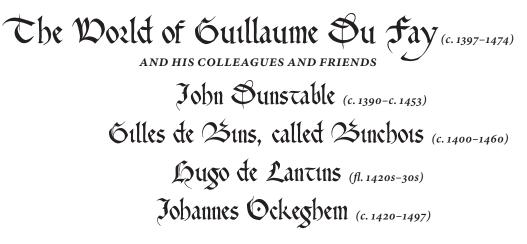
The World of



Oullaume Su Fay



SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 2006, AT 3 P.M. First Church in Cambridge, Congregational



BLUE HERON

Noël Bisson Lydia Heather Knutson Carol Schlaikjer Pamela Dellal Allen Combs Martin Near Jason McStoots Daniela Tošić Aaron Sheehan Mark Sprinkle

Glenn Billingsley Paul Guttry Darrick Yee

Steven Lundahl, *slide trumpet & trombone* Mack Ramsey, *trombone*

Scott Metcalfe, director & vielle

Blue Heron Renaissance Choir · PO Box 381595 · Cambridge, MA 02238 (617) 924-7501 · info@blueheronchoir.org · www.blueheronchoir.org

Program

Apostolo glorioso · *DU FAY* Isorhythmic motet (probably for the rededication of the church of St Andrew in Patras, 1426)

Ave maris stella · Vespers hymn for the Blessed Virgin Mary Verses 1, 3, 5, 7 · plainchant · GB PG DY SM Verse 2 · Du Fay, contratenor "au faulx bourdon" · DT JM MS Verse 4 · Dunstable · MN JM AC Verse 6 · Du Fay, contratenor "sine faulx bourdon" · PD AS AC

FOUR CHANSONS Entre vous, gentils amoureux · DU FAY · DT AS SM Tant plus ayme · BINCHOIS · DT MS SM Je me complains · DU FAY · AS MS JM J'atendray tant qu'il vous playra · DU FAY · LK AS MS

Veni sancte spiritus / Veni creator · DUNSTABLE · Isorhythmic motet for Pentecost

Flos florum $\cdot DUFAY \cdot DTASMS$

Sanctus "Papale" · DU FAY Troped Sanctus (possibly for the dedication of the cathedral of Florence, March 25, 1436)

INTERMISSION

Rite majorem Jacobum canamus · *Du Fay* Isorhythmic motet in praise of St James the Greater (probably late 1420s)

Permanent vierge / Pulchra es / Sancta dei genitrix · attributed to OCKEGHEM · PD AS GB DY PG

Aurea luce et decore roseo · DU FAY · Vespers hymn for Sts Peter and PaulVerse 1 · plainchant · GB PG DY SMVerse 1 repeat · plainchant with added treble and faburden · MS AS / GB SM / PG DYVerse 2 · plainchant · GB PG DY SMVerse 3 · Du Fay · MN JM AC

FOUR CHANSONS Mon doulx espoir · LANTINS · DT AM MS Malheureulx cueur · DU FAY · LK AS SM Puisque vous estez campieur · DU FAY · LK AS SM Par droit je puis bien complaindre · DU FAY · LK DT AS MS

Ecclesie militantis · **D**U FAY Isoryhthmic motet (probably for the first anniversary of the coronation of Pope Eugenius IV, March 11, 1432)

Motes

The world of Guillaume Du Fay

Guillaume Du Fay was born near Brussels, possibly on August 5, 1397, the illegitimate son of Marie Du Fayt and an unidentified priest. Around age 12 he was accepted as a choirboy at Cambrai Cathedral, one of the greatest centers of church music in western Europe, renowned for its "beaux chants" (according to Philip of Luxembourg in 1428), and for "the number and skill of the singers it employs" (according to the cathedral's bishop in the 1470s). In 1415 he probably attended the Council of Constance, a great gathering of clerics from all of Christendom together with the musicians in their employ. In the early 1420s Du Fay composed a number of works for the Malatesta family of Rimini and Pesaro on the Adriatic coast of Italy; he may have served them in some fashion alongside other northern musicians like Hugo de Lantins. He spent a year in Bologna in 1427–28, then joined the papal choir in Rome, where he worked until 1433. By the next year he was choirmaster at the court of Savoy. At the same time he was on the one hand strengthening his ties to Cambrai by means of ecclesiastical appointments at the Cathedral, and on the other maintaining his connections with courts and church institutions in Italy, where he again joined the papal choir (now in Florence) in 1435–37. By 1439 he had returned to Cambrai and he resided there for most of the rest of his life, although he made frequent trips abroad and continued to cultivate Italian patrons like Cosimo and Piero de' Medici, to whom he wrote his only surviving letter around 1456.

Du Fay's career—early training in a northern cathedral school, young adulthood spent wandering from post to post in Italian lands, eventual return to his northern homeland—is typical of Franco-Flemish musicians of the fifteenth century. Their skills as singers were eagerly sought south of the Alps, where they lived, wrote Ercole d'Este in 1476, "from day to day like the birds on the branches." None was more esteemed than Du Fay, who was lauded by Piero de' Medici in 1467 as "the greatest ornament of our age" and remains today the most celebrated musician of the fifteenth century. The approximately two hundred works of his that survive convey the impression of an eclectically creative spirit who was constantly challenging himself with experiments

in compositional technique and expressive possibility. Today's concert offers a sample of the riches bequeathed to us by Du Fay, ranging from the grandest ceremonial motet to the most intimate love song. To give some sense of Du Fay's musical world, we also include a few works by Gilles de Bins and John Dunstable, famously mentioned in the same breath as Du Fay in several fifteenth-century sources, by his colleague Hugo de Lantins, and by Johannes Ockeghem, the leader of the next generation of composers and a guest at Du Fay's house in Cambrai on at least one occasion.

Isorhythmic motets

Du Fay's most spectacular works are isorhythmic motets-a bristly modern term for a medieval compositional technique that was extensively cultivated in the fourteenth century and lasted until the mid-1400s. The term "isorhythm" means that the tenor part, at least, is constructed from a rhythmic pattern that repeats exactly: this is called a *talea* or slice. The tenor's melody is also constructed from a repeating pattern of pitches, the color, usually a fragment of plainchant. Talea and color may or may not be of the same length, but in any case the number of notes in one is a multiple of the number of notes in another, so that they coincide periodically. Typically the talea, the isorhythmic unit, starts out in long note values which diminish proportionally as the motet proceeds. In Apostolo glorioso, for example, the color (the chant melody "Andreas Christi famulus") is twice as long as the talea, which occurs twice in long values (for one statement of the color) and then twice more in note values reduced by one third. In Dunstable's Veni sancte spiritus the color again contains two times as many notes as the talea, but here the talea occurs six times, in the accelerating proportion 3:2:1.

