

Farewell, Unkind

Songs and Dances of John Dowland (1563-1626)

John Dowland, the most eminent lutenist of his age, was a composer of unforgettable melodies. With pieces deceptively accessible and simple, he unlocks worlds of beauty and tender emotion without pair.

15 February 2026 | 4pm

Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, Longy School of Music of Bard College

27 Garden Street, Cambridge, MA

For immediate release (Boston, MA) – English Renaissance music has a prominent place in the history of The Boston Camerata’s programming. One notable, early program was *Music Under the Tudors*, performed in 1963 at the ensemble’s first home – the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Much recording and touring took place throughout the 70s, 80s, and 90s. Then, an enduring silence, lasting two decades.

Now, after a long hiatus, enriched by other musical discoveries, we are eager to return to the captivating repertoire of arguably the most famous English-musician of his day, with music known and loved by people of all social classes and callings: John Dowland. This year especially, as 2026 marks the 400th anniversary of his death.

Among all the Elizabethan composers, John Dowland’s immense talent still touches us today, in a special way. He had a gift for creating, in just a few measures of notation and tablature, deep worlds of beauty. Our five stunning voices welcome internationally admired British lutenist Nigel North for our performance of *Farewell, Unkind: Songs and Dances of John Dowland*. The lute, indissociable partner to the voice, will guide and sustain us in our travels through these marvelous, mini cosmoses. This program is a highlight reel of the best of English song until Henry Purcell, perhaps even Cole Porter.

Education has always been central to The Boston Camerata’s mission. There are several collaborative educational events of note around the 400th Dowland anniversary and *Farewell, Unkind*: both Nigel North and Anne Azéma will present and teach at Boston University and the Longy School of Music of Bard College.

Tickets start at \$33 (\$10 Students) and may be purchased [here](#). Visit our website to view the full [program](#) and [notes](#).

Our *Farewell, Unkind* program takes its name from the eponym Dowland song, as well as The Boston Camerata's 1996 Erato Warner CD. Explore our [Spotify playlist](#) to preview some of the works to be performed live in February.

Performers

Anne Azéma, *Artistic Director & voice*

Corey Dalton Hart, Andrew Padgett, Camila Parias, and Deborah Rentz-Moore, *voices*

with

Nigel North, *lute*

For artistic questions, please reach out to Artistic Director, Anne Azéma: director@bostoncamerata.org

For press questions, please reach out to Public Relations, Dagny von Mering: communications@bostoncamerata.org

For all other questions, please reach out to Executive Director, Annick Lapôtre: admin@bostoncamerata.org

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