



October 25, 2017

**To our audience members:**

Once again, we are coming to that time of year when the days are shorter, the nights are longer, and autumn's chill is settling in around us. And once again, to hold the darkness at bay, we joyfully celebrate those moments of light in the darkness, in every sense of the phrase. Sometimes that light is provided by a singular, glorious voice. And on the evening of Sunday, December 10, I invite you to join the Calgary Renaissance Singers & Players as we welcome the sublime soprano Katie Partridge as our musical guest in a Christmas concert entitled "**Exultate! Rejoice!**"

**Katie Partridge** is a member of Luminous Voices and an early-music specialist here in Calgary. With this concert, she steps into the spotlight as a concert soloist in a programme that she helped to design. You will hear her bring to life the music of Hildegard von Bingen and anonymous colleagues of nearly 1,000 years ago --- perfect music for the beautiful sanctuary acoustic of St. Stephen's Anglican Church in the Beltline. Ms. Partridge will also perform Monteverdi's jubilant *Laudate Dominum*, accompanied by the brilliant Calgary organist **Chellan Hoffman**, and Bach's haunting *Quia respexit* (Magnificat), in which you will also hear **John van Leeuwen** performing on Baroque oboe d'amore.

The Players, our core of early-music instrumentalists, will also be featured brightly in this concert. St. Stephen's will ring with the sounds of recorders, shawms, harpsichord, bells, drums, and viol, enticing some Renaissance dancers to kick up their heels for a joyful moment or two. Unique to this concert, and indeed to the Calgary concert scene, will be a performance on chalumeau (a grandfather to the modern clarinet) by **Adrianna van Leeuwen**, who has been studying early music in the Netherlands and returns to Calgary to interpret two movements of a Telemann sonata for chalumeau and continuo.

The choir itself will present music that runs the gamut from mediaeval English Christmas carols such as *There is no rose of such virtue* to early-Renaissance choral compositions from the Codex Specíálnik (c. 1500). The concert's finale will include the choir, the Players, and soloist Katie Partridge in a series of settings of the text "Omnis mundus jocundetur" --- all the world rejoices.

Come and help us celebrate the light that shines in the darkness! We hope to see you at our concert "**Exultate! Rejoice!**" on **Sunday, December 10 at 7:30pm at St. Stephen's Anglican Church** in the Beltline (1121 14 Avenue SW.) Our increasingly-popular pre-concert talk will begin at 7:00pm. You can find ticket information on our website at [www.renaissance-singers.com](http://www.renaissance-singers.com).

I look forward to greeting you all warmly in December.

**Jane Perry**  
**Artistic Director, Calgary Renaissance Singers & Players**