

EVERYTHING FROM CHANT TO PALESTRINA TO BEATBOX PROMISED FOR ST. CECILIA CONCERTS IN HALIFAX AND LUNENBURG

The St. Cecilia Concert Society will bring together two of Nova Scotia's multi-talented choirs for performances in Halifax and Lunenburg this month. **Members of the Togni Consort** and the **Ernst Family Singers** will perform on **Saturday, April 18, at 7:30 p.m. in First Baptist Church, Halifax**, and on **Sunday, April 19, at 3:00 p.m. in St. Johns Anglican Church, Lunenburg**.

The Togni Consort, formed in 2006, specializes in Gregorian chant, Renaissance polyphony and the music of Peter-Anthony Togni. The Consort has performed throughout Nova Scotia and on CBC Radio Two. Togni, conductor, composer, organist, jazz musician and producer/host of CBC Radio Twos Choral Concert, is Musician-in-Residence for the Societies 2008-2009 season. He has toured and studied music in Canada and Europe; he won first prize in composition at the Schola Cantorum in Paris. In May 2008 he toured Russia with the Sanctuary Trio, and performed on the famous pipe organ at Shostakovich Hall in St. Petersburg.

The Ernst Family Singers, ranging from age seven to adult, are well-known from their performances on national television and tours of the Maritimes, the eastern seaboard and Ontario. Their repertoire, including Renaissance, classical, traditional, sacred, spiritual and folk music is now available on three CDs. The family lives on First Peninsula, Lunenburg County.

Performing separately and together, the choirs will sing a variety of music. The program includes Veni Creator Spiritus (Plain Chant), selections from the Missa Brevis (Palestrina), Praise the Lord from the Heavens (Rachmaninoff), Sinner Man (arr. Kirby Shaw), and Lamb of God (Togni). The Ernst Family will also sing Beatbox, a form of vocal percussion in which the singer's mouths, lips, tongue and voice simulate the sound of drum beats, horns, strings and other musical instruments.

Tickets for these truly eclectic concerts are available now. For the concert at First Baptist Church, Halifax (\$20 adults, \$15 seniors, \$10 students) tickets are available from Bookmark, 5686 Spring Garden Rd., at the door, or by calling 420-4085. Tickets in Lunenburg (\$15 adults) are available at Fulton's Pharmacy or at the door. Student tickets (\$10) will only be available at the door in Lunenburg.

The St. Cecilia Concert Society gratefully acknowledges the support of the Department of Canadian Heritage, the Nova Scotia Department of Tourism and Culture, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, Doctor Piano, Women for Music, O'Regan's and individual patrons.

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For further information:
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