

EARLY MUSIC FOUNDATION
10 West 68th Street, New York, NY 10023

2020 – 2021 AND 2021 – 2022 SEASON REPORTS
46TH AND 47TH SEASONS

I. SUMMARY

The 46th season of **Early Music Foundation** (EMF) was fully online due to the Covid-19 pandemic, while the 47th season marked a return to live performances. The 46th season (2020-2021) included the following projects, as part of EMF's mission to enhance public knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of music and music drama of the 11th through the 18th centuries:

- Online release of videos by EM/NY musicians, via its YouTube channel, and of selections from both commercial and concert recordings, via SoundCloud.
- Educational features in E-Blast newsletters.
- Initiation of the new Video Equipment Support Program (VESP), a service-to-the-field endeavor administered through New York Early Music Central (NYEMC), to enable musicians in the New York early music community to record and publish their own performances.

The 47th season (2021-2022) included:

- A four-program New York City subscription concert series by Early Music New York (EM/NY). Performances took place at the First Church of Christ, Scientist and at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, reaching an audience of 665 patrons and engaging forty-three New York musicians.
- Continuation of the Foundation's other 501(c)(3) service-to-the-field projects for the historical performance community: the NYEMC staging calendar, instrument loans to associate musicians, and VESP.

EARLY MUSIC
NEW YORK
FREDERICK RENZ
FOUNDING DIRECTOR

47th SUBSCRIPTION SEASON ~ 2021 - 2022

~ GREAT NAMES ~

A FAMILY AFFAIR: The Haydns and the Mozarts
~ classical orchestra ~
Saturday, October 30 at 7:30 pm
First Church of Christ, Scientist, Central Park West & 68th Street

ANGELI ANGLICUS: Christmas in Anglia
~ mixed voices and instruments ~
Sunday, December 19 at 2:00 pm
Saturday, December 25 at 2:00 & 5:00 pm
Sunday, December 26 at 2:00 & 5:00 pm
Cathedral of Saint John the Divine, Amsterdam Avenue at 112th Street

BACH COUSINS: Luminous Dynasty ~ baroque orchestra
Saturday, March 5 at 7:30 pm
First Church of Christ, Scientist, Central Park West & 68th Street

TELEMANN À LA POLONAISE: From Folk to Formal
~ chamber orchestra ~
Saturday, May 7 at 7:30 pm
First Church of Christ, Scientist, Central Park West & 68th Street

EarlyMusicNY.org 212-280-0330

2021-2022 Pre-Season Postcard

II. MUSIC PERFORMANCES AND RECORDINGS

A. 2020-2021

Online Artist Videos

On October 9, 2020, EMF released its first artist video of the season. EM/NY principal violinist Nicholas DiEugenio discussed the various bows he uses in historically informed performances, and performed Bach's Partita in D minor. The video can be streamed [here](#).



Cellist and gambist Sarah Abigael Stone curated and commented upon a series of split-screen videos of Bach Chorales in which she played all the parts on various cellos, gambas and assorted percussion instruments. The video was released on November 6, 2020, and can be streamed [here](#).

Keyboardist Dongsok Shin introduced the lautenwerck, also known as a lute-harpsichord, very likely the instrument for which J.S. Bach composed most of the works we have come to know as lute music. This video, released on February 16, 2021, was featured on NPR's Morning Edition, and has garnered more than 24,000 views worldwide. It can be streamed [here](#).



Wind instrumentalist Wayne Hankin provided informative background and commentary to accompany four entertaining and colorful performances of medieval music on such historic instruments as hornpipes, vessel flutes, bagpipes and double pipes. The video was released on March 31, 2021 and can be streamed [here](#).

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B. 2021-2022

EARLY MUSIC NEW YORK (EM/NY) SUBSCRIPTION SERIES 2021-2022

EMF's annual core offering is a subscription series of concerts featuring its performance ensemble Early Music New York – Frederick Renz, Director (EM/NY). The season was entitled "Great Names," and featured works by members of the Haydn, Mozart and Bach families, as well as music by Telemann.

"A Family Affair: The Haydns and the Mozarts"

Performance date: October 30, 2021 • Venue: First Church of Christ, Scientist, NYC

Attendance: 162



EM/NY's first event of the season featured, back to back, the works of two Haydns (Joseph and Michael) and two Mozarts (Leopold and Wolfgang Amadeus). EM/NY's classical orchestra consisted of nineteen instrumentalists (strings, 1 bassoon, 1 flute, 2 oboes and 2 horns). This concert was presented free of charge.

