

Music at Bennington Presents...

MONTEVERDI

A CONCERT OF VOCAL MUSIC
featuring

THE MONTEVERDI CLASS

Sara Baumgartel	Clark Loro
Sara Cronan	Dan Mohr
Matt Follette	Cybele Paschke
Fonta Hadley	Matt Pillischer
Duffy Havens	Rebekah Pym
Charissa Johnson	Rebecca Zafonte

and

DANCE PERFORMANCE PROJECT
Susan Golub, Nina Tucciarelli, Elizabeth Ward

with

Todd Tarantino and Noby Ishida

and

Synthesizer Programming by
Nathaniel Reichman

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Judith Rosenberg Hoffberger '54
and the Henry and Ruth Blaustein Rosenberg Foundation."*

Upcoming Concerts: An Informal Pre-Holiday 20th Century Concert
Works and Performances in Progress, Thursday, December 4, 1997,
8:00 p.m., Deane Carriage Barn.

An Evening of Mozart Opera Arias and Ensembles and Carolling,
Wednesday, December 10, 1997, 8:15 p.m., Deane Carriage Barn

Wednesday, December 3, 1997
8:00 p.m.
Deane Carriage Barn

PROGRAM

LASCIATEMI MORIRE (3rd Book of Madrigals)

Ensemble

ZEFIRO TORNA (9th Book of Madrigals)

Duffy Havens/Dan Mohr

dance interlude --

Susan Golub/Nina Tucciarelli/Elizabeth Ward

PULCHRA ES (Vespers of 1610)

Cybele Paschke/Rebecca Zafonte

dance interlude --

Nina Tucciarelli/Elizabeth Ward

QUEL SGUARDO SDEGNOSETTO (Scherzi Musicali)

Matt Follette

O COME GRAN MARTIRE (3rd Book of Madrigals)

Ensemble

POSSENTE SPIRTO (ORFEO)

Dan Mohr

LAMENTO DELLA NINFA

Amor (she said as she
looked at the sky),
Amor, where is the faithfulness
that the traitor has sworn? (unhappy girl!)
Let return to me
My love just as it was.
Or kill me
that I may suffer no longer (unhappy girl!)
No, I no, I no longer want him to sigh
unless he be far from me (unhappy girl!)
Of his torments
he should no longer tell me,
(Unhappy girl, no longer
can she suffer such coldness!)

Because I pine over him,
He behaves proudly,
but Once I flee from him
he still entreats me again (unhappy girl!)

Even though he looks merrier
than I
his breast does not contain
a more beautiful love than mine.

You will never get such sweet kisses
from his mouth
no more persuasive ones, oh be silent (unhappy girl!)
Be silent, for you know very well.

PUR TI MIRO (CORONATION OF POPPEA)

I gaze on you. I rejoice in you.
I embrace you, I chain you to me,
I suffer no more, I die no more,
oh my life, oh my treasure.
I am yours, you are mine.
My hope, say it, say,
you are alone my idol,
yes my darling, yes my heart,
my life, yes.

SI CH'IO VORREI MORIRE (from the fourth Book of Madrigals)

Yes, I would die
now that I kiss, Love,
The lovely mouth of my heart's desire.
Ah, dear sweet tongue,
Feed me such humors
That the delight in my breast may
make me swoon;
Ah, my love, unto that white breast,
Crush me till I grow faint.

O mouth, O kisses,
O tongue return to me that I may say:
Now would I die.

Text

LASCIATEMI MORIRE (from the 3rd Book of Madrigals)

Leave me to die
how could you wish me comfort
in such a cruel fate
in such great torment
Leave me to die

ZEFIRO TORNA (from the 9th Book of Madrigals)

The breeze returns and with sweet accents
makes the air pleasant and frees the waters of
the waves, and whispering under the green leaves,
makes dance the flowers to fine sound
in the meadow, with flowers
girding the brows
of Phyllis and Chloris,

Love tempers the kind and gay sounds.
and from the mountain tops, and the deep valleys,
the resounding caves redouble the harmony.
A finer dawn appears in the sky.
and the Sun radiates a more golden light,
and a purer silver adorns
the blue cloak of Thetis!