What's more, in both these pieces, and in *Rite majorem*, too, the upper voices are also entirely isorhythmic (after a gloriously free introduction in *Apostolo glorioso*), with rhythmic patterns—much more florid than the tenors'—that repeat themselves exactly over each statement of the talea at a given speed. The amazing thing about an isorhythmic motet in the hands of a master like Du Fay or Dunstable is that such an elaborately mechanized structure undergirds such flamboyant mu-

sic. The extraordinary technical artifice seems indeed to engender music of bracing muscularity and irresistable rhythmic propulsion.

Isorhythmic motets were most often composed to mark ceremonies of state, and we can guess with some confidence at the occasions for which Du Fay composed his. Apostolo glorioso was probably written in 1426 for the rededication of the church of St Andrew on the Greek island of Patras, where a member of the Malatesta family was archbishop; its bright ringing colors seem to conjure up the intense sunlight, brilliant blue skies, and whitewashed walls of the Peloponnese. Rite majorem contains an acrostic identifying it with the Parisian curate Robert Auclou, who was associated with Du Fay in Bologna, Rome, and elsewhere. Ecclesie militantis was written for the Venetian Gabriele Condulmer, who reigned as Pope Eugenius IV from 1431 to 1439. This much at least is clear from the latter motet's texts, although they are quite garbled in its one source. According to Leofranc Holford-Strevens, "The text requires heroic emendation in several places to produce a semblance of sense; one might almost suppose that the poet, or scribe, had drunk all the wine that the teetotal Eugene had refused in his life." Whatever the virtues of the poetry, Ecclesie militantis is an extraordinary piece of music, with its two upper voices, two tenors (here doubled with slide trumpet and trombone) that quote short fragments of plainchant, and, for a fifth voice, a freely-composed contratenor that sings the same tune ("Bella canunt gentes") three times, speeding up proportionally for the second time and returning to the original speed for the third iteration.

SANCTUS "PAPALE"

Also possibly written for a specific occasion was the *Sanctus "papale.*" David Fallows suggests that it may have been composed, along with the more famous work *Nuper rosarum flores*, for the consecration in 1436 of the Cathedral in Florence, Santa Maria del Fiore, and its newly-completed dome designed by Filippo Brunelleschi. Fallows further proposes that the Sanctus, troped with the poem *Ave verum corpus*, is intended for two antiphonal choirs, one consisting of choir boys and their master, a tenor, the other of men including falsettists. The choirs join forces for the first homophonic "Osanna," dividing for two chords into six parts.

Hymns, faburden & fauxbourdon

Du Fay apparently composed his cycle of hymns in 1434-35 in Savoy. In Du Fay's hymns the unmeasured plainchant melody is set to a measured rhythm, ornamented, and sung by the discantus or highest voice. All were intended for performance in which plainchant alternated with polyphony verse by verse, and we perform the hymns thus on this concert. Du Fay left us two versions of the Marian hymn Ave maris stella, and you will hear both of these today. In the first the unnotated contratenor or middle voice sings exactly what the discantus does, only down a fourth, a texture known as *fauxbourdon*. The technique probably derives from an improvised practice, and is related to the improvised English practice known as *faburden*, although the precise nature of the historical relationship is much debated. In faburden the hymn is sung in the middle voice, and the top voice sings in parallel fourths above it (thus producing by opposite means a sound identical to fauxbourdon), while the bass sings in thirds below, beginning and ending phrases a fifth below. In Aurea luce we sing a verse in this sort of workaday improvised polyphony, conveying some idea of the unnotated sounds made by fifteenth-century choirs.

Chansons and formes fixes

The poetry and music of the secular songs on the program are cast in the *formes fixes* of medieval French poetry: rondeau, virelai, and ballade. The simplest of these is the ballade, usually three stanzas of the form *aab*. In musical settings of ballades the repeat of the *a* section is generally given an extended final melisma which returns to conclude the *b* section as well. Only one stanza for the haunting *Je me complains* is transmitted in its unique source, which is a great pity. Should there be anyone in the audience able to compose one or two more in fifteenth-century French, please come to see me after the concert!

The virelai, represented here by *Malheureulx cueur*, takes the form *AbbaA*. (Capital letters indicate textual repeats; lower case, new text set to the same music.) *Malheureulx*

cueur sets a virelai by the French court poet Le Rousselet in which the speaker addresses his own heart, asking why it persists in causing him such pain by its stubborn insistence on loving a woman who does not return the feeling. Much of the poetry of the fifteenth-century chanson may strike modern readers as undistinguished or stilted—its formal rhetoric of impossible-to-translate words like *courtoisie* and *gentillesse* difficult for us to penetrate, its allegorical characters (Fortune, Liesse, Vray Espoir, Dangier, Male Bouche, and so on) evoking little or no emotional recognition—but this poem seems to speak with more recognizable psychological acuity, and Du Fay's chanson is heartbreaking. Note how the expressive fluidity of modal harmony, so different from the goal-directed, heirarchical orientation of tonal harmony, conveys shifts of mood as it moves from the expansive "C-major" sonorities of the opening to the plangent cadence on the modal final of E.

That we may find more than five-hundred-year-old music beautiful points to what the medievalist Christopher Page calls "a 'transhistorical humanness': an appreciable continuity of human thought and feeling from age to age," and if at first we find the poetry of the chanson difficult to appreciate, perhaps we ought to ask what it was that the composers themselves may have appreciated in the poems that they set to such wonderful music. Besides intensity of feeling, surely musicians valued the play of sounds in poems like Tant plus ayme, J'atendray tant qu'il vous playra, or Puisque vous estez campieur. Many of the poems speak of unrequited love or the superlative qualities of the unattainable lady, with occasional exceptions such as the drinking song *Puisque vous estez campieur.* Here the rivalry between the voices is underlined by the fact that they sing in canon at the octave, so that whatever the one does the other does, too, while the contratenor (today played on vielle) leaps and dashes about between them. Par droit je puis bien complaindre, too, features a canon between the complaining upper voices, as well as an unusual fourth voice.

