11-8-2002

A Concert of Early Music

Chapman Early Music Choir

Sung Man Lee  
Chapman University

John Paul Putney  
Chapman University

Yoon Cho  
Chapman University

Bill Sovich  
Chapman University

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CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY
School of Music
Presents
A Concert of Early Music
8:00 PM November 8, 2002
Chapman University Chapel
Sicut Cervus Desiderat

Motet
By
Giovanni da Palestrina

Performed By:
Early Music Choir

Emma Schneider, Conductor

Giovanni da Palestrina (c.1525-1594), whose name was derived from his possible birth place, was one of the primary composers of the late 16th century. His style was even used as a model by later generations of composers. His musical language embodies the climax of musical achievement of the era, most of all, perhaps, in his mastery of earlier polyphonic techniques. Palestrina's career was largely centered in Rome, at the basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore, the Cappella Giulia at St. Peter's, and at St. John Lateran. He is best known for his sacred mass and motet compositions.

Program Notes by Rebecca Kurbelsk

O Occhi Manza Mia
O eyes of my beloved

Madrigal
By
Orlando di Lasso

Performed By:
Early Music Choir

Emma Schneider, Conductor

Orlando di Lasso (1532-1594) is one of the greatest composers of the late Renaissance. He was a Franco-Flemish composer who worked in Naples, Rome, and Munich. Lasso wrote over 2,000 compositions during his lifetime, including polyphonic masses and madrigals. "O Occhi Manza Mia" is an example of one of his four-voice madrigals with a largely homophonic texture.

Program Notes by Mary Woods

Organum in the style of Leonin

This is the Day

Performed By:
Sung Man Lee
John Paul Putney

Born roughly circa 1150, Leonin is regarded as one of the most important figures of early polyphony. During his lifetime, he served as a canon in the Notre Dame Cathedral. Leonin is believed to have died in the year 1201, leaving behind a large body of important musical and poetic treatises. Organum is the first known genre of polyphonic music. It is the addition of one voice to a pre-existing Gregorian chant melody. It developed primarily in the 12th and 13th centuries at the Cathedral of Notre Dame. This piece has sections of organum purum with the original chant melody in very slow notes, and the added voice above the chant in faster note values. It also includes sections of Gregorian chant and sections of discant organum, where the two voices move together rhythmically.

Program Notes by Jason Wise

Danse Royale

Ductia Dance
By
Anonymous 13th Century Composer

Performed By:
Yoon Cho, flute
Bill Sovich, harpsichord

This is a Ductia dance form from the 13th century. In Ductia dances, the dancer follows a strong beat in the music, improvising a dance. The form of the piece includes repeated sections, the first ending in an open cadence and the repetition in a closed cadence. The form can be written out as: A A' B B' C C'.

Program Notes by Mary Woods
Flow My Tears

By
John Dowland

Performed By:
Carly Shepard, voice
Bill Sovich, harpsichord

John Dowland (1562-1626) was an English composer and a talented lute player. Born in London and educated at Oxford, he was appointed lutenist to the English court in 1612. He left about 80 works for solo lute and some 80 lute-accompanyment songs. He is known for his sensitive melodies and text settings, as well as arranging the music on the page so that one performer could both sing and play the lute accompaniment. "Flow My Tears" is performed here with harpsichord accompaniment.

Program Notes by Mary Woods

If My Complaints Could Passions Move

By
John Dowland

Performed By:
Stephanie Denman, voice
Sean Heim, guitar
Shaun Naidoo, tenor recorder

"If My Complaints Could Passions Move" is one of John Dowland’s most popular songs. (See Notes for "Flow My Tears.") It is performed here with guitar and tenor recorder accompaniment.

Program Notes by Mary Woods

Veni Redempter

By
John Redford

Performed By:
Kelly Park

John Redford was an English composer of the 16th century. The first record of his compositions is on June 20, 1534. He is one of the earliest English composers whose organ music has survived, for most keyboard pieces were improvised. His organ pieces usually substituted for sung plainsong in Latin services. Redford died on November 29, 1547.

Program Notes by Sara Embrey

Basse Danse "La Volunte"
Pavane d'Angleterre

By
Claude Gervaise

Performed By:
Clara Choi

Claude Gervaise lived from circa 1540-1560, although his exact birth and death dates are unknown. He was a French composer, editor, and arranger known mostly for his instrumental dance music. The Basse Dance and Pavane were typical dances of the Renaissance period. A Basse Dance is a family of dances, some duple and some triple, whose music was often improvised over a tenor cantus firmus. A Pavane is a slow, stately dance in duple meter, often followed by a Galliard.

Program Notes by Sara Embrey
Ave Verum Corpus
Motet
By
William Byrd
Performed By:
Early Music Choir
Jaclyn Normandie, conductor

William Byrd (c. 1543-1623) was one of England’s most gifted and respected composers of the late Renaissance. Justly called “a father of music” even during his lifetime, he had that rare ability to see the future without being rejected by his own time. It is thought that he may have studied with Thomas Tallis, and then was appointed as the organist of Lincoln Cathedral in 1563, when he was nineteen years old. He is said to have been “promoted” to the sought-after post of “Gentleman of Her Maiesties Chappell,” to be co-organist with Tallis, in 1569 (at the age of twenty-five). His music for the “virginalls” (which referred to the group of instruments including the harpsichord, the spinet, and the virginal) was very popular, but it is his vocal music in particular that stands supreme amongst all written during that time due to its being, in his own words, “framed to the life of the words.”

Fa Una Canzone
Madrigal
By
Orazio Vecchi
Performed By:
Early Music Choir
Jaclyn Normandie, conductor

Orazio Vecchi (1550-1605) began his professional career in 1596 when he became choirmaster at the cathedral of Reggio Emilia. In 1596 he took over the choir of the Modena cathedral, and two years later was put in charge of music at the Este court. Though he wrote many genres, Vecchi is best known for his canzonets and madrigals. These pieces usually consisted of airy melodies and dance-like rhythms.