## CONSORTIUM CARISSIMI

"...squisita musica strumentale ed eccellente musica vocale." Pompilio Totti Ritratto di Roma 1638

# Gabrieli!



Sacred and Secular Sounds of Venice

Music of Giovanni Gabrieli (c. 1554/1557 – 1612)

The 400th Anniversary of his death

### Consortium Carissimi Singers

Soprano

Heather Cogswell

Linh Kauffman

Marita Link

Teri Larson

Alto

Christine Anameir

Natasha Cramer

Timothy P. Faatz

Lauren Vick

Tenor

Roy Heilman

David Lindquist

Bill Pederson

Bass

Mike Schmidt

Douglas Shambo II

Garrick Comeaux



Consortium Carissimi Players

Violin - Ginna Watson

Archlute - Tom Walker

Archlute - Phil Rukavina

Viola da gamba - Mary Burke

Harpsichord - Bruce Jacobs

Organ/Harp - Don Livingston

Special Guest

Vern Sutton as Thomas Coryat

Direction

**Garrick Comeaux** 

## St. Olaf Early Music Singers & St. Olaf Collegium Musicum Dr. Gerald Hoekstra, director

Sophia Butler
Ryan Coopergard
Audrey Craft
Andrea Deering
Mark Donlin
Gregory Martin
Katie Miller

Tucker Moore
Andrew Parr
Gabriel Smith
Erik Springer
Emory Tower
Emily Vite



violin - Lindsie Katz
violin - Jenny Asparro
cornetto - Gerald Hoekstra
alto sackbut - Jesse Brault
tenor sackbut - Zachary Gingerich
tenor sackbut - Nicholas Church
tenor sackbut - Whitney Lussier
tenor sackbut - Phillip Meyer
bass sackbut - Ramsey Walker
bass sackbut - Robinson Schulze
bass dulcian - Linnea Pierson

#### THE PROGRAM

Audite principes Tutti

Quis est iste Tutti

Sonata a 3 violini Lindsie Katz, Jenny Asparro, Ginna Watson

Labra amorose e care Marita Link, Bill Pederson,

Roy Heilman, Garrick Comeaux

Alma cortes'e bella Heather Cogswell, Marita Link, Bill Pederson

Ahi senza di te Heather Cogswell, Marita Link,

Natasha Cramer, Bill Pederson

Deh di me non ti caglia Linh Kauffman, Heather Cogwell,

Marita Link, Bill Pederson

Quand'io ero giovinetto Linh Kauffman, Marita Link, Tim Faatz,

Roy Heilman, Garrick Comeaux

Quem vidistis Marita Link, Lauren Vick, Roy Heilman,

Tim Faatz, Bill Pederson, Douglas Shambo

Angelus ad Pastores Tutti

Sonata Pian e Forte St. Olaf Collegium Musicum

Deus, Deus Meus Tutti

Exaudi Deus Roy Heilman, Douglas Shambo

Surrexit Pastor Bonus Tutti

Cantate Domino Marita Link, Bill Pederson, Roy Heilman,

Douglas Shambo, Mike Schmidt, Garrick Comeaux

Jubilate Deo Tutti

Friday, October 5th, 2012, 7:30 p.m., *The Church of Christ the King* - Minneapolis, MN Saturday, October 6th, 7:30 p.m., *Boe Memorial Chapel at St. Olaf College* - Northfield, MN Sunday, October 7th, 2:00 p.m., *The Church of Christ the King* - Minneapolis, MN

In the year 1608, a mildly eccentric English traveler conceived of a 1,975-mile voyage to Venice and back in order to write a subsequent travelogue dedicated to Henry, Prince of Wales, at whose court he was regarded as somewhat of a buffoon and jester, rather than the wit and intellectual he considered himself. His name was Thomas Coryat of Odcombe, and he later published this diary entitled *Coryat's Crudities: Hastily gobled up in Five Moneth's Travels*.

The book is an account of his journey undertaken, much of it on foot, through France, Italy, Germany, and other European countries. Among other things, it introduced the use of the fork to England and, in its support of continental travel, helped to popularize the idea of the Grand Tour that rose in popularity later in the century. It was likely the earliest English rendering of the legend of William Tell.

More importantly, however, it represents a contemporary account of the music of Giovanni Gabrieli performed in Venice. His observations of Italy began in Turin, then to Milano, Cremona, Mantua, Padua and finally Venice.

I was a bass singer in the *Capella Ducale - Venetia* for many years. We performed the music of great Venetian musicians, often in the cities where they worked, such as Marghera, Chioggia, Padua and, of course, in Venice. Great enthusiasm can erupt in singers and players that specialize in early music and the fantasy of mystery can go far with one's imagination.

