

EARLY MUSIC FOUNDATION
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NEWSLETTER ENCLOSED

EARLY MUSIC
NEW YORK

FREDERICK RENZ
DIRECTOR

"vital, beautifully sculptured performances"
The New York Times, 2009



35th ANNIVERSARY SEASON

2009 - 2010

EARLY MUSIC
NEW YORK
FREDERICK RENZ
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"a revered institution" The New York Times

The Venues:

The Cathedral Church of Saint John the Divine
On Amsterdam Avenue at 112th Street, the Cathedral is easily reached by public transportation: Buses M4, M11, and M104, Subway #1 to 110th Street. Parking is available in several nearby garages.

Saint James' Church

Located on Madison Avenue and 71st Street, Saint James' Church is accessible via the M72 crosstown bus, and M1, M3, M4, M30; or the #6 subway to 68th Street. There are numerous parking garages on 71st Street, and in the surrounding area, and street parking is usually available on Madison and Lexington Avenues after 7 PM.



XXXV • ANNIVERSARY

TREASURES OF THE OLD & NEW WORLDS

FALL 2009 - CHAMBER ENSEMBLE

Cathedral of St. John the Divine Amsterdam Ave at 112th St

I. EL NUEVO MUNDO

17th & 18th-Century Spain and the Colonial Latin Americas

Saturday, November 7, 8 PM Sunday, November 8, 2 PM

Old World Spanish harmony is peppered with provocative rhythms of Latin America's indigenous peoples - a unique New World hybrid - performed by EM/NY's superb vocal ensemble and a plethora of plucked guitars, arch-lutes, harp and a bevy of bowed strings.

Sacred vocal creations for Spain's and Mexico's ornate cathedrals are interspersed with instrumental and vocal *chansonetas*, *villancicos*, *coliquios* and *ensaladas*, with guitar tablatures by Santiago de Murcia.

In the Hispano American tradition, *villancicos* are popular, secular songs interpolated in liturgical services.

II. A RENAISSANCE CHRISTMAS

Saturday, December 5, 8 PM Sunday, December 20, 2 PM
Friday, December 25, 2 & 8 PM Sunday, December 27, 2 PM

As Cathedral Resident Artist, EM/NY has established a 'sold-out' tradition, performing holiday fare from an extensive repertory recorded on the *Ex cathedra* label in association with The Metropolitan Museum of Art.

This anniversary season EM/NY artists bear gifts from the Renaissance with favorites, *There is no rose of such virtue*, *Lully Lulla*, *Es ist ein ros entsprungen*, *In dulci jubilo*, *Green grow'th the holly*, alongside rarely-heard seasonal gems. Frederick Renz has selected *carols*, *noels* and motets dating from the 15th and 16th centuries emanating from sacred and secular rituals across Europe. Hear EM/NY perform in New York's great gothic Cathedral!

SPRING 2010 - ORCHESTRA

St. James' Church Madison Ave at 71st St

III. GERMANIA ~ AMERIKA

18th-Century European & German-American Composers

Saturday, March 20, 8 PM

Bach and Telemann are esteemed among lovers of baroque music while contemporaries, J. Kasper Ferdinand Fischer and J. Friedrich Fasch, are hardly known. Fischer was ranked by Forkel (18th-c. musicologist) as one of the best composers of the time. His *Le Journal du printemps* (1695) was the first collection of orchestral suites published in Germany. Although Fasch's compositions were not printed in his lifetime, he was held in high regard by his peers; Bach hand copied several of his works.

John Christopher Moller (1755-1803) was among the first American composer/publishers in the US. Born in Germany, he immigrated to Philadelphia in 1790. During a brief period in NYC, he served as organist for Trinity Episcopal Church.

IV. RULE BRITANNIA ~ HAIL COLUMBIA

English & Anglo-American Composers of the 18th Century

Saturday, May 1, 8 PM

Henry Purcell, (1659-1695), dubbed Orpheus Britannicus in his day, was long considered England's greatest baroque composer. While incorporating Italian and French elements, he devised a unique English style and was praised equally for his operas, celebratory odes and church anthems. Charles Avison and William Boyce followed, while it was the foreigner, G.F. Handel, who won the highest accolades of the English court.

