

Gotham Early Music Scene (GEMS) presents



Thursday April 18, 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)

Nuova Pratica *The American Baroque*

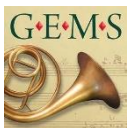
Ryan Cheng & Rafa Prendergast ~ violin & viola Charlie Reed ~ viola da gamba & violoncello
Ellen Sauer Tanyeri ~ flute Nicola Canzano ~ harpsichord

- Trio Sonata No. 3 in G Major Charlie Reed (b. 1993)
Andante ~ Allegro ~ Siciliano ~ Presto
- Trio Sonata No. 8 in G minor Nicola Canzano (b. 1991)
Allegro ~ Andante ~ Fuga [Allegro]
- Trio Sonata No. 1 in F Major Ryan Cheng (b. 1998)
Grave ~ Allegro ~ Adagio ~ Largo ~
Presto ~ Grave ~ Adagio
- Sonata a 4 Rebecca Nelson (b. 1992)
- Sinfonia No. 6 in G Major (*The Tourists*) Nathan Mondry (b. 1991)
Allegro ~ The Fountains of Schloss Belvedere [Andante] ~
Oxford Ambling [Allegro]
- Chaconne en Rondeau Nicola Canzano

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



www.gemsny.org

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Baroque music is in vogue again! **Nuova Pratica** presents an afternoon of Baroque chamber music carefully composed by its members. This concert, our first on the Midtown Concerts series, features newly written trio sonatas in Baroque style by Nicola Canzano, sinfonias by Nathan Mondry, as well as music by Charlie Reed, Rebecca Nelson, and Ryan Cheng.

ABOUT THE ENSEMBLE AND ARTISTS

Ensembles of the past almost never played music not written by one of their own. In this respect, **Nuova Pratica** is the most historical early music ensemble currently in existence. We shamelessly and skillfully write music in Baroque style — you wouldn't even know we're not dead! Our music is studied in universities including the University of Oregon and has been performed at prestigious Baroque festivals including Thiré. Our group is an outpouring of our love for this music as well as a fascinating display of the skills endowed by a good education in early music, and an exciting new direction within early music.

Violinist **Ryan Cheng** has performed widely across the United States, Europe and Asia. Notable performances and collaborations include the MAFestival Brugge with Juilliard415 and Stephan MacLeod, Juilliard415 with Francesco Corti, American Bach Soloists, California Bach Society, the faculty of San Francisco Conservatory of Music (SFCM), the Boston Early Music Festival, and he will be appearing with the Smithsonian Viol Consort in 2024. He has won the Juilliard Historical Performance Concerto Competition and the SFCM Baroque Concerto Competition and participated in the 2022 Leipzig International Bach Competition. In addition to the Orbis Pictus Ensemble (which he founded) and Nuova Pratica, Ryan is a part of The Fooles, a Baroque ensemble dedicated to 17th-century Italian repertoire, which won the Association des Centres Culturels de Rencontre residency at Thiré with Les Arts Florissants.

Brooklyn-based **violinist Rafa Prendergast** is an active performer of works dating from the early 17th century through the present day. A member of Nuova Pratica and La Forza delle Stelle Baroque Orchestra, Rafa also performs frequently with Trinity Baroque Orchestra, Kollektive366, Opera Essentia, Opera Praktikos, and dell'Arte Opera Ensemble, among others. Rafa has performed as part of the Death of Classical series, Gotham Early Music Scene's Midtown Concerts series, and WQXR's Midday Masterpieces series, and as a soloist with Juilliard415, Music City Baroque, and American Bach Soloist Academy orchestra. Rafa holds degrees from Vanderbilt University's Blair School of Music, studying under Carolyn Huebl and Maria Romero, and from The Juilliard School studying with Cynthia Roberts, Elizabeth Blumenstock, and Robert Mealy.

Charlie Reed performs as a Baroque violoncellist and viola da gambist in and around New York City with Nuova Pratica, La Forza della Stelle, Twelfth Night, Abendmusik, and many other ensembles. He has also performed internationally with Les Arts Florissants and Juilliard415, and has presented solo viol recitals in New York, Connecticut, and Ohio. He is particularly dedicated to teaching, as a trained Suzuki violoncello instructor, and teaches violoncello at Lindeblad School of Music and Zeta Charter Schools, as well as maintaining a small private viola da gamba studio.

Ellen Sauer Tanyeri is a flute and recorder player currently based in Cleveland. She grew up in a musical family in Michigan, where she remained for her undergraduate and Master's studies in flute performance at the University of Michigan. Harpsichord professor Joseph Gascho played a large role in Ellen's early discovery of and passion for early music. During her time in Michigan, she had the unique opportunity to work closely with leadership of the Baroque Chamber Orchestra and present concerts in collaboration with the library's archival collections. Ellen holds a degree in Historical Performance from The Juilliard School, where she had the chance to play for and with many esteemed artists in the field including Jed Wentz, Rachel Podger, and Masaaki Suzuki. She is a founding member of Open Source Baroque.

Nicola Canzano is a composer, harpsichordist and organist from Michigan specializing in the composition and improvisation of Baroque music. Nicola formed Nuova Pratica in 2020, eager to find an excuse to play with his favorite musicians forever. He was recently appointed Assistant Professor of Harpsichord at Michigan State University and Studio Accompanist for Juilliard's Historical Performance department. Nicola also served on the panel for the inaugural International Conference on Historical Improvisation in November 2022, and has been a returning guest lecturer at Juilliard and elsewhere on topics like fugal improvisation. He is increasingly in demand as a continuist, most recently with the Detroit Symphony, Great Lakes Chamber Festival, Juilliard415, VERITÀ Baroque, Boise Baroque, and the Detroit Opera. He maintains a private studio for students of Baroque improvisation and composition in New York.

Rebecca Nelson is a songwriter and Baroque violinist from Gera, Germany. Born into a family of classical musicians, she absorbed from a young age a healthy diet of Bach, Phil Collins, and Gillian Welch. Through her new love of Baroque music and old love of folk and bluegrass, Rebecca found her voice as a composer. Since graduating from The Juilliard School's Historical Performance program, she has joined and founded exciting new ensembles including Nuova Pratica and Digital Camerata. Her debut album *Do Not Lament* was released earlier this year to great acclaim and is available on many streaming platforms.

Nathan Mondry is a professional organist, harpsichordist and fortepianist with international recognition as an improviser and composer. After completing a Bachelor's Degree in Piano Performance at the University of Michigan, Nathan earned a Master's degree in Harpsichord Performance and an Artist Diploma in Organ Performance at McGill University, followed by a Master's degree in Historical Improvisation at the Schola Cantorum Basiliensis. He is currently in the Historical Performance program at Juilliard. Nathan is the recipient of numerous prizes including a Special Prize at the First International Competition for Basso Continuo and Partimento Realization at Katowice (2019), a First Prize (with Arnie Tanimoto) at the Bach-Abel Competition (2018), and a prize for composition at the International Competition for Organ Composition in Pordenone (2019). Nathan is a co-founder of both Nuova Pratica and the Montréal-based Les Barocudas, the latter receiving a Juno nomination for its album *La Peste* (2020).

**Next Week: Partimenti:
*From Court to Country***