

Gotham Early Music Scene (GEMS) presents



Thursday, January 11, 2024 1:15 pm
St. Malachy's Church – The Actors' Chapel in New York City
Live Streamed to midtownconcerts.org and [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com)

La forza delle stelle Baroque Orchestra *Une Femme, Due Donne, A Woman*

Lydia Becker & Jimmy Drancsak ~ violins

Charles Reed ~ violoncello & viola da gamba Alice M. Chuaqui Baldwin ~ harpsichord

Sonata IV in E minor from *Divertimenti da camera a due violini* “Mrs. Philharmonica” (fl. 1715)
violoncello o cimbalò, Parte Seconda
Largo ~ Andante ~ Con spirito ~ Vivace

Belletto and Corrente No. 1 in D minor from *Balletti et correnti* Marieta Prioli (fl. 1665)
a due violini, et violone, agionta la spineta

Trio Sonata No. 1 in G minor Elisabeth Jacquet de la Guerre (1665–1739)
Grave ~ Presto ~ Adagio ~ Presto ~ Adagio ~ Presto ~
Aria affettuoso. Adagio ~ Becarre allegro. Bemol

Sonata Terza in G Major, Op. 16, No. 3 Isabella Leonarda (1620–1704)
Adagio ~ Presto ~ Adagio ~ Largo ~ Presto ~ [Largo] ~
Prestissimo ~ Largo ~ Presto ~ Adagio ~ Allegro

Sonata II In D Major from *Sonate a due violini col violoncello obbligato* “Mrs. Philharmonica”
e violone o cimbalò, Parte Prima
Largo Andante ~ Allegro ~ Adagio ~ Vivace
~ continued over ~

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Naomi Morse, Director of Marketing John Thiessen, Executive Director
Harpsichord provided by Rebecca Pechefsky



www.gemsny.org

~ continued ~

Belletto and Corrente No. 2 in G minor from *Balletti et correnti a due violini, et violone, agionta la spineta* ~ arr. Charles Reed

Marieta Prioli

Trio Sonata No. 3 in D Major

Élisabeth Jacquet de la Guerre

Vivace e presto ~ Adagio ~ Allegro ~ Adagio ~ Allegro ~
Aria affettuoso ~ Allegro

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Une femme, deux donne, a woman showcases some of the highlights of the trio sonata repertoire written by women composers during the Baroque period. Featuring familiar names including Jacquet de La Guerre and Leonarda, this program also brings to light works by lesser-known composers Marieta Prioli and an English composer known only by her pseudonym “Mrs. Philharmonica”.

ABOUT THE ENSEMBLE AND ARTISTS

Founded in 2022, **La forza delle stelle Baroque Orchestra** is a period-instrument orchestra that brings people together across time with vibrant and innovative historically-informed performances in New York and northern New Jersey. In addition to playing orchestral repertoire from the Baroque period, members of La forza delle stelle also branch-out to plumb the depths of the Baroque chamber repertoire, with a focus on bringing to light unknown and underperformed works.

Lydia Becker is an innovative violinist, passionate about building a vibrant audience relationship through historical performance practices, sincerity, and artistic diversity. Lydia is a founding member of multiple ensembles, including the Berwick Fiddle Consort, an historically-informed folk band. Lydia performs internationally in numerous festivals and concerts, having shared the stage with renowned artists, including Cynthia Roberts, Paul O’Dette, and Maxim Vengerov. She has been selected for multiple historical performance programs and concert series, including Pegasus Rising, NYS Baroque Young Artists, Tafelmusik Winter Institute, and Juilliard at the Piccola Accademia (Phyllis and Charles Rosenthal Fellow), among others.

William (Jimmy) Drancsak III, originally from Skaneateles, New York, is a violinist, violist, and music educator based in New York City. Having grown up as a fiddler and classical violinist, Jimmy found a particular interest in 17th-18th century music which perfectly combines the improvisatory freedom of fiddle playing with orchestral structure. He performs with In Nomine Ensemble based in New York City, The Seven Hills Baroque Ensemble in Cincinnati, Ohio, The Arrow Quartet based in New York City, and the Rock Hill Symphony Orchestra in Rock Hill, South Carolina.

Charles Reed is a multi-instrumentalist active with Baroque and modern violoncello as well as viola da gamba. He has collaborated with distinguished musicians including Catherine Meints and Mark Edwards, and as a part of Juilliard415, with conductors Rachel Podger, Masaaki Suzuki, Richard Egarr, Kristian Bezuidenhout, Nicolas McGegan, and Robert Mealy. He recently made his oratorio debut performing an obbligato gamba solo in Telemann’s *Der Tag des Gerichts* under Suzuki. Currently, he is focusing on historical improvisation and composition as a member of Nuova Pratica, a New York based group of historical composers and performers.

Named as one of *Early Music America’s* Emerging Artists of 2021, harpsichordist **Alice M. Chuaqui Baldwin** is known for her vivid and exciting interpretations of Baroque music. She specializes in 17th-century Italian repertoire as a soloist, while her expertise as a continuo artist runs the gamut of the Baroque and Classical periods. As the founder and director of La forza delle stelle Baroque Orchestra, Alice is passionate about infusing old music with new life and fresh ideas. In addition to her work in New York, Alice is currently the Visiting Assistant Professor of Keyboard and Music History at the University of Wyoming.

Next Week: Emericus Ensemble
Tonos y canciones