Raynor Taylor (1747-1825) was a boy chorister of the Chapel Royal, notably singing at Handel's funeral in 1759. The story goes that Taylor's scap accidentally fell into the composer's grave during the ceremony. Taylor later worked in the United States as an organist, teacher, composer, after emigrating in 1792.

Mau Uruer Form [0] Umline: EarlyMusicN1.org [0] Call: 212-260-0230
- Order any number of tickets to all FOUR program titles (full season) for \$30 per ticket (25% saving), and receive these additional benefits:
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- Purchase single tickets: \$40

Check Program Title # of Tickets

I. EL NUEVO MUNDO

Saturday, November 7 at 8 PM
Sunday, November 8 at 2 PM

II. RENAISSANCE CHRISTMAS

Saturday, December 5 at 8 PM
Sunday, December 20 at 2 PM
Friday, December 25 at 2 PM
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III. GERMANIA ~ AMERIKA

Saturday, March 20 at 8 PM
IV. BRITANNIA ~ COLUMBIA
Saturday, May 1 at 8 PM

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Venues are ADA accessible.
1st come/1st served seating assignments; Programs subject to change; All sales final

Reviewing the Season Past
(2008-2009)

~ EARLY MUSIC FOUNDATION PRESENTS ~
EARLY MUSIC NEW YORK (EM/NY)

"Even in a corner of the music world where ensembles are typically flexible, Early Music New York has made shape shifting an art form. Its founder and director, Frederick Renz, named the group in a way that allows an expansive sense of mission, touching on six centuries of music. For one concert the group might be a medieval quartet, for another it might be a vocal ensemble, and for the next a Baroque orchestra."

Allan Kozinn, *The New York Times*, 3/17/09

Chamber concerts in residence, Cathedral of St. John the Divine - EM/NY, as Cathedral Resident Artists, performed two fall presentations at St. John the Divine and drew record audiences. The opening event, "Colonial Capers" proved an eye-opener to those who assumed early American repertoire consisted only of simple, puritanical hymns. Far from it, the music selected by Frederick Renz, both vocal and instrumental, proved to be accomplished and vivacious, displaying a scope of moods and composition techniques that shed light on the complex, creative lives of our forefathers.

A compact disc of "Colonial Capers" is in the final edit stages and will be released by *Ex cathedra* Records in the fall. The recording project was underwritten by the Reed Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Coinciding with rededication ceremonies of the fully refurbished Cathedral, six performances of "A Baroque Christmas" sold out in record time; disappointed late comers had to be turned away at the door. It's an EM/NY tradition to cycle its six seasonal programs, each recorded on CD in association with the Met Museum of Art ("A Medieval...", "A Renaissance...", "A Baroque...", "A Colonial...", "A Bohemian...", and "A Dutch Christmas.") For several years, EM/NY has had the pleasure of performing its holiday programs for the Howland Friends of Chamber Music headquartered in Beacon, New York.

Orchestra of Original Instruments, St. James' Church - The first EM/NY Orchestra program of the spring season highlighted expressive and virtuosic 17th-century programmatic repertoire reflecting the tastes of the imperial Hapsburg court.

Frederick Renz, once again, found and polished off provocative works, shedding light on these seldom heard, dazzling orchestra gems.

"Mr. Renz's ensemble ... gave these works vital, beautifully sculptured performances."

The New York Times, spring 2009

The second orchestra program and the final event of the 2008-2009 season, entitled "Concerts Spirituels," focused on lesser known 18th-century concerto composers.

In addition to being consummate team players, select members of the EM/NY Orchestra displayed their soloist 'chops' with delightfully virtuosic French concertos, each, for cello, flute, and oboe.

A trademark of his presentations, Renz balances concert programs by including well-known composers as well as bringing unheard repertoire to the fore. In addition to the lesser known concerti, a colorful dance suite by Jean Philippe Rameau proved the affair to be perhaps more "spirited" than "spiritual."

