



42nd Season has selections from the 1200s through J.C. Bach's Time!

Every few years Carolina Pro Musica decides it is time to be a bit different (as if we aren't already!) This year we're doing music from around the year 1250 featuring selections from the *Cantigas de Santa Maria*, the entire *Cantigas de Amigo* and some music from the *Carmina Burana* manuscript. It has been quite a few years since we did some of the *Cantigas* associated with Alfonso X. All associated with the Virgin Maria but not all religious.

Cantigas de Amigo are quite different. Seven poems associated with the town Vigo in present-day Spain south of Santiago de Compostella. As poems these were known through a collection in the Vatican. It was not until 1913 that Madrid bookseller, Don Pedro Vindel discovered another copy, this time with music. The manuscript had been used to stiffen up the binding of a 14th century manuscript. Vindel published this work in facsimile in 1915.

The poems are of a specific archaic poetic form. They relay the story of a young woman waiting by the sea for her beloved to return. Why did he go? Was he a military person or traveling for other business? The text has some hints. More ideas will flow as we work with these.

Carmina Burana is known as a composition by Carl Orff from 1937 but the manuscript itself dates from the 12th and early 13th centuries. It was found in the library of the monastery of Benediktbeuern about 40 miles from Munich. The monastery was dissolved in 1803 when the manuscript was



discovered and transferred to the Bavarian State Library. The texts are about worldly topics: love, drinking, eating, spring and more. For our program, we have chosen a half-dozen songs from the over 300.



The Christmas concerts will again feature Bob Sweeten as narrator but this year music will be from the 17th and 18th centuries. There will still be favorite carols of the time for all to sing.

February is the month for guest strings including John Pruett, Tom LaJoie and Henry Trexler. They will be joined by Janelle Davis, an early music performer who moved to Charlotte last summer. Featured works will be Bach's Cantata 199, Vivaldi's Flute Concerto, Opus 10 #4 and an aria from Vivaldi's only known oratorio.

This Bach cantata is about the closest Bach ever came to writing opera. It is very dramatic. The text deals with the singer knowing about the wrongs they have done but by the end of the work redemption has come. This cantata originates from Bach's days at Weimar and was revived two more times with changes. We will use the third version (Leipzig) for our performance.

The concerto, Opus 10 #4, is different in that it doesn't rely on the string idioms so often used in Vivaldi's compositions. The movement "Umbrae Carae" from *Juditha Triumphans* demonstrates peace and tranquility showing Vivaldi's ability in the vocal realm.

We end the season with a salute to Englishman Henry Purcell and the composers who followed. All of them were Europeans including Handel, Pepusch and Bach's youngest son Johann Christian, called "The London Bach".

Other CPM Activities

Last Season Carolina Pro Musica received North Carolina Grassroots monies to present their BlackBeard programs in Gaston County. These were matched in part by funds given to the Gaston Community Foundation. This year Carolina Pro Musica participated in the Foundation's Run, a requirement to be eligible for funding. This year the donation match was higher than last season coming in at 37%. Carolina Pro Musica will use these funds for concerts in Gaston County and to match NC Grassroots funds if granted. Several people also gave donations to us through the Community Foundation including Mr. and Mrs. James E. Morris II,

Haywood Rankin and Sabine Schmid-Rankin, and Mr. and Mrs. Gary A Thrower

Our concerts in Gaston County under GEMS (Gaston Early Music Series) will be variations on our Medieval Stories and Songs program. (see article above). We are also planning a song-writing workshop for all interested persons. Assisting with the workshop will be noted Gaston music educator Jocelyn Pharr Thompson.

Carolina Pro Musica's 42nd Season

Medieval Songs and Stories

October 5, 2019 7:30 PM St. Martin's Episcopal
Excerpts from *Cantigas de Santa Maria*, *Cantigas de Amigo*, *Carmina Burana*

Carolina Pro Musica Christmas

December 14, 2019 7:00 & 8:30 PM St. Mary's
18th-century music, readings by Bob Sweeten

Eighteenth-Century Innovation

February 8, 2020 7:30 PM St. Martin's Episcopal
Bach Cantata 199 Vivaldi Concerto Op.10 #4

Uniquely English - Music of Purcell and beyond

March 28, 2020 7:30 PM St. Martin's Episcopal
Flowering of the Baroque in England

Concert venues:

St. Martin's Episcopal
1510 E. 7th St. Charlotte 28204
St. Mary's Chapel
1129 E. 3rd St. Charlotte 28204



Statue of J. S. Bach outside of the Thomaskirche, (St. Thomas Church), Leipzig, Germany. This church was the site of Bach's Cantata 199, third version, given August 8, 1723.

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• Tickets are available online, by mail or at the door.
www.carolinapromusica.org



See www.carolinapromusica.org for concert details and other concerts not part of our series. Purchase CDs or make donations to the Ann T. Hite Fund for Education Carolina Pro Musica General & Artistic Fund

Donations to Carolina Pro Musica are important to us and tax-deductible for you.

Support those who support us:

Arts at the Abbey, Royal Gardens
CVNC (cvnc.org), Mation Engineering, Michael's Music Service,
St. Martin's Episcopal



Carolina Pro Musica at Belmont Abbey, Belmont, NC



Meet Janelle

Janelle Davis enjoys a varied career as a chamber musician, orchestral player, and soloist with various North American early-music ensembles, and has performed internationally in China, Europe, and the U.K. She has recorded

for the IndieBarok label, Cedille records, IU Press, Heartland Baroque, and has been heard in programs for PBS television and live on Chicago's WFMT classical radio.

A devoted educator, Janelle has been a strings instructor for preschool through adult learners in private and university settings, as well as in the public schools. Janelle holds a doctoral degree from Indiana University where she specialized in historical violins and music from the 17th and 18th centuries.

Besides performing and teaching, Janelle is a writer, and worked for many years as a writer, producer, and podcast host for the syndicated early music radio program, *Harmonia*. Janelle is a recent transplant to Charlotte, North Carolina, where she lives with her husband and two children.

The Artists 2019-20

Karen Hite Jacob, *director, harpsichord, harp*

Rebecca Miller Saunders, *soprano, percussion*

Holly Wright Maurer, *viola da gamba, traverso, recorder*

Edward Ferrell, *recorders, flauto traverso, guitar,*

Bob Sweeten, *narrator (December)*

John Pruet, Janelle Davis, Tom LaJoie, Henry Trexler
baroque strings (February)