Alone I wander through abandoned and lonely forests
because of the fire of two fair eyes
and my torments
I cry, or I sing as my fate wills.

PULCHRA ES (from Vespers of 1610)

Thou art fair, my love, beautiful and comely,
O daughter of Jerusalem: comely as Jerusalem;
Terrible as an army set in array.
Turn thine eyes from me, for they have made me flee away

QUEL SGUARDO SDEGNOZETTO (Scherzi Musicali)

That haughty look,
brightly threatening;
that poisoned dart
flies to strike my breast,
beauty, for which I burn,
and am beside myself,
wound me with that look—
heal me with that smile.

Arm yourselves, eyes,
with harshest severity;
pour onto my heart
a shower of sparks, but let your lips not be slow
to revive me from death.
Strike me with that look,
but heal me with that smile.

Beautiful eyes, to arms!
I will prepare my heart for you.
Take delight in striking me
Until I faint.
And if I lie
vanquished by your arrows
let those looks crush me—
but let that smile heal me.

O COME GRAN MARTIRE (from the 3rd Book of Madrigals)

O what torment it is to conceal passion
when in purest faith we love and are not believed,
O tender Ardour, O just desire,
if everyone loves his own heart
and you are my heart.
Then may I only cease loving you
when I have lost the will to live.

POSSENTE SPIRTO (ORFEO)

Mighty spirit and powerful divinity,
without whom the souls freed from their bodies
hope in vain to reach the other bank,

I am not alive, no, after the death of
my beloved wife, my heart is no longer with me,
and without a heart how can it be that I live?

To her I have turned my path through the dark air,
not towards Hell, for everywhere
where there is so much beauty is Paradise.

I am Orpheus, who follows the steps of Eurydice
through these gloomy plains,
to which no mortal has access.
O serene lights of my eyes,
if only one glance from you can return life to me,
ah, who can deny me comfort in my torment?
Only thou, noble god, canst aid me,
fear not, for it is only the sweet strings of a golden lyre
I use as a weapon
against the stern souls to whom it is vain to implore.

COME DOLCE HOGGI L'AURETTA (9th Book of Madrigals)

How sweetly the gentle breeze breathes with enticement and comes lustfully to kiss the
fulness of my breast.

These flirtations made by the air, spread wings to the heavens of the night and fly through
the valley.

The forests laugh, the meadows play, the seas celebrate in fountains when the fresh air
breathes upon them.

Enter also into my heart, O beautiful aura of your coming
that delights my soul with all joy.

15 MINUTE INTERMISSION

COME DOLCE HOGGI L'AURETTA (9th Book of Madrigals)

Women

LAMENTO DELLA NINFA (9th Book of Madrigals)

Rebecca Zafonte and Men

DUET OF NERO AND LUCANO ("POPPEA")

Duffy Havens/Matt Follette

dance interlude

Susan Golub

PUR TI MIRO (CORONATION OF POPPEA)

Fonta Hadley/Matt Pillischer

SI CH'IO VORREI MORIRE (4th Book of Madrigals)

Ensemble

Keyboards: Todd Tarantino and Noby Ishida

The Monteverdi class was offered as an introduction to the music of the great composer, whose opera, *The Coronation of Poppea*, will be performed in the spring. Amy Williams taught the first half of the course as an overall survey of Monteverdi's prolific career as a composer, with special attention to significant pieces that represented his musical development from the early madrigals to the late operas. Tom Bogdan taught the second half which was a performance class where everyone learned and performed 3 of the madrigals. The rest of tonight's program was selected to represent a broad range of compositions. Special Thanks to Todd Tarantino and Noby Ishida who were an integral part of the preparation of the music. This concert could not have been done without their assistance.

Terry Creach developed dance interludes with students from Dance Performance Project based on structures from the music of Monteverdi's vespers of 1610.