"Angeli Anglicus: A Tudor Christmas"

Performance dates: December 19, 25 (2 performances), and 26 (2 performances), 2021

Venue: The Cathedral of St. John the Divine, Synod Hall

Attendance: 160

EM/NY's Chamber Ensemble—9 singers and 4 instrumentalists (violin, viola da gamba, lute and recorder) — offered a mixture of the sacred and secular, with men's voices and period instruments performing works that would have been heard at court and in local taverns of Tudor England during the reigns of Henry VII, Henry VIII and Elizabeth I. After the first of five scheduled performances, the Cathedral canceled all events due to the resurgence of Covid-19.

"...a rich and varied experience, from the ethereal to the boisterous. This combination of ancient chant, golden-age polyphony, and rollicking drinking songs was an ideal holiday gift." – Jack Sullivan, *Classical Voice North America*



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“Bach Cousins: Luminous Dynasty”

Performance date: March 5, 2022 • Venue: First Church of Christ, Scientist, NYC
Attendance: 185



This baroque orchestra program featured works by six different composers, all named Bach, who spanned more than a century in their creative lifetimes. The orchestra, consisting of 19 players (strings, bassoon, 2 recorders, organ and theorbo), featured both older instruments common in the 17th century and their 18th-century successors. Guest countertenor Daniel Moody performed in two works.

“There is nothing quite like experiencing something done well by those well-poised to do it...New York City can rely on the brilliantly grouped musicians under the devoted direction of Frederick Renz to offer an impeccable concert.”

– Daniele Sahr, *Seen and Heard International*

“Telemann à la Polonaise: From Folk to Formal”

Performance date: May 7, 2022 • Venue: First Church of Christ, Scientist, NYC
Attendance: 158

Georg Philipp Telemann first encountered folk dance tunes from Poland in his early 20's, and compiled many of them in a volume known today as the Rostock Manuscript, discovered only in 1987. EM/NY's baroque orchestra included 18 instrumentalists (strings, 2 oboes, bassoon, theorbo, harpsichord, and bagpiper Wayne Hankin), performing suites and concerti utilizing themes from this collection.

“This splendid group confined themselves to the rare enchanting music animated by the Polish dances [Telemann] inhaled while working for a Polish noble. And no ensemble could have given such delicious Baroque verisimilitude.”

– Harry Rolnick, *ConcertoNet*



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Frederick Renz conducts EM/NY, May 7, 2022

Photo: Michael Violago

EARLY MUSIC NEW YORK IN THE PRESS

- 1) [Carols Solemn, Joyous, and a Beat Ahead of the Omicron Humbug](#), Jack Sullivan, *Classical Voice North America*, December 24, 2021
- 2) [This Early Music New York Concert Reflects the Baroque Dominance in Bach's Family Tree](#), Daniele Sahr, *Seen and Heard International*, March 23, 2022
- 3) [A Height of Humanity](#), Harry Rolnick, *ConcertoNet*, May 9, 2022
- 4) [Early Music New York Goes for the Exotic in 'Telemann à la Polonaise,'](#) Rick Perdian, *Seen and Heard International*, May 11, 2022

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RECORDINGS

EM/NY Featured on WQXR

Excerpts of EM/NY's recordings were aired throughout the 2021-2022 season on New York City's premier classical music radio station, WQXR.

***Ex cathedra* CD Catalog**

The *Ex cathedra* Records catalog (EMF's in-house label) lists eleven CDs; nine of these titles were produced in association with The Metropolitan Museum of Art (MMA). Two titles—Istanpitta!, and Istanpitta II— were previously released on the Lyrichord Early Music Series label. CDs are available via the MMA's gift shops, direct sales at EM/NY concerts, on the Internet through the Early Music Foundation's website (www.EarlyMusicNY.org), and commercial sites including Amazon.com, CDBaby.com, iTunes.com, Spotify and Google Music Store. During EMF's 46th and 47th seasons, more than 450 CDs were sold, and EM/NY's tracks were streamed more than 900,000 times.