These three and all of the other chansons on this program are rondeaux, in the asymmetrical repeating form *AB aA ab AB*. Page has written engagingly of the dynamic of

the rondeau form, in which an initial "proposal" (AB) is subjected to an "examination" through three repetitions of the first section of music (*aA a*) before the *b* section completes the refrain musically, but with new words, finally culminating in a "confirmation" when the refrain is sung entire to its original words once again (AB). A poet might exploit the looping form of the rondeau to cast the text of the A material, when repeated, in a new light, sometimes by syntactical connection from verse to verse: this may be observed in *J'atendrav tant*. The composer for his part is required by the form to craft an A section that will not pall on repeated hearing but rather reveal its inner qualities gradually, and a B section identified by something somehow new, so that it calls attention to itself upon first hearing the *AB* and creates a desire to hear it again: a desire whose gratification is delayed by the intervening *aA a*.

FLOS FLORUM

Flos florum is an odd work out on our program, for it is a sacred text set to music in the usual chanson format of three voices, with one higher voice (discantus) and two lower parts in the same range (tenor and contratenor). *Flos florum* features a virtuosic discantus, duet passages between discantus and contratenor, and a concluding section of striking harmonies, each marked by a "corona." Nowadays this sign is known as a fermata and indicates an unmeasured hold, but in Du Fay's time it probably signalled the singers to improvise ornamentation, and we have seized the opportunity to do so.

Оскеднем

Finally, in a nod to the generation after DuFay and a preview of next season's programming, we sing a song attributed to Ockeghem—and as our pre-concert lecturer, Sean Gallagher, exclaims, "Who else could have written it?" *Permanent vierge* combines a *forme-fixe* French rondeau with two Latin-texted Marian antiphon chants in a form known nowadays as the motet-chanson: a gorgeous work whose only fifteenth-century antecedents outside of Ockeghem's own creation are three surviving pieces by his elder friend and colleague, Du Fay.

Texts & translations

APOSTOLOTRIPLUM & CONTRATENOR IGLORIOSOApostolo glorioso, da Dio electo
a evangelegiare al populo greco
la sua incarnacion, ché v'era ceco,
et cusí festi senza alcun suspecto,
e eligisti Patrasso per tuo lecto,
et per sepulcro questo sancto speco:
Prego te, preghi me retrove teco,
per li tuoi merci, nel devin conspecto.

MOTETUS & CONTRATENOR II

Cum tua doctrina convertisti a Cristo tuto el paese, et cum la passione et morte che qui portasti in croce in su lo olivo. Mo' è prolasso in errore et facto tristo, sí che rempetraglie gracia sí forte che recognoscano Dio vero et vivo.

TENOR Andreas famulus Christi.

AVE MARIS STELLA dei mater alma, atque semper virgo,

felix celi porta.

Sumens illud ave Gabrielis ore, funda nos in pace mutans Eve nomen.

Solva vincla reis, profer lumen cecis, mala nostra pelle, bona cunctis posce.

Monstra te esse matrem: sumat per te preces, qui pro nobis natus, tulit esse tuus.

Virgo singularis, inter omnes mitis, nos culpis solutos mites fac et castos.

Vitam presta puram, iter para tutum, ut videntes Jesum semper colletemur. Glorious apostle, chosen by God to preach to the Greek people His incarnation, for it was blind to it, and who didst so without any blame, and chosest Patras for thy resting-place and for thy tomb this holy cave: I pray thee, pray that I may find myself with thee, by thy mercies, in the sight of God.

With thy teaching thou didst convert to Christ the whole country, and with the passion and death that thou borest here on the cross above the olive tree. Now it hath slipped into error and is made evil; wherefore win grace for it again by prayer so strong that they may recognise the true and living God.

Andrew the servant of Christ.

Hail, star of the sea, nurturing mother of God, and perpetual virgin, happy gate of heaven.

Receiving that "ave" from the mouth of Gabriel, give us peace in abundance, reversing the name "Eva."

Loose the chains of the guilty, bring light to the blind, drive out our evils, seek blessings for all.

Show yourself to be a mother: may he receive through you our prayers who, born for us, deigned to be yours.

Peerless virgin, gentle above all others, when we are freed from sins, make us gentle and chaste.

Grant us a pure life, prepare us a secure way, that, seeing Jesus, we may rejoice forever. se vous volés estre joieux. Ne soiés de riens curieux que de faire gales et jeux

Sit laus Deo patri,

Spiritui Sancto,

ENTRE VOUS, Entre vous, gentils amoureux,

GENTILS ce jour de l'an soyés songneus

et de fuir merancolie.

AMOUREUX de bien servir chascum s'amie

summo Christo decus,

trinus honor unus. Amen.

et de mener tres bone vie. Entre vous, gentils amoureux, ce jour de l'an sovés songneus de bien servir chascum s'amie.

Et ne vous chaut des envieux, qui sont felons et despiteus. Chantés, dansés, quoi que nul die; et qui ne puet chanter, se rie; je ne vous av consilier mieulx. Entre vous...

TANT PLUS Tant plus ayme, tant plus suy mal amé, AYME tant plus requiers, tant plus suy refusé, tant plus je vueil, tant plus de moy n'a cure, tant plus me plains, tant plus ma payne est dure, the more I lament, the more severe is my pain, quant ma dame ne prent de moy pitié.

> Helas, je l'ay servi en loiaulté en esberant d'estre reconforté, et toutes fois mon fait n'est qu'aventure. Tant plus ayme, tant plus suy mal amé, tant plus requiers, tant plus suy refusé, tant plus je vueil, tant plus de moy n'a cure.

Mais s'il luy plaist que je soie appellé son seul amy et que ce soit son gré de la servir, je mettray paine et cure, car aultre rien certes je ne parcure en attendant sa bonne voulenté.

Tant plus ayme...

Praise be to God the Father, honor to Christ the most high, and to the Holy Spirit, triple honor in one. Amen.

Among yourselves, gentle lovers, take care this New Year's day each to serve his sweetheart well. and to flee melancholy, *if you wish to be happy.*

Do not look for anything but to have fun and games and to live life well. Among vourselves, gentle lovers, take care this New Year's day each to serve his sweetheart well.