It was in fact while we were rehearsing in Saint Mark's in Venice for a concert of Gabrieli, that our *cornetto* player from Prato suggested we should invoke the ghost of Gabrieli. Over the week of rehearsals, our enthusiasm produced a collective "call" to the spirit of Gabrieli. None of us really believed in ghosts, but we could pretend for a while since we profoundly believed in the music that you will hear in these concerts. Hence the title of this production: *Gabrieli!* 

We have invoked two spirits in this production: those of Govanni Gabrieli and of Thomas Coryat. We can pretend for a while tonight. Benvenuti a Venezia!

Garrick Comeaux, artistic director

#### Gabrieli and the Venetian Grand Style

In the late sixteenth century, Venice was no longer the economic powerhouse and leading maritime power that it had once been; but its preeminence as a one of the most important musical centers of Europe was just beginning and would last for another hundred years. To be sure, the city had been an important center of music publishing ever since Ottaviano dei Petrucci had printed the first book of polyphonic music there in 1501. And when the city authorities appointed the distinguished Flemish master Adrian Willaert as director of the choir at St. Mark's Basilica in 1527, the city had one of the leading composers of the time. But through most of the Renaissance, cities such as Florence, Rome, Milan, and Ferrara boasted greater choirs and more distinguished musical institutions.

By 1600, however, that had changed. What visitors heard in the churches and squares of Venice was a music of unmatched grandeur and brilliance, music for two, three, or even four choirs, each accompanied by cornetts, sackbuts, strings, and organs. The center of this musical activity was the great Basilica, but the festive celebrations that accompanied the major feast days of the church year, such as Christmas, Easter, Ascension, the feasts of the Virgin, and the feast of St. Mark, spilled into the square in front of the church and beyond in processions and regattas throughout the city. Music, both sacred and secular, accompanied important civic occasions as well, such as the inauguration of the doge, the annual festival celebrating the Marriage of Venice and the Sea, and anniversaries of important naval victories. In fact, there was no real division between the ecclesiastical and the secular in the life of Venice; both were celebrated inside and outside the churches.

St. Mark's was not the only center of this music-making. There were entertainments in the palaces along the Grand Canal and other private homes, where one might hear more intimate works such as the four- and five-part madrigals heard in this program, and services in the more than one hundred churches and the chapels of the many religious confraternities, or *scuole*. Especially important were the four scuole grande. Although the main purpose of the scuole was charitable activities, they frequently hired musicians to provide music for their worship services and other ceremonies, particularly those surrounding the feasts of their patron saint.

Giovanni Gabrieli was a central figure in Venetian musical life and in the development of the new grand style. To be sure, he was not the first to introduce the new musical devices; but he, more than anyone else, saw ways to capitalize on them. As organist at both the Basilica and the Scuola Grande di San Rocco, he played a leading role in the city's most important institutions.

The features that most distinguish Venetian music are the use of cori spezzati (divided choirs) and concerto performance — i.e., the use of instruments along with, or

in place of, voices in the choir. Gabrieli was not the first to do this. Orlando di Lasso had been composing for multiple choirs in Munich long before Giovanni began his career, and, in fact, both Giovanni and his uncle Andrea Gabrieli went to Munich to study with the late Renaissance master. Nor were the Venetians the first to use instruments with their choirs. Although choirs today typically perform Renaissance music a cappella, there is plenty of evidence that sixteenth-century choirs performed with instruments, particularly on festive occasions. Gabrieli adopted both of these practices — cori spezzati and concerted performance — but he infused the music with the colorful harmonies of the Italian madrigal and striking rhythmic figures to create a new sound that became an essential part of what we today think of as the Baroque style.

Deus, Deus meus and Angelus ad pastores ait, both for divided choir, are among the earliest works on the program. They first appeared in a collection of 1587 entitled Concerti di Andrea e di Gio. Gabrieli. Both are fine motets, but in their essential style they differ little from works by Andrea Gabrieli and other composers of the time. All parts have texts, as was the practice of the time, but the word *concerti* in the volume's title suggests that they would have been performed with instruments and voices. Gabrieli sets off the two choirs by tessitura, contrasting a high choir with a low choir.

The six-part *Cantate Domino* and the seven-part *Exaudi Deus*, with their overlapping polyphonic lines of equal voices, exemplify the prevailing motet style of the later sixteenth century. They come from Gabrieli's first solo publication, the *Sacrae symphoniae* for 6–16 voices and instruments of 1597. Also from that collection, though, are the magnificent *Quis es iste* and *Surrexit pastor bonus*. These motets, both of which call for two choirs of five parts each, are strikingly different from the two motets of 1587 and show the maturing of the composer's style. They feature lively syncopations and sharply etched rhythmic figures, rich harmonies, and abrupt contrasts. Gabrieli unifies both works with a recurring Alleluia refrain.