EARLY MUSIC NEW YORK'S DISCOGRAPHY: *Ex Cathedra* Records

Music of Medieval Love	A Medieval Christmas
Music of Renaissance Love	A Renaissance Christmas
Music of Venice	A Baroque Christmas
Colonial Capers	A Colonial Christmas
Troped Apostolic Mass for Saint Martial, 1029, Adémar de Chabannes, (989-1034)	A Bohemian Christmas
Istanpitta! A Medieval Dance Band	A Dutch Christmas
	Istanpitta II, Medieval Dances



III. OTHER ACTIVITIES

SERVICES 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 infrequently performed body of music through NYEMC. The early music community is close-knit; performers commonly appear in more than one ensemble. Therefore, communication among directors regarding coordination of rehearsals and concert dates is essential. In order to facilitate these arrangements, EMF has maintained (since January 2008) a planning calendar on a dedicated website (NYEMC.com), in order to best avoid conflicting activity.

Instrument Loan Program

As a service-to-the-field project, Tricia van Oers continues to use one of EMF's David Ohannesian Renaissance recorders; and Margo Andrea continues to use an EMF-owned vielle in concerts by the Alba Consort.

VESP Program

The new Video Equipment Support Program (VESP) makes cameras, lights, venue and the services of a video producer available gratis to members of the historically-informed performance community in the greater New York area, to facilitate the creation of their own video resources.



The first VESP video, by medieval ensemble **Concordian Dawn**, was "**Fortuna Antiqua a et Ultra**," songs from the *ars antiqua*, *ars nova*, and *ars subtilior* periods, plus a late medieval/early Renaissance work by 15th-century composer Guillaume DuFay. It was released on the website of Lehman College, where ensemble director **Christopher Preston Thompson** is on the faculty, in June 2021. It also served to help promote the group's subsequent recording of this repertoire.

VESP also supported a recording, by **Dr. Jeff S. Dailey** and his ensemble **Collectio Musicorum**, of "**Missa L'Homme Armé**" by **Mattheus Pipelare**, in an edition by the late musicologist Dr. Ronald Cross. It was released on the group's YouTube channel February 19, 2022 on what would have been Dr. Cross's 93rd birthday.



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MARKETING and PUBLIC RELATIONS



December 2021 concert postcard

After halting most activity during the Covid-19 pandemic, Early Music Foundation (EMF) resumed promotional activities and public relations endeavors during the 2021-22 season. Postcards for the 2021-22 season, the December 2021 program, and the two Spring 2022 concerts were distributed locally. Posters were placed outside the First Church of Christ, Scientist announcing the season program. EMF sent periodic “E-Blasts” to a mailing list of more than 3,500. Prior to concerts, press releases were sent to the metropolitan area’s local classical music reviewers, radio announcers and program directors. Public radio service announcements appeared on WQXR, and ticket giveaways arranged with WKCR (Columbia University). EMF also listed performances on numerous online cultural calendars.

FUNDRAISING AND SUPPORT

The work of the Early Music Foundation was supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council and the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature. Private funding was generously provided by The American Endowment Foundation, The Appleby Foundation, The Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation, The Jarvis & Constance Doctorow Family Foundation, The Max & Victoria Dreyfus Foundation, The Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, The E. Nakamichi Foundation, The Pyewacket Fund of NYCT, The Reed Foundation, The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, The Shelter Rock Foundation, and the Litsa Tsitsera Estate. Unrestricted individual contributions by EMF patrons and supporters of EMF over the two seasons exceeded \$67,800. EMF’s Board of Trustees organized fundraising appeals in the springs of 2021 and 2022.

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IV. BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Edward B. Whitney, President
Pamela Morton, Secretary
Peter deL. Swords, Treasurer
Audrey Boughton, Trustee
Marsha Palanci, Trustee
Hoyt Spelman, III, Trustee
Frederick Renz, *Ex officio*

V. STAFF

46th Season:

Frederick Renz – Founding Director
Aaron Smith – Operations Manager (July 1 - Sep 9, 2020)
Steven May – Administrative Associate (Sep 2, 2020 - June 30, 2021)
Michael Gordon – Fiscal Consultant
Daniel Guss – PR and Development Manager (July 1 - Oct 5, 2020); General Manager
(Oct 6, 2020 - June 30, 2021)

47th Season:

Frederick Renz – Founding Director
Daniel Guss – General Manager
Steven May – Administrative Associate (July 1, 2021 - Oct 30, 2021)
Dexter Dine – Administrative Associate (Nov 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022)
Michael Gordon – Fiscal Consultant

VI. FINANCIALS

Unaudited financial summary for 2020-2021:

Total Income: \$160,392
Total Expenses: \$79,354
Ending net assets: \$107,881

Unaudited financial summary for 2021-2022:

Total Income: \$202,425
Total Expenses: \$175,421
Ending net assets: \$156,804

Prepared by Dexter Dine, Administrative Associate, July, 2022.