And do not concern yourselves with the envious ones, who are traitorous and spiteful. *Sing, dance, whatever anyone may say;* and whoever cannot sing, let him laugh; I cannot give you better advice.

Among yourselves...

(trans. David Fallows)

The more I love, the more I am ill-loved, the more I seek, the more I am refused, the more care I take, the more she is careless of me, when my lady takes no pity on me.

Alas, I have served her loyally in the hope of being succoured, and nonetheless my lot is nothing but misadventure. The more I love, the more I am ill-loved, the more I seek, the more I am refused, the more care I take, the more she is careless of me.

But if it please her that I be called *her only love, and that it be her wish* that I serve her, I will take trouble and care to do so, for certainly, I care for nothing else whatsoever while waiting for her good wishes.

The more I love...

JE ME Je me complains piteusement, COMPLAINS a moi tout seul plus qu'a nullui, PITEUSEMENT de la griesté, paine e tourment que je souffre plus que ne di. Dangier me tient en tel soussi qu'eschever ne puis sa rudesse, et fortune le veult aussi, mais, par may foy, ce fait jonesse.

J'ATENDRAY J'atendray tant qu'il vous playra TANT QU'IL a vous declarer ma pensee, **VOUS PLAYRA** ma tres chiere dame honouree. Je ne say s'il m'en desplayra,

> mais toutes fois, pour complaire a vostre personne desiree, j'atendray tant qu'il vous playra a vous declarer ma pensee,

car j'ay espour, quant avendra qu'a ce vous seres acordee. que ma dolour sera cessee: je le vous av dit longtemps a.

J'atendray tant...

VENI SANCTE TRIPLEX 1 **SPIRITUS** / Veni sancte spiritus, VENI CREATOR et emitte celitus lucis tue radium. Veni pater pauperum, veni dator munerum, veni lumen cordium. Consolator optime, dulcis hospes anime, dulce refrigerium. In labore requies, in estu temperies, in fletu solatium. O lux beatissima, reple cordis intima tuorum fidelium. Sine tuo numine nihil est in lumine, nihil est innoxium.

I lament piteously, to myself alone more than to any other, the grief, pain, and torment that I suffer more than I tell. Danger keeps me in such anguish that I cannot escape his harshness, and Fortune wishes it so, toobut, by my faith, that's youth.

I will wait as long as it please you to declare my thoughts to you, my very dear, honored lady. I don't know whether it will displease me,

but nevertheless, in order to please vou whom I desire. I will wait as long as it please you to declare my thoughts to you,

for my hope is, when it comes to pass that you agree to this, that my suffering will cease: I told you this long ago.

I will wait...

Come, *Holy Spirit*, and send forth a ray of your heavenly light. *Come, father of the poor,* come, giver of rewards, come, light of hearts. Best consoler. sweet guest of the soul, sweet refreshment. In labor, rest, in summer, coolness, in grief, solace. O light most blessed, fill the inmost hearts of your faithful. Without your will nothing is in the light, nothing is guiltless.

Lava quod est sordidum, riga quod est aridum, sana quod est saucium. Flecte quod est rigidum, fove quod est frigidum, rege quod est devium. Da tuis fidelibus in te confidentibus sacrum septenarium. Da virtutis meritum, da salutis exitum, da perenne gaudium. Amen. TRIPLEX 2 Veni sancte spiritus, et infunde precamus rorem celi gratie. Precantibus humanitatus salva nos divinitus a serpentis facie. In cuius presentia, ex tua clementia tecta sint peccata. Nostraque servitia corda penitentia tibi fac placata. Languidorum consolator et lapsorum reformator, mortis medicina. Peccatorum perdonator, esto noster expurgator et duc ad divina. TRIPLEX 3 Veni creator spiritus, mentes tuorum visita, imple superna gratia que tu creasti pectora. Qui paraclitus diceris, donum dei altissimi,

fons vivus, ignis, caritas, et spiritalis unctio. Tu septiformis muneris, dextre dei tu digitus, tu rite promissum patris, sermone ditans guttura. Accende lumen sensibus, Wash what is soiled, water what is dry, heal what is injured. Bend what is rigid, warm what is cold, straighten what is crooked. Give to your faithful who trust in you the sevenfold gifts of the Spirit. Give virtue its reward, grant the saved their conclusion, give eternal joy. Amen.

Come, Holy Spirit, and pour forth, we pray, the dew of heavenly grace. By virtue of human prayers, save us, by divine help, from the serpent. *In whose presence,* through your mercy, may sins be covered. May our service and our penitent hearts be pleasing to you. Consoler of the infirm and restorer of the fallen, *remedy for death.* Pardoner of sins, be our purifier and lead us to the divine.

Come, Creator Spirit, fill the minds of your people. fill with supernal grace the breasts of those you created.
You are called the Paraclete, a gift of God most high, a living fount, fire, love, and spiritual unction.
You, sevenfold in your gifts, you, a finger on the right hand of God, you, fitly, by the Father's promise, endowing our throats with speech.
Strike a light for our senses, infunde amorem cordibus, infirma nostri corporis virtute firmans perpetim. Hostem repelas longius, pacemque dones protinus, ductore sic te previo, vitemus omne noxium. Per te sciamus da patrem, noscamus atque filium, te utriusque spiritum credamus omni tempore. Amen.

FLOS FLORUM Flos florum, fons hortorum, regina polorum, spes venie, lux letitie, medicina dolorum, virga recens et virgo decens, forma bonorum: parce reis et opem fer eis in pace piorum, pasce tuos, succure tuis, miserere tuorum.

SANCTUS Sanctus. PAPALE Ave verum corpus natum de Maria virgine. (SANCTUS Sanctus. AVE VERUM *Vere passum, immolatum in cruce pro* CORPUS) homine. Sanctus. *Cuius latus perforatum vero fluxit sanguine* Dominus deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt celi et terra gloria tua. Esto nobis pregustatum mortis in examine. O clemens, o pie, o Jesu fili Marie. Osanna in excelsis. Benedictus qui venit in nomine domini Osanna in excelsis.

