses and gold for her. When they reach the forest she realizes he has none...*

#### COLLEGIUM MUSICUM

Margriet Tindemans, director, vielle, recorders

#### VOICES

Lara Asplund

Soo Jung Bang

Deborah Batista

Darlene Franz

Richard Hill

Rebecca Littman

Danielle Pacha

Mariliz Romano

Anna Vinten-Johansen

#### RECORDERS

Nathan Bramall

Deirdre Forman

George Forman

Sally Weeks

#### LUTES

Christine Eisen

Stephen Morris

#### REBEC

Byron Au Yong

Brian Gray

#### VIOL

Kim Zabelle

Many thanks to Anna Vinten-Johansen and John Gibbs for their invaluable help with the preparation of this program; Anne Orbok Jensen of the Musikhistorisk Museum, Carl Claudius Samling in Kopenhagen for his generous assistance in assembling and sending some of the music; and to Sven Rossel and Peter Vinten-Johansen for their help with pronunciation.

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Tempus adest floridum ..... Piaæ Cantiones  
Salve flos et decor ..... 1582  
Ad cantus lætitiæ  
Jesu dulcis memoria  
In vernalis temporis  
Gaudete, gaudete

Rebecca Littman, Richard Hill

The Piaæ Cantiones, a collection of church and school songs, were first printed in 1582 by the Finnish student Theodoricus Petri Rutha. Many of the songs originated in the Middle Ages. Most are one-part songs; the few more part songs use a very simple and often rather archaic homophonic style. The collection was widely used throughout Scandinavia. The melodies of many of our popular Christmas carols are found in the Piaæ Cantiones.

Tempus adest floridum and In vernalis temporis celebrate the arrival of spring after a long harsh winter. Ad cantus lætitiæ is a Christmas hymn in the form of a

**UPCOMING 1993-94 CONCERTS:**

*To request disability accommodations, contact the Office of the ADA Coordinator at least ten days in advance of the event. 543-6450 (voice); 543-6452 (TDD); 685-3885 (FAX); access@u.washington.edu (E-mail).*

May 22, UW Opera: THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO. 3 PM, Meany Theater.

May 23, Jazz Studies Concert Series. 8 PM, Brechemin Auditorium.

May 24, University Singers. 8 PM, Meany Theater.

May 24, ProConArt. 8 PM, Brechemin Auditorium.

May 25, Wind Ensemble. 8 PM, Meany Theater.

May 26, Madrigal Singers. 8 PM, Meany Theater.

May 31, Voice Division Recital. 7 PM, Brechemin Auditorium.

June 1, Studio Jazz Ensemble. 8 PM, Meany Theater.

June 2, University Chorale. 8 PM, Meany Theater.

June 5, Faculty Recital: Soni Ventorum, Quintet Members as Soloists. 3 PM, Brechemin Auditorium.

June 6, Percussion Ensemble. 8 PM, Meany Studio Theater.

June 8, Opera Workshop. 8 PM Meany Studio Theater. CANCELLED

June 9, Keyboard Debut Series. 8 PM, Brechemin Auditorium.