

The Western Wind & Parthenia

Come life, come death, I care not:

A musical tour of Michael East's London, 1610

Thursday, November 11, 2010 at 8 p.m.

Corpus Christi Church in Manhattan

Program

Neapolitan: Poor is the life that misses
voices, viols

Madrigal: Say, dear, when will your frowning leave?

Neapolitan: Come life, come death, I care not
voices

Fancies: Desperavi
Peccavi

viols

Madrigal: Lo! Here I leave my heart in keeping

Madrigal: Life, tell me what is the cause
voices

Fancies: Vidi
Penitet

viols

Anthem: Turn thy face from my wickedness (*the first part*)

O give me the comfort of thy help again (*the second part*)

voices, viols

Intermission

Pastoral: Sweet muses, nymphs and shepherds sporting (*the first part*)

Ay me! Wherefore sighs fair Sylvia? (*the second part*)

My peace and my pleasure (*the third part*)

Voices, viols

Fancies: Credidi
Vixi

viols

Neapolitan: Dainty white pearl, and you fresh-smiling roses

voices

Madrigal: Now must I part, my darling

voices

Fancies: Triumphavi
Amavi

viols

Anthem: When Israel came out of Egypt (*the first part*)

What aileth thee, O thou sea? (*the second part*)

voices, viols

Note on the program:

Parthenia and The Western Wind join forces for a concert of Jacobean composer Michael East's historic 1610 publication of music for voices and viols in the year of its 400th anniversary. The program, "Come life, come death, I care not," captures the full spectrum of musical styles in vogue in the new century in England. The concert features madrigals, verse anthems, pastorals, part songs in the Italian style as well as an extraordinary and unique cycle of madrigal fantasies for viols.

It is significant that this book, East's first publication to include music for viols, appeared shortly after he joined the Ely Cathedral choir in 1609, where there was already a very strong tradition of viol teaching. As the title suggests [*1610. The Third Set of Books, wherein are Pastorals, Anthems, Fancies, and Madrigals to 5. and 6. parts.*], this collection contains a bit of everything popular at the time in Jacobean London, mainly pieces showing the influence of Italian composers.

About the artists:

The internationally acclaimed vocal sextet, **The Western Wind** (Michele Kennedy, Laura Christian, William Zukof, Todd Frizzell, Richard Slade and Elliot Levine) devotes itself to the variety of a cappella music. The Ensemble's repertoire ranges from Renaissance motets to Fifties rock 'n' roll, from medieval carols to Duke Ellington, from complex works by avant-garde composers to the simplest folk melodies. They have performed at such venues as Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, Kennedy Center, ArtPark, The Ordway Theater, The Metropolitan Museum, The Frick Museum, The Jewish Museum, Folger Shakespeare Library, Library of Congress, and the Cleveland Museum of Art. Visit them at <http://westernwind.org/home.htm>.

Parthenia, which consists of Beverly Au, Lawrence Lipnik, Rosamund Morley and Lisa Terry, has been hailed by the New Yorker as "one of the brightest lights in New York's early-music scene." This dynamic ensemble explores the extraordinary repertoire for viols from Tudor England to the court of Versailles and beyond. Known for its remarkable sense of ensemble, Parthenia is presented in concerts across America, and produces its own lively and distinguished concert series in New York City, collaborating regularly with the world's foremost early music specialists and has been featured on radio and television and in prestigious festivals and series including Music Before 1800, Maverick Concerts and the Regensburg Tage Alter Musik. Their new **As It Fell on a Holie Eve** CD of Elizabethan Christmas music is available on MSR Classics -<http://www.msacd.com/1365/1365.html>. Visit them at <http://www.parthenia.org>.