RITE MAJOREM TRIPLUM

JACOBEM CANAMUS acrostic = Robertus Auclou, Curatus Sancti Iacobi

Rebus est frater paribus Johannes; tam novas Christi facies uterque visit, ut Petrus; sequitur magistrum sponte, dilectus fieri vocatus. pour love into our hearts, forever strengthening the infirmity of our bodies with your power. May you keep the enemy far away and grant us peace at once, so that with you before us as leader we may avoid all harm. Grant that through you we may know the Father, and likewise know the Son, and furthermore in you, the Spirit, may we believe for all time. Amen.

Flower of flowers, fount of gardens, queen of the heavens, hope of pardon, light of joy, remedy of sorrows, a fresh branch and seemly virgin, model of goodness: spare the guilty and bring them a reward through the peace of the righteous, feed thine own, succour thine own, have mercy upon thine own.

Holy.

Hail the true body, born of the Virgin Mary. Holy.
Who truly died, sacrificed on the cross for humankind.
Holy.
Whose pierced side ran with true blood.
Lord God of Hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
May you taste the agony of death on our behalf.
O merciful, O gentle, O Jesus, son of Mary.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Let us duly sing James the Greater, the glory of the highest order. O faithful traveler, may fortune ever smile on thee; stir up praises to the patron of the human race.

John is his brother on equal terms; each views the transfigured Christ as much as Peter does; he follows the Master of his own free will, called to become beloved. Audiit vocem Jacobi sonoram corda divinis penitus moventem legis accepte Phariseus hostis; ora conversus lacrimis rigavit.

Vinctus a turba prius obsequente, cum magus sperat Jacobum ligare, vertit in penas rabiem furoris, respuit tandem magicos abusus.

MOTETUS

Arcibus summis miseri reclusitanta qui fidunt Jacobo merenturvinculis ruptis peciere terram saltibus (gressu stupere) planam.

Sopor annose paralisis altus accitu sancti posuit rigorem. Novit ut Christi famulum satelles, colla dimisit venerans ligatum.

Tu patri natum laqueis iniquis insitum servas. Duce te precamur iam mori vi non metuat viator, at suos sospes repetat penates.

Corporis custos animeque fortis, omnibus prosis baculoque sancto bella tu nostris moveas ab oris, ipse sed tutum tege iam Robertum.

TENOR Ora pro nobis Dominum, qui te vocavit Jacobum.

PERMANENT Permanent vierge, plus digne que nesune, **VIERGE** femme couverte du soleil de justice, chief couronné par divin artifice de douze estoiles supeditant la lune.

> Esmerveillant nature et loy commune, tu enfantas par supernel office, permanent vierge, plus digne que nesune, femme couverte du soleil de justice.

Preordonnée sans differance aucune, du redempteur fille, mere et nourrice, soiez pour nous advocate propice, toy supplions, tres belle, clere, brune,

permanent vierge, plus digne que nesune...

The Pharisee, enemy of the law received, heard the clear voice of James profoundly stirring his heart with divine teachings; converted, he bathed his face in tears.

The sorcerer, taken prisoner by the once-obedient rabble when he hoped to bind James, turned the rage of his madness into punishment and at last forswore his crimes of witchcraft.

Wretches imprisoned at the tops of towers so much do they earn who trust in Jamesbroke their chains and leapt down to the level earth; they wondered at their walking.

The deep slumber of many years' palsy gave up its stiffness at the saint's bidding. When the underling recognised Christ's servant, he unbound his neck, honoring the man he had bound.

Thou dost rescue for the father the son fastened by the noose unmerited. We pray that, with thee for guide, the traveller may no longer fear violent death, but return safely to his own home.

Doughty guardian of body and soul, mayst thou assist us all and with thy holy staff drive wars away from our shores; but now in person keep Robert safe.

Pray for us to the Lord, who called thee James.

Inviolate virgin, worthier than all, woman clothed by the sun of justice, *leader crowned by divine artifice* with twelve stars supporting the moon.

Astounding nature and earthly law, you bore a child by supernal action, inviolate virgin, worthier than all, woman clothed by the sun of justice.

Preordained without any argument, the redeemer's daughter, mother, and nurse, be a propitious advocate for us, we beseech you, most lovely, radiant, burnished,

inviolate virgin, worthier than all...

TENOR I

ut castrorum acies ordinata.

Pulchra es et decora, filia Iherusalem: terribilis You are fair and comely, O daughter of Jerusalem: *terrible as as an army arrayed for battle.*

TENOR II

Sancta dei genitrix, virgo semper Maria, inter- Holy mother of God, ever-virgin Mary, intercede for cede pro nobis ad dominum Jhesum Christum. us with the lord Jesus Christ.

AUREA LUCE Aurea luce et decore roseo, In festo lux lucis, omne perfudisti seculum sanctorum decorans celos inclito martyrio apostolorum hac sacra die que dat reis veniam. Petri et Pauli

> Janitor celi, doctor orbis pariter, judices secli, vera mundi lumina, per crucem alter, alter ense triumphans vite senatum laureati possident.

Sit trinitati sempiterna gloria, honor, potestas atque jubilatio, in unitate cui manet imperium ex tunc et modo per eterna secula. Amen.

MON DOULX Mon doulx espoir, mon souvenir, ESPOIR c'est de veoir ma douce amye. Ou que je soy, n'en quel partie, toudis seray a son plaisir.

> Pour elle vueil vivre et mourir, magré ceux qui en ont envie. Mon doulx espoir, mon souvenir, c'est de veoir ma douce amye.

Servir la vueil sans departir, a mon povoir, toute ma vie. Point ne fauldray, que qu'on en die, car c'est de quant que je desir.

Mon doulx espoir...

MAL- Malheureulx cueur, que vieulx tu faire? **HEUREULX** Vieulx tu tant a une complaire CUEUR que ung seul jour je n'ave repos? Penser ne puis a quel propos tu me fais tant de paine traire.

With golden light and roseate beauty, light of lights, you poured forth over all the world, adorning the heavens with glorious martyrdom on this holy day which grants pardon to the guilty.

Gatekeeper of heaven; his equal, teacher of the earth: judges of the ages, true lights of the world, the one triumphant on the cross, the other by the sword, crowned with laurels, they occupy the council of life.

To the Trinity be eternal glory, honor, power and jubilation, by whose Unity may their authority endure, from olden times and now and forever. Amen.

My sweet hope, always in mind, *is to see my sweet love.* Wherever I may be, in whatever place, always I will be ready to do her pleasure.

