

Music We'd Like to Hear

co-produced with Sound and Music

7.30 pm 18 July 2014

St Mary-at-Hill, Lovat Lane, London

VIOLS & OBJECTS

Phantasm:
Laurence Dreyfus
Emilia Benjamin
Jonathan Marson
Mikko Perkola
Markku Luolajan-Mikkola
Daniel Hyde

Mira Benjamin
John Lely
Tim Parkinson
Markus Trunk

William Lawes 1602-45 Salisbury, England

Consort Sett I a5 in g
I Fantazy
II On the Playnsong
III Aire

Christian Wolff b. 1934 Nice, France

Another (2012)

'At least two people, play independently,
more or less heterophonically ...'

Consort Sett II a5 in a
I Fantasy (No 1)
II Fantasy (No 2)
III Aire

Taylan Susam b. 1986 Amsterdam, Netherlands

for sesshū tōyō (2008)

'sounds: light like a brushstroke of ink'

Consort Sett III a5 in c
I Fantazia
II Aire (No 1)
III Pavan
IV Aire (No 2)

[interval]

Alvin Lucier b. 1931 New Hampshire, US

Chambers (1968)

'Collect or make large and small resonant environments ...
Find a way to make them sound ...'

Consort Sett IV a5 in F
I Fantasy
II Pavan
III Aire

Antoine Beuger b. 1955 Oosterhout, Netherlands

three drops of rain / east wind / ocean (2006)

haiku by fukuda kodojin (1865-1944), probably the last
poet and artist in the japanese literati tradition

Consort Sett V a5 in C
I Fantasy
II Pavan
III Aire

Phantasm, an award-winning consort of viols, was founded in 1994 by Laurence Dreyfus and has become recognised as the most exciting viol consort active on the world scene today. The ensemble catapulted into international prominence when its debut CD of works by Henry Purcell won a Gramophone Award for the Best Baroque Instrumental Recording of 1997. Since then, the consort has travelled the world over, performing in festivals and on concert series in cities such as Vienna, Prague, Tokyo, Istanbul, Helsinki and Washington DC. Recent engagements have included the Wigmore Hall Early Music series in London, Barcelona Early Music Festival, the Bergen International Festival, the Lufthansa Early Music Festival in London, the Aldeburgh Festival, BRQ Festival in Finland, the Hong Kong International Arts Festival, the Vienna Resonances Festival, the Stockholm Early Music Festival, Brussels' Palais des Beaux Arts and Ghent's De Bijloke hall. Phantasm's fourteen recordings have also won consistent praise, and several have received awards, including a Gramophone Award in 2004 for the music of Orlando Gibbons, finalist for CD of the Year. Their first recording on the Scottish LINN label (named Gramophone's Record Label of the Year in 2010) was devoted to the consort works of the 17th-century composer John Ward and was Editor's Choice in BBC Music Magazine as well as a finalist for the 2010 Gramophone Early Music Award. Their Linn CD, the Complete Consort Music of William Byrd, was awarded a Diapason d'Or, CD of the Month by BBC Music Magazine, and was a Gramophone finalist for the best Early Music recording of 2011. Their 2012 disc of William Lawes's Consorts to the Organ was Chamber Choice in BBC Music Magazine and was nominated for its annual Chamber Music CD award.

Phantasm's members (Britain, Finland and the US) have been based at the University of Oxford since 2005 when they were appointed Consort-in-Residence. In Autumn 2010, they began a new association as Consort-in-Residence at Magdalen College, where they perform, develop viol consort playing among the students, and collaborate with Magdalen College Choir under its director, Daniel Hyde.

www.phantasm.org.uk

Laurence Dreyfus, treble viol and director, was born in Boston, Mass (USA). After cello studies with Leonard Rose at the Juilliard School in New York, he turned to the viol, studying with Wieland Kuijken at the Royal Conservatoire at Brussels, which awarded him its Diplôme supérieur with highest distinction. As a bass viol player, he has recorded CDs of Bach's viola da gamba sonatas, Marais's Pièces de violes and Rameau's Pièces de clavecin en concert (all on Simax), and collaborated with Silvia McNair in a Grammy-winning album of Purcell songs (on Philips). As a musicologist, he has published Bach's Continuo Group and Bach and the Patterns of Invention (Harvard, 1987 and 1996); the latter won the Kinkeldey Award from the American Musicological Society for the best book of the year. Dreyfus taught at Yale, the University of Chicago, Stanford, and the Royal Academy of Music before becoming Thurston Dart Professor in 1995 at King's College London. In 2002 he was elected a Fellow of the British Academy, and in 2005 took up a University Lectureship at the University of Oxford in conjunction with a Tutorial Fellowship in Magdalen College. He received the title of Professor at Oxford in 2006. His book, Wagner and the Erotic Impulse, was published by Harvard University Press in October 2010.

Jonathan Manson, tenor viol, was born in Edinburgh and received his formative training at the International Cello Centre in Scotland under the direction of Jane Cowan, later going on to study with Steven Doane and Christel Thielmann at the Eastman School of Music in New York. A growing fascination for early music led him to Holland, where he studied viola da gamba with Wieland Kuijken. Jonathan is currently co-principal cello of the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, and frequently appears in this role with the Dunedin Consort, Arcangelo, The English Concert and many other leading early music groups. As a concerto soloist, he has appeared recently at the Wigmore Hall, the Carnegie Hall and the South Bank Centre. Jonathan is an active chamber musician, performing repertoire from the Renaissance to the Romantic. He is a founding member of Retrospect Trio, whose recordings of Purcell sonatas for Linn were described by The Observer as 'superb', and was recently invited to become the cellist of the London Haydn Quartet. A long-standing partnership with the harpsichordist Trevor Pinnock has led to critically acclaimed recordings of the Bach sonatas for viola da gamba and harpsichord, and, together with Rachel Podger, Rameau's Pièces de clavecin en concert. Jonathan lives in Oxfordshire and is a professor at the Royal Academy of Music.