In his latest works, Gabrieli broke with the practice of putting words to all the parts and leaving orchestration up to the performers. He began specifying the performing forces himself. Some untexted parts are clearly labeled "cornetto" or "trombone," others are designated "voce," a term that designates solo voice. He also began introducing more ornate rhythmic figures. These changes can be heard in the impressive late motets *Quem vidistis*, *pastores* and *Jubilate Deo*, published posthumously in the Symphoniae sacrae of 1615.

Gabrieli produced a significant amount of instrumental music for Venice's ceremonial life also. The Sonata pian' e forte is known to music students as the first work with dynamic markings. And the Sonata for three violins marks the beginning of the new genre of virtuosic violin music that flourished throughout the Baroque Era.

Audite principes, et auribus percipite Listen, o princes, and hear, Salvator noster natus est. Our savior is born. Gaudeamus quoniam una cunctis laetitia Let us rejoice, for to all a common et filius datus est nobis, et salvator a son is given to us, and a Savior donatus est nobis. is given to us. Alleluia. Alleluia.

omnes habitatores terrae, et exultate. all you who inhabit the earth, and exult! Audite senes quae loquor vobis: Listen, you old ones, to what I tell you: audiat terra verba oris mei in laetitia. may the earth hear the words of my mouth Audite patres, with joy. Listen, o fathers, et super filiis vestris narrate and bring the good news to your children cum jubilo, mirabilia magna. with jubilation, of this great wonder. Audite hodie serenissimi principes, Listen today, most honorable rulers, hodie veneranda senectus, today, venerated ones of old age, hodie praestantissimi patres. today, most illustrious fathers. communis est ratio melliflui sunt coeli, gladness makes the heavens flow with vineae florent et montes exultant. honey, the vineyards blossom and the Venite igitur omnes, et exultemus, mountains exult. Let us all come together, et jubilemus, et gaudeamus, and let us exult, let us shout with joy, and quoniam puer natus est nobis rejoice, for a child is born to us,



tinctis vestibus de Bosra? Alleluja. with dyed garments from Bosra? Attolite portas, principes, vestras Lift up your heads, O ye gates; *Quis est iste rex gloriae? Alleluja.* Who is this King of glory? Dominus fortis in praelio: Alleluja. the Lord mighty in battle. Alleluja. Alleluja.

Quis est iste qui venit de Edom Who is this that comes from Edom, *Iste formosus in stola sua* This one that is glorious in his apparel, Gradiens in multitudine virtutis suae: Travelling in the greatness of his strength. Et elevamini portae aeternales and be you lifted up, you everlasting doors; Et introibit rex gloriae: Alleluja. and the King of glory shall come in. Dominus fortis et potens The Lord strong and mighty, Dominus virtutum ipse est rex gloriae. The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

Labra amorose e care Lips loving and dear.

Che così dolcemente That so sweetly,

Appressatevi ancora alla mia bocca, Come close again to my mouth,

E fate poich'io mora. And make me die.

Impisti di piacer l'alma e la vita Filled with pleasure, my soul and life,

Deh, deh, se volete ch'io Alas, if you want that I,

Non mi distrugga in tant' aspro desio Do not destroy myself in such bitter desire,

Alma cortes' e bella O courteous and beautiful soul.

Deh, non voler ch'io muoia Alas, do not desire that I die,

Di temenza e di noia From fear and bothers

Libera il corpo e fa l'anima ancella Free the body and the soul as a handmaid,

E se disdegni signoria si bassa And should your highness disdain,

Altrui mi dona o lassa That I should to another give myself,

Che tra pastori forse o tra bifolci Among the shepherds and farmers

havrò l'hore più dolci. I will have the sweetest hours.

Come star poss'io in vita How can I stay alive,

Ahi senza te, Pretiosa Marherita O without you my precious daisy,

Le dolci voci e gli armoniosi canti The sweet voices and the beautiful songs,

Per te son volt in pianti For you, are covered in tears,

Deh dimmi, dove sei, o gemma cara Please tell me, where are you dear gem,

S'al mio cor vuoi scemar la pen' amara. If you desire, as my heart bitterly breaks.

*Ch'in breve in paradise havrò il mio nido.* That shortly in paradise I will find my nest.

**Deh di me non ti caglia** amico vero Of me do not think, o dear friend, Se Margherita fui, gemm'esser spero If a daisy you were, a gem I hope to be, Raffrena il pianto e canta, o caro fido, Halt your tears and sing, o faithful one,

Quand'io ero giovinetto When I was a young lad,
Stava sempre a far l'amore,
Con piacer e gran diletto With great joy and pleasure,
Giorn' e notte a tutte l'hore Day and night at all hours,
Et vivea fuor d'ogni pena, And lived without any worries,
d'ogni laccio et di catena Far from ties and chains.