For her I wish to live and die. in spite of those who are envious. My sweet hope, always in mind, is to see my sweet love.

To serve her is my wish, without fail, as much as I am able, all my life. I will need nothing more, whatever might be said, for this is all I desire.

My sweet hope...

Unhappy heart, what is your intent? Do you so wish to please one woman that I will have not one day's respite? I cannot think for what purpose you make me bear so much pain.

Nous n'avons ne joie ne bien, ne toy ne moy, tu le sces bien: tous jours languissons en destresse.

Ta leaulte ne nous vault rien, et qui pis est, seur je me tien qu'il n'en chaut a nostre maistresse.

Combien qu'aies volu parfaire, tes plaisirs craignant luy desplaire, accroissant son bon bruit et los, mal t'en est prins, pour ce tes los, que brief pense de te desfaire.

Malheureulx cueur... —Le Rousselet

PUISQUE Puisque vous estez campieur, vous estez CAMPIEUR a savoir mon, se je pourroye a vous, pour estre bon pieur.

> Et si vous estez sapieur, contre vous aussi sapiroye. Puisque vous estez campieur, voulentiers a vous campiroye.

Vous me cuidez maulvais pieur, mais pour trois pots bien les piroye, vrayment, ou je me tapiroye comme du monde le pieur.

Puisque vous estez campieur...

PAR DROITPar droit je puis bien complaindre et gemir,
qui sui esent de liesse et de joye.COMPLAINDREUn seul confort ou prendre ne scaroye,
ne scay comment me puisse maintenir.

Raison me nuist et me veut relenquir, espoir me fault, en quel lieu que je soye: Par droit je puis bien complaindre et gemir, qui sui esent de liesse et de joye.

Dechassiés suy, ne me scay ou tenir, par Fortune qui si fort me gueroye. Anemis sont ceus qu'amis je cuidoye, et ce porter me convient et souffrir.

Par droit je puis bien complaindre...

We have neither joy nor any good, neither you nor I, you know it well: every day we languish in distress.

Your loyalty does nothing for us, and what is worse, I am sure that it means nothing to our mistress.

However much you wished to accomplish fearing to displease her with your pleasures, enhancing her good name and renown your praises are taken ill, so that shortly she means to destroy you.

Unhappy heart...

Since you are a warrior, willingly I would fight with you, to see if I could compete with you, to be a good drinker.

And if you were a sapper, I would also dig against you. Since you are a warrior, willingly I would fight with you.

You think me a poor drinker, but I would easily down three jars, truly, or I would go hide myself like the worst in the world.

Since you are a warrior...

By rights may I well lament and moan, I who am deprived of happiness and joy. Not one single comfort can I find anywhere, nor do I know how I can survive.

Reason harms me and is about to abandon me, hope fails me, wherever I may be: by rights may I well lament and moan, I who am deprived of happiness and joy.

I am pursued—I know not where to turn by Fortune, who thus harshly makes war on me. Those I thought friends are enemies, and this I am forced to bear and suffer.

By rights may I well lament...

ECCLESIE TRIPLUM MILITANTIS Ecclesie militantis Roma sedes triumphantis patris sursum sidera carmen cleri resonantis laudem pontifici dantis promat voce libera.

> Gabrielem quem vocavit, dum paternum crimen lavit, baptismatis sumptio, Eugenium revocavit, bonum genus quod notavit, pontificis lectio.

Quod consulta concio— O quam sancta ratio sic deliberavit, ut sola devotio regnet in palatio quod deus beavit.

Certe deus voluit et in hoc complacuit venetorum proli; sed demon indoluit, quod peccatum defuit tante rerum moli.

Dulcis pater populi, qui dulcorem poculi, crapulam perhorres, pone lente consuli rem gregis pauperculi, ne nescius erres.

Pater herens filio \$piritus confinio det prece solemni gaudium Eugenio, perfecto dominio, in vita perenni. Amen.

MOTETUS Sanctorum arbitrio clericorum proprio corde meditanti, equum genus atrio accedit ludibrio umbre petulanti. Let Rome, seat of the Church Militant of the Father who triumphs above the stars, bring forth with free voice a song of the clergy praising the Pope. Him whom the taking up in baptism called Gabriel when it washed away ancestral sin. papal election renamed Eugenius, which marked his good race. Which the well-advised assembly— *O* what holy reasoning has so determined, that devotion alone may reign in the palace that God blessed. Certainly God willed it, and in this gave pleasure to the Venetian stock; but the devil was grieved that sin was absent from an affair of such moment. *Sweet father of the people,* who abhorrest the sweetness of the cup, namely drunkenness. entrust to a cautious counsellor the business of thy poor little flock, lest thou go astray in ignorance. Let the Father ever cleaving to the Son in the neighborhood of the Spirit give by our solemn prayer

in the neighborhood of the Spir give by our solemn prayer joy to Eugenius, when his reign is over, in eternal life. Amen.

By the holy clerks' own judgement that meditates in their hearts, the just race approaches the hall, an object of mockery for the wanton shade. Nam torpens inhertia, longa querens otia, nescivit Eugenium; sed iuris peritia cum tota iustitia sunt eius ingenium.

Hinc est testimonium: pacem querit omnium, exosus piaculi; et trinum dominium demonis et carnium pompam vincit seculi.

Quam color ipse poli dic scutum quod attuli tibi, pater optime, sacrum dat, quod oculi tui instar speculit cernunt nitidissime.

Eia tu, pulcherrime, querimur, tenerrime, moram longi temporis. Ducimur asperrime nescio quo ferrime ad fulmentum corporis.

Una tibi trinitas vera deus unitas det celi fulgorem, quem linea bonitas, argentea castitas, secernit in morem. Amen.

CONTRATENOR

Bella canunt gentes, querimur, pater optime, tempus; expediet multos, si cupis, una dies. Nummus et hora fluunt magnumque iter orbis agendum nec suus in toto noscitur orbe deus. Amen.

TENOR I Gabriel.

TENOR II

Ecce nomen domini.

For sluggish idleness, seeking prolonged rest, did not know Eugenius; but skill in the law and all-round justice are his nature.

The proof is this, that he seeks peace for all, hating sin; and his triple dominion defeats the pomp of the devil, the flesh, and the world.

Say: As is the very color of heaven, is the shield that I have brought thee, excellent father; it makes a sacred object that thine eyes see most brightly, like a mirror.