Markku Luolajan-Mikkola, bass viol, studied cello with Arto Noras at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki, which awarded him its diploma in 1983. An interest in Baroque music led him to a summer course in Norway with Laurence Dreyfus and later to Holland where he studied with Wieland Kuijken at the Royal Conservatory of The Hague and received postgraduate diplomas in viola da gamba and Baroque cello. He is active as a chamber musician and has given many solo recitals throughout Europe and Asia. His recording of Marais's Suite d'un Goût d'Étranger (on ALBA) won a national award for excellence in his native Finland, and his CD of contemporary gamba music, Gamba Nova, won the Emma Award for the best classical CD in Finland in 2008. Other solo CDs have likewise garnered critical acclaim, including discs of virtuoso viol music by Forquy and Bach's gamba sonatas, the latter issued by BIS. His special interest is in commissioning contemporary music composed for the bass viol as well as in designing and commissioning modern reproductions of viols and other string instruments built to his specifications for his company Lu-Mi Strings (www.lumi-strings.fi). Markku founded the Vantaa Baroque Music Festival - BRQ - in 2010 - brq.fi and is its artistic director. He is also a member of Bergen Barokk and teaches at Sibelius Academy, part of the University of the Arts in Helsinki. As a cellist, he performs on period cellos in a wide range of repertoire, including works for cello and violin by Bach, as well as by Baroque and Romantic composers. Another special interest is in contemporary music composed for the bass viol as well as in designing and commissioning modern reproductions of viols built to his specifications.

Emilia Benjamin, treble viol, discovered her desire to be a professional musician when she took up the treble viol while studying art history at the University of East Anglia. She went on to study the viol and baroque violin at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama with Sarah Cunningham, and then viol with Wieland Kuijken in Brussels. In addition, Emilia plays viola and lute, and currently performs frequently on all four instruments. Emilia's musical life has covered a wide range: She has been a member of Trio Sonnerie since 1995 with whom she has played everything from English divisions and French Baroque works to Mozart quartets, Bach concertos, and Mendelssohn piano quartets; she has performed early Italian opera on the viol and lute at Glyndebourne and with the Early Opera Company, Norwegian State Opera, and Oper Frankfurt, and plays orchestrally with the Irish Baroque Orchestra, and the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment among others. Emilia has also performed for productions of Twelfth Night, Measure for Measure, and Anne Boleyn at Shakespeare's Globe, and this year took part in the inaugural production at the Sam Wanamaker playhouse at the Globe, the Duchess of Malfi.

Mikko Perkola, tenor and bass viols, studied the Sibelius-Academy and at the Royal Conservatory in the Hague. His teachers were Arvo Haasma, Markku Luolajan-Mikkola and Wieland Kuijken. Perkola has given concerts and recorded chamber music in Europe together with Bergen Barokk, Barokksolistene, the Norwegian Baroque Orchestra, the Icelandic Chamber Orchestra, Helsinki Baroque Orchestra, Capriccio Stravagante, Battalia, Retrover, and Ensemble Severin. In October 2006 he recorded Bach's gamba sonatas (Naxos) with harpsichordist Aapo Häkkinen. In 2011 they recorded music by Francois Couperin (Naxos). In 2005 Perkola began his collaboration with Phantasm. Perkola has also made many radio recordings for YLE (the Finnish Broadcasting Company) and other European Broadcasting Companies. He is also an avid performer of contemporary music and has played first performances of works by Giovanni Mancuso, Lucio Garau, Juhani Nuorvala, Henrik Martrander, Eero Hämeenniemi, Jyrki Linjama, and Sampsa Ertamo. His interests have also focused on new experimental art and projects connected to social justice. He's completed a three-year penitentiary theatre project in Finland with director Hannele Martikainen and also a large-scale asylum-centre project with dancer Nina Hyvärinen and actor Jussi Lehtonen for the Finnish National Theatre. His wide-ranging music-making includes collaborations with artists from different fields, from early music to multimedia and solo performances with amplified viol.

Daniel Hyde, organ, is Informator Choristarum, Organist and Tutorial Fellow in Music at Magdalen College, Oxford; he is also a University Lecturer in the Faculty of Music. At Magdalen, he is responsible for the training of the renowned Choir of Men and Boys which sings seven services a week during term time and pursues a busy schedule of tours, concerts and recordings. Before moving to Oxford, Daniel enjoyed five enormously rewarding years as Director of Chapel Music at Jesus College, Cambridge. As a student, he graduated from King's College, Cambridge, with First Class Honours in Music, having held the Organ Scholarship for three years. As an organist he won second prize and the audience prize in the RCO Performer of the year 2002, playing the Guillemant Symphony for Organ and Orchestra with the BBC Philharmonic. Recent and forthcoming recitals have included Gloucester, Durham and Derby Cathedrals, Birmingham and Huddersfield Town Halls and Westminster Abbey. His recording of the Hindemith Concerto with the Britten Sinfonia has received widespread critical acclaim. As an accompanist he has appeared regularly with the BBC Singers on Radio Three and at the Proms. He made his solo debut during the 2010 Proms season, performing Bach's 'Canonic Variations' in the Royal Albert Hall. As a conductor he has worked with the Britten Sinfonia, Academy of St Martin in the Fields and the City of London Sinfonia.

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