

Gotham Early Music Scene (GEMS) presents



Thursday October 20, 2022 1:15 pm  
St Malachy's Church – The Actors' Chapel in New York City  
Live Streamed to [midtownconcerts.org](http://midtownconcerts.org) and [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com)

## Opus Project *Suites of Michel de la Barre*

*Joanna Marsden ~ flute    Christophe Gauthier ~ harpsichord*

### Suite I en D La Ré, Tierce Majeure

Michel de la Barre (c. 1675–1745)

Prélude ~ Allemande, l'Angelique ~ Air, le Badin ~  
Air, l'Espagnol ~ Gavotte, la Chevy ~ Air, la Coquette ~  
Allemande, la Magdelon ~ Gigue, L'Angloise

### Suite V en D La Ré, Tierce Majeure

Prélude ~ Allemande, la Mariane ~ Rondeau, l'Affligé ~  
Allemande, la Villequiere ~ Gavotte, la Bagatelle ~  
Rondeau, la Provençal

### Suite II en G Ré Sol, Tierce Majeure

Prélude ~ Allemande, la Signora ~ Gigue, la Cadette ~  
Sarabande, l'ainée ~ Allemande, la Landais ~  
Rondeau, la Ninon ~ Gavotte, la Therese & Double de la Gavotte ~  
Rondeau, l'Etourdy ~ Gigue, L'Ecossoise

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Steven Marquardt, Midtown Concerts Manager    Toby Tadman-Little, Program Editor    Paul Arents, House Manager  
Live stream video crew: Gene Murrow, Murat Eyuboglu, Dennis Cembalo  
Christina Britton Conroy, Announcer and Make-up Artist  
John Thiessen, Executive Director



[www.gemsny.org](http://www.gemsny.org)

## About the Program

The eighteenth-century theater historian Claude Parfaict described Michel de la Barre (c. 1675–1745) as the finest flute player of his age, known for his deeply expressive playing. De la Barre's *Premier Livre de pièces pour la flûte traversière avec la basse-continue* (Paris, 1702) contains the earliest published works for the Baroque flute and was considered revolutionary in its context.

## About the Artists

The Opus Project is a new chamber music initiative formed in 2020 in Montréal by harpsichordist Christophe Gauthier and Baroque flautist Joanna Marsden. Inspired by the beauty of early musical prints and manuscript sources, the Opus Project explores unsung treasures of the Baroque chamber music repertoire by focusing deeply on one collection at a time. With the generous support of the Canada Council for the Arts, the Opus Project released an album of Michel de la Barre's *Premier Livre* (1702) on Navona Records in June, 2022. An album of Montéclair's *Concerts for Baroque flute and basso continuo* is expected in summer 2023. [www.opusproject.ca](http://www.opusproject.ca)

'Baroque flute master' Joanna Marsden (the *Classical Music Sentinel*) is a 'fabulous' (the *Whole Note*) flautist based in Montréal. She addresses a wide repertoire from Renaissance to Romantic, playing antique flutes by Tortochot (1770), Claire Godfroy l'ainé (1820), Jean-Louis Tulou (1841) and Isidore Lot (1870) and faithful reproductions. She has performed with numerous ensembles throughout North America and Europe, working with conductors including Ton Koopman, Václav Luks, Julian Prégardien, Florian Heyerick, Mathieu Lussier, and Peter van Heyghen. Her début CD, *Deviennes Sonatas* with Mark Edwards (Centaur), was warmly reviewed. Her recording of Michel de la Barre's *Premier Livre* (1702) with the Opus Project was released in 2022 by Navona Records. She recently recorded Montéclair's *Concerts for Baroque flute and basse chiffré*. She holds degrees from Vassar College, the Koninklijk Conservatorium (the Hague) and McGill University. [www.joanna-marsden.com](http://www.joanna-marsden.com)

Born in Montreal, Christophe Gauthier studied harpsichord at the Conservatoire de Montréal (Mireille Lagacé) and he earned his Bachelor's (Réjean Poirier) and Master's (Luc Beauséjour) at Université de Montréal. A talented chamber musician, Christophe has founded many ensembles including the Opus Project (Montréal), La Frontera (Mexico) and Le Consort laurentien (Basel) which performed at the Utrecht Early Music Festival in summer 2021. He also plays organ with Studio de musique ancienne de Montréal, Arion orchestre Baroque, and Orchestre Métropolitain with maestro Yannick Nézet-Séguin. He will be seen as a soloist at Clavecin en concert in the winter of 2023. Christophe teaches harpsichord and organ at Cégep de Saint-Laurent. He is often invited to conduct ensembles from the harpsichord and is choirmaster for Ensemble vocal Vivace and le Chœur.

**NEXT WEEK: Hank Knox**  
*The Music of the Spheres*