Hail, most beauteous one, we bewail, most tender one, the delay of a long time; we are led most harshly we know not whither, most cruelly, to the support of the body.

God, the One Trinity, the true Unity, grant thee the blaze of heaven, whom linen goodness and silver chastity regularly distinguish. Amen.

The nations sing of wars: we complain, O best of father, of our time. One day will dispatch many, if thou desire. Money and time are pouring away, and the great

journey must be made over the earth, but nowhere in the whole world is its God known. Amen.

Gabriel.

Behold the name of the Lord.

TRANSLATIONS

Apostolo glorioso, Rite majorem, and Ecclesie militantis emended and translated by Leofranc Holford-Strevens in "Du Fay the poet? Problems in the texts of his motets." Early Music History 16 (1997). Entre vous, gentils amoureux translated by David Fallows. All other translations by Scott Metcalfe.

25 lographies

The vocal ensemble Blue Heron combines a commitment to vivid live performance with knowledge of the latest research into source materials and historical performance practice. Blue Heron's principal repertoire interests in the last few years have been late fifteenthcentury Franco-Flemish polyphony, sacred and secular Spanish music between about 1500 and 1575, and neglected early sixteenth-century English music, especially the rich and unexplored repertory of the Peterhouse partbooks (c. 1540); today's program reflects an increasing involvement with earlier fifteenth-century repertoire. Founded in 1999, Blue Heron presents its own series of concerts in Cambridge and has appeared regularly at Monadnock Music in New Hampshire. Earlier this season the group performed at the 92nd Street Y in New York City at the invitation of Sanford Sylvan, singing music of Carissimi, Charpentier, and Rossi in a program examining the story of Abraham and Isaac, and gave a lecture-demonstration at Boston University on a setting of Lamentations by Cristóbal de Morales. Next month Blue Heron will participate in a conference at Harvard University on the music of Luca Marenzio, performing his Eighth Book of Madrigals in its entirety.

Baritone **Glenn Billingsley** has sung leading roles with the Chautauqua, Santa Fe, Lake George and New York City Opera National companies. He has appeared in the Spoleto and Madeira Bach Festivals, toured the United States, South America, and Europe with the Waverly Consort, and been a member of New York's Ensemble for Early Music, the Clarion Concert Society, the Bach Aria Group, New York's Musica Sacra, and numerous other choral organizations. A longtime member of the choir of the Church of the Advent, he is a founding member of Blue Heron. Glenn helps his wife, soprano and voice teacher Monique Phinney, to support their two teenage children, Lisa and Ken, in his role as MIT's Director of Arts Development.

Noël Bisson, a co-founder of Blue Heron, has sung as soloist and ensemble singer with many ensembles across the country and locally, most regularly with the choir of the Church of the Advent and the Boston Camerata. She earned a doctorate in musicology from Harvard University; her scholarly focus is English sacred music of the late fifteenth century. Noël and her family reside

in Hamilton, New York, where she is Associate Dean of the College at Colgate University.

Tenor Allen Combs is a native of Idaho Falls, Idaho, and received his education at the University of Idaho and the University of Lowell. In addition to his work with Blue Heron, Mr. Combs has performed with Schola Cantorum and Cappella Alamire. His recital repertoire embraces music from the Renaissance to the twentieth century and includes the major song cycles of Schubert and Britten. Mr. Combs has given world premieres at the Lowell New Music Festival and with Composers in Red Sneakers. He performs frequently at Phillips Academy, Andover, where he is a member of the voice faculty. Currently a soloist and cantor at the Church of the Advent, Mr. Combs has served as music director of the Andover Choral Society since 1990. He is also the vocal director for the Composers' Conference and Chamber Music Center at Wellesley College and music director for the New England Dance Ensemble.

Pamela Dellal, mezzo-soprano, is a much sought-after oratorio soloist who has performed with renowned ensembles in Boston and throughout the world. She has been featured in leading roles in operas of Purcell, Mozart, Britten, and others. As a member of Sequentia's women's ensemble, Vox Feminae, Ms. Dellal has recorded the music of Hildegard von Bingen and toured the US, Europe, and Australia. She appears frequently with Musicians of the Old Post Road and Ensemble Chaconne, and is a regular soloist with Emmanuel Music. Her broad repertoire ranges from early chamber music to contemporary pieces. This is her second concert with Blue Heron.

Bass-baritone **Paul Guttry** enjoys a varied career including opera, oratorio, and chamber music. He recently played the Mother in Weill's *7 Deadly Sins* with Intermezzo and Balthasar in Schumann's *Genoveva* with Emmanuel Music. Paul has sung with the medieval music ensemble Sequentia and is a former member of Chanticleer. In Boston he has performed with Emmanuel Music, Handel & Haydn, the Boston Cecilia, Boston Revels, Prism Opera, and Collage New Music. Paul can be heard on BMG recordings of medieval music with Sequentia, Erato recordings of the Boston Camerata, and Koch International recordings of Bach with Emmanuel Music.

Soprano Lydia Heather Knutson has performed around the world, appearing on radio and at leading international music festivals in the US, Canada, Europe, Latin America, and Australia. She is a founding member of the medieval ensemble Fortune's Wheel, was for many years a member of the women's ensemble of Sequentia, Cologne, and has been singing with Blue Heron since 2003. She has recorded for Dorian, Erato, and BMG Classics/Deutche Harmonia Mundi. In addition to singing, Dr. Knutson is a chiropractor with a private practice in Cambridge.

Steven Lundahl specializes in early brass, including sackbuts and medieval slide trumpet, and the recorder. He has performed throughout North and South America, Europe, and Hong Kong with such groups as the Boston Camerata, Boston Baroque, the Handel & Haydn Society, Tafelmusik, Smithsonian Chamber Orchestra, Ensemble Project Ars Nova, Waverly Consort, Calliope, and more. He has participated in over 25 recordings on such labels as Telarc, Warner Classics, Angel/EMI, Harmonia Mundi (France and Germany), Erato (France), New Albion Records, and others. He teaches at St. Paul's School and the Concord Community Music School, and resides in Canterbury, NH, with his family.