Hor ch'io son già vecchiarello Now that I am an old man,
Ognun dice fuora, fuora, Everyone says: out of the way!
Va spasseggia il mercatello, Go and walk at the market,
Et ritona poi fra un'hora And come back in an hour.
Onde io veggio pien di doglia Here I see with great remorse,
Che di me non han più voglia. That they want nothing to do with me.

Quem vidistis, pastores, dicite, annuntiate nobis, in terris quis apparuit? tell us: who has appeared on earth?

Christum salvatorem de Virgine

Christ the savior, of the Virgin new-born, we see, and choirs of angels praising the Lord.

Mariam et Joseph vidimus, in terra stratos supplices praising the Lord.

Mariam et Joseph vidimus, in terra stratos supplices praising the Lord.

We see Mary and Joseph, prostrate suppliants upon the earth and in humble adoration; thanks be to God, who gave to us victory through Jesus Christ, our savior.

O magnum mysterium, of the Virgin new-born, we see, and choirs of angels praising the Lord.

We see Mary and Joseph, prostrate suppliants upon the earth and in humble adoration; thanks be to God, who gave to us victory through Jesus Christ, our savior.

O great mystery, and wondrous sacrament, that animals should see the newborn Lord, jacentem in praesepio.

Alleluia.

Alleluia.



*Angelus ad pastores ait*: The angel says to the shepherds:

annuncio vobis gaudium magnum: I bring you tidings of great joy; for unto

quia natus est vobis hodie salvator mundi. you is born today the Savior of the world.

Alleluja. Alleluja.

Gloria in excelsis Deo Glory to God in the highest,

et in terra pax hominibus bonæ voluntatis. and on earth peace to men of good will.

Alleluja. Alleluia!

**Deus, Deus meus**, ad te de luce vigilo. God you are my God, early will I seek you.

quam multipliciter tibi caro mea! my flesh also longs after you;

Sitivit in te anima mea; My soul thirsts for you,

In terra deserta, et invia, et inaquosa, in a barren and dry land, where no water is.

sic in sancto apparui tibi, Thus have I looked for you in holiness;

ut viderem virtutem tuam et gloriam tuam. that I might behold your power and glory.

Quoniam melior est misericordia tua super For your loving-kindness is better than the

vitas, labia mea laudabunt te. life itself; my lips shall praise you.

Sic benedicam te in vita mea, My soul shall be thoroughly satisfied;

et in nomine tuo levabo manus meas. and in your name, I raise my hands.

Exaudi, Deus, orationem meam, Listen to my prayer, O God,

et ne despexeris deprecationem meam: do not ignore my plea; intende mihi, et exaudi me. hear me and answer me.

Contristatus sum in exercitatione mea, My thoughts trouble me

et conturbatus sum a voce inimici, and I am distraught

et a tribulatione peccatoris. because of what my enemy is saying,

Quoniam declinaverunt in me iniquitates, because of the threats of the wicked:

et in ira molesti erant mihi. for they bring down suffering on me.

Surrexit pastor bonus qui animam suam The good shepherd, who laid down his life

posuit pro ovibus suis, alleluia. for his sheep, has risen, alleluia.

alleluia. alleluia.

immolatus est Christus, Alleluia, sacrificed for us. Alleluia.

Et pro grege suo mori dignatus est, And he did not disdain to die for his flock,

Et enim pascha nostrum For truly was Christ the paschal lamb

Cantate Domino canticum novum; Sing to the Lord a new song; cantate Domino omnis terra. sing to the Lord, all the earth, Cantate Domino sing to the Lord et benedicite nomini eius; and bless his name; annuntiate de die in diem salutare eius. from day to day tell of his salvation. Cantate Domino canticum novum; Sing to the Lord a new song; cantate Domino omnis terra. sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Jubilate Deo omnis terra. Rejoice in God, all the earth. qui fecit coelum et terram. bless you in Zion. Jubilate Deo omnis terra. Rejoice in God, all the earth.

Ouia sic benedicetur homo For thus shall the one who fears qui timet Dominum. the Lord be blessed. Jubilate Deo omnis terra. Rejoice in God, all the earth. Deus Israel conjungat vos May the God of Israel bring you together et ipse sit vobiscum. and himself be with you. Mittat vobi auxilium de sancto May he send you help from the sanctuary et de Sion tueatur vos. and out of Zion keep you safe. Benedicat vobis Dominum ex Sion, May the Lord who made heaven and earth, Jubilate Deo omnis terra. Rejoice in God, all the earth. Servite Domino in laetitia! Serve the Lord with gladness!





Title-page of the "Crudities," 1611
With fortrait of Coryat

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Over the toppe of this middle gate is to be scene very ancient horses made of Corinthian mettall, and fully as great as the life.

## Thomas Coryat

