

CONVIVIUM • MUSICUM • 2012

MICHAEL BARRETT, MUSIC DIRECTOR

ORLANDISSIMO: *the life & works of Orlandus Lassus*



“...Melodies rang clear. Full awareness of harmonies, one by one, and the chorus’s unyielding focus constantly caused this listener to admire such extraordinary accomplishment ...

I was happy to discover this committed ensemble.”

— David Patterson, *Boston Musical Intelligencer*, January 17, 2011.

WINTER 2012: *A Renaissance Prodigy*

Legend has it that the young Orlandus Lassus was kidnapped multiple times due to the beauty of his voice. This apparently did not stunt his growth as a composer, for which he gained unparalleled fame at an early age. Our winter program features works from Lassus’ early career in Italy and the Low Countries, revealing a young composer steeped in the musical traditions of his homeland and with a penchant for adventurous harmonies. We include works by two of the major musical influences on the young composer, Clemens non Papa and Nicolas Gombert.

January 15, 4 pm • Christ Church Andover

January 28, 7 pm • Cambridge Friends Meeting House

January 29, 4 pm • St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Brookline

SPRING 2012: *A Prince of Music*

Lassus spent the better part of his career in the service of the Bavarian court. Letters from the period, familiar and often humorous exchanges between the composer and his royal patrons, suggest why Lassus chose to remain, despite offers for more lucrative posts. Meanwhile, through his musical output, astounding in both quantity and quality, Lassus established himself as Europe’s leading composer. Join Convivium as we offer a sample of works by this remarkable musician at the height of his creative powers.

May 12, 8 pm • Trinity Lutheran Church, Worcester

May 19, 8 pm • Harvard-Epworth Church, Cambridge

May 20, 7 pm • St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Brookline

TICKETS \$20/\$12 students, seniors, limited income

SEASON TICKETS are available for \$30/\$18

For complete concert information, including directions, parking, accessibility, and schedule changes, please see our website: www.convivium.org email: info@convivium.org phone: 617-320-7445

TICKETS & DONATIONS

To order tickets and/or make a contribution, please fill out and return this form to Convivium Musicum, 11 Belmont Street, Somerville, MA 02143. Checks should be payable to Convivium Musicum.

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sign up for email notices (*we do not share this information with other organizations*)

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Founded and run by its singers, **CONVIVIUM MUSICUM** has been dedicated to concerts of uplifting beauty since 1987. Recently praised by a listener: “The sounds were incredible. It was as if I’d been anointed by the heavens,” Convivium is well-known for performances of Renaissance choral music that shimmer with precision, fine intonation, rhythmic accuracy, and lively attention to text. Over the past two decades we have offered rarely-heard gems alongside stirring masterworks. As we enter our fifth season with music director Michael Barrett, our programs continue to be informed by careful research and scholarship, and our performances devoted to bringing to life the complex and profound emotional texture of this repertoire. Early Music America has acclaimed our performance as “the kind of transforming experience that concert junkies are always seeking.” This is what Convivium strives for in every concert program.

Music director **MICHAEL BARRETT** is active in the Boston area as a professional musician and teacher. As a singer he has collaborated with the Boston Camerata, Huelgas Ensemble, Blue Heron, the Netherlands Bach Society, L’Académie, Seven Times Salt, and Exsultemus, and has performed in several operas produced by the Boston Early Music Festival. Mr. Barrett also directs the professional vocal ensemble Sprezzatura, and he serves on the advisory board of L’Académie, an ensemble for Baroque music. Mr. Barrett has worked as a conductor and music theory teacher at Harvard University. He is a faculty member of IMC, a New York-based company for music curriculum and instruction, and has served as a workshop leader for professional development courses. He also maintains a studio for private instruction in voice, piano, and music theory. Mr. Barrett earned an AB in music from Harvard University, an MM in choir conducting from Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, and First Phase Diploma in Baroque and Classical singing from the Royal Conservatory in The Hague. In the fall of 2010 he began doctoral studies in choral conducting at Boston University.

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— Mary Maarbjerg, *Early Music America*

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