Jason McStoots, tenor, has been hailed as one of the "new generation of New England singers" and described by critics as "particularly outstanding," with "a perfect light-opera voice," "sweet, appealing tone and real acting ability." He has appeared as a soloist with groups around the United States including Tanglewood Music Center, Florestan Recital Project, Boston Lyric Opera, the Handel Choir of Baltimore, Seattle Early Music Guild, Emmanuel Music, Granite State Opera, Intermezzo Chamber Opera Series, Dedham Choral Society, and the Newton Choral Society. Mr. McStoots is active as a member of Blue Heron, Handel & Haydn Society, Boston Baroque, and Emmanuel Music, and is a founding member of the period vocal ensemble Exsultemus.

Scott Metcalfe, music director of Blue Heron, is a specialist in music between 1400 and 1750 whose twentyyear career as a baroque violinist and conductor has taken him across North America and Europe. He directs the Renaissance choir Convivium Musicum and is concertmaster of the Trinity Consort in Portland, Oregon. He has conducted Messiah in Seattle, Bach's St. John Passion in Princeton, and Monteverdi's Vespers and Handel's Amadigi at Monadnock Music in New Hampshire. Metcalfe was a founding member of La Luna and of The King's Noyse and appears on recordings on harmonia mundi, ATMA, Dorian, Wildboar, and elsewhere. He holds a bachelor's degree from Brown University, where he majored in biology, and has recently completed a master's degree in historical performance practice at Harvard University.

Countertenor **Martin Near** has been a professional singer since age nine, working his way up to Head Chorister at Saint Thomas Fifth Avenue in New York City, and currently sings with Blue Heron and with the choir of the Church of the Advent. He studied composition at New England Conservatory of Music with Michael Gandolfi. On a grant from the American Composers Forum Boston, Mr. Near served as composer and music director of the one act opera *Six Characters in Search of an Opera* for Project ARIA (AIDS Response by Independent Artists), which was given five performances in Boston. Mr. Near is an advocate of the performance of new music and has been a soloist in numerous world premieres, including a microtonal piece in 72-note equal temperament performed in Jordan Hall.

Mack Ramsey specializes in the performance of repertoires ranging from the fifteenth to the eighteenth centuries. Equally at home on a number of different wind instruments, he has been especially fascinated with the role of the municipal and court wind bands of the sixteenth century and the special skills and performance practices that help us interpret this music. Mack performs on bass sackbut with the 17th-century ensemble Spiritus Collective in New York, and is also a founding member of the Boston Shawm and Sackbut Ensemble and New England Waites. He often appears with other wind bands and orchestras such as Piffaro, The Whole Noyse, Les Sonneurs de Montreal, Concerto Palatino, Apollo's Fire, Boston Baroque, Concert Royal, and Tafelmusik. **Carol Schlaikjer**, soprano, received her vocal training at the Music Conservatory in Cologne, Germany, and the Schola Cantorum in Basel, Switzerland. She lived for almost two decades in Germany, where she was a frequent soloist for the Lutheran Church radio broadcasts in Frankfurt am Main. She has performed throughout Europe, Australia and the US as a concert and recording artist, both as a soloist and as a member of various early music ensembles, including Sequentia's Vox Feminae and the Huelgas Ensemble. Carol is co-director of the Orpheus Vocal Performance Laboratory, which holds workshops for young singers on the South Shore. She also teaches voice in after-school programs in local high schools and at her private voice studio.

Aaron Sheehan, tenor, sings with Blue Heron and Fortune's Wheel, and has also performed with Theater of Voices, the Handel & Haydn Society, and Liber unUsualis. In January he made his debut with San Francisco's American Bach Soloists, last fall he toured the United States and Canada with Tragicomedia and Concerto Palatino in a production of Monteverdi's *Vespers of 1610*, and in June 2005 he appeared as Ivan in the Boston Early Music Festival production of Johann Mattheson's *Boris Goudenow*. He keeps an active teaching schedule with students from Brown University and Wellesley College.

Tenor **Mark Sprinkle** enjoys an active and varied career as a soloist and ensemble singer in repertoire ranging from the fourteenth to the eighteenth centuries. He has appeared as a soloist with Concerto Palatino and with the Handel & Haydn Society under Grant Llewellyn and Christopher Hogwood, and sang in the Boston Early Music Festival productions of Rossi's *Orfeo*, Lully's *Thesée*, Conradi's *Ariadne*, and Mattheson's *Boris Goudenow*. In May 2005 he sang the Evangelist in Bach's *St. John Passion* with the Andover Choral Society. He worked for many years with Emmanuel Music and can be heard on their recordings of the motets of Heinrich Schütz and the St. John Passion. He is a member of the voice faculty at Boston College.

Mezzo-soprano **Daniela Tošić**, a native of Belgrade, Yugoslavia, toured with the Belgrade-based ensemble Renaissance throughout the former Yugoslavia. In the Boston area she has worked with Ensemble P.A.N., Revels, Balmus, and La Donna Musicale, and has premiered several new works. She is a founding member of Tapestry, the acclaimed vocal ensemble that records with Telarc International and MDG and tours widely throughout the US and abroad. She is also a founding member of the medieval-world fusion ensemble HourGlass.

Darrick Yee has performed with a wide variety of vocal ensembles in the Boston area. He received his bachelor's degree in East Asian Studies and master's degree in education from Harvard University, where he sang with the Glee Club, the University Choir, the Krokodiloes, and the Collegium Musicum. He currently works for the Massachusetts Department of Education and sings in the ensembles Cut Circle, Exultemus, the Boston Secession, and the King's Chapel Choir.

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EDITIONS Apostolo glorioso ed. by Alejandro Enrique Planchart.

Ave maris stella, Flos florum, Sanctus papale, Rite majorem, Aurea luce, Ecclesie militantis, and the chansons by Du Fay ed. in CMM I. Thanks to the American Institute of Musicology.

IMAGES:

Cover: illustration of Du Fay and Binchois from Martin le Franc, *Le champion des dames*, c. 1440.

Inside cover: shield from Dufay's tomb in the cathedral of Cambrai. The cross-bar of the G has been used as a musical staff, with a C-clef and the note *fa*. A similar visual pun is found on the tomb of Lantins.

Acknowledgments

Special thanks this time to Marilyn Boenau, Sean Gallagher, and Alejandro Planchart. We are deeply grateful for the generous support of our donors, without which these concerts could not take place. *Donations from February 1, 2005 through February 24, 2006*

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