UPCOMING: Sunday, December 6th, 2009 at 4:00 PM, EM/NY will present "A Renaissance Christmas" at St. Mary-in-the-Highlands Episcopal Church, Cold Spring, NY. For details about this upcoming appearance: www.howlandmusic.org

UPCOMING: Saturday, October 10 at 8 PM, EM/NY will present "El Nuevo Mundo" for the Catskill Mtn. Fdn, Hunter, NY. For details: www.catskillmtn.org

Medieval Echoes from The Cloisters - As has been the case every year since its inception, EM/NY appeared at The Cloisters, performing in the chapels and outdoor cloistered gardens. This past year, EM/NY musicians were invited to serenade indoors in winter and, again, in the open air to welcome the spring. While musicians performed simultaneously from multiple locations within The Cloisters, strains from EM/NY CDs could be heard wafting from the Museum gift shop wing!

EM/NY RECORDINGS

In the fall, "Music of Renaissance Love" was released in association with The Metropolitan Museum of Art for the exhibition, "Art and Love in Renaissance Italy." Representing more than a dozen Italian composers including Monteverdi, Gabrieli, Gesualdo, Arcadelt, and Palestrina, this EM/NY album on the *Ex cathedra* Records label is a sumptuous compendium of secular love songs from highly chromatic madrigals expressing love's anguish, to lighthearted, sometimes salacious, dance songs extolling Cupid's folly. This recording was partially funded by the Jarvis and Constance Doctorow Family Foundation and serves as the vocal counterpart to EM/NY's previous all-instrumental release entitled "Music of Venice."

CDs are available via direct sales at EM/NY concerts the Met Museum's gift shops, on major commercial sites and on the internet via www.EarlyMusicNY.org

ADVD/CD entitled "Choirs of Angels," produced for EMF by Robert Elder, and in collaboration with The Metropolitan Museum of Art, was also released in time for the winter holiday season. The widescreen DVD features more than forty images from the Museum's superb collection of Italian Renaissance paintings and cuttings from choral manuscripts. Contemporary music performed by EM/NY (also on a separate 60-minute CD) complements the almost 60-minute gallery tour of illuminations.

With these most recent releases, the *Ex cathedra* Records catalog totals nine titles produced in association with The Metropolitan Museum of Art. In the 2008-2009 season, more than 4,000 EM/NY CDs were sold.

~ EMF BOARD OF TRUSTEES ~

Audrey Boughton - President, Janice Haggerty - Vice President, Peter deL. Swords - Treasurer, Hoyt Spelman - Secretary, Sally Brown, Pamela Morton, Frederick Renz - *Ex officio*

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Albert Lee - General Manager, Dorothy Olsson - Development Associate, Michael Gordon - Bookkeeper, Jason McClellan - Graphic Designer

~ EMF SERVICE TO THE FIELD ~

New York Early Music Central (NYEMC)

Staging Calendar - Historical performance is a specialized field and EMF is the leading NYC-based organization to provide services to promote this special body of music through NYEMC. The early music community is close-knit; performers commonly appear in more than one ensemble. Coordinating rehearsal and concert dates among directors/managers is essential. In order to facilitate communications, EMF launched and maintains a website, planning calendar (www.NYEMC.org) as free-access a resource to best avoid conflicting activity in the City. A vast improvement over prior years, no major conflicts of NYC early music activity occurred this past season.

Lecture/Demo Series Planned for this Season - Through a matching 'consortium' grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, EMF (NYEMC) will organize and curate a series of six Lecture/Demonstrations explaining and illustrating historical performance practices (AKA 'early music') for the lay-listener. Scheduled for spring 2010, dates, venue, lecturers, performers and topics will be announced in January.

~ EMF SUPPORT ~

The mission of the Early Music Foundation is made possible, in part, by public funds from the National Endowment for the Arts, New York State Council on the Arts and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. Additional private support is provided by the Achelis Foundation, Appleby Foundation, Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation, Jarvis and Constance Doctorow Family Foundation, Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation, Gilder Foundation, Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, Merrill G. & Erita E. Hastings Foundation, Jewish Communal Fund, Reed Foundation, Fan Fox & Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, Ernst C. Stiefel Foundation, and many loyal, individual Friends of the EMF.

'**Stimulus**' - EMF was advised by the National Endowment for the Arts that it will receive a Federal 'stimulus' (ARRA) award insuring the stability of its administrative staff through the current economic downturn. EMF is one of a select group of arts organizations nationwide to receive this coveted support.

To inquire about contributing to EMF, please call our administrative office at 212-749-6600 or visit www.EarlyMusicNY.org