



Songs to the Lute

Streams May 15-31, 2021

A summit meeting in Renaissance and early Baroque song as Anne Azéma (voice) and Nigel North (lutes) explore intimate and sensual French repertoires.

Lute songs were intended for the home and for personal pleasure, rather than for large, formal spaces. “In a strange, delightful way, this virtual production, to be viewed and heard online, is a very ‘authentic’ way to perform and enjoy this music,” comments Azéma. “Of course, we enjoy doing these songs in modern concert halls, but in my opinion, shaping them via 21st century technology actually brings us closer to their original savor.”

The all-French program, consisting in large part of lighthearted love songs and lute pieces, will mark the Azéma-North duo’s début in the online world.

Our friends at Historic New England have opened the doors of the beautiful Lyman Estate in Waltham, MA for this recital. The Estate's grand, yet intimate, ballroom offers a visually and sonically rewarding space for chamber music - a perfect setting for the lute song repertoire!

Tickets can be purchased at: <https://ci.ovationtix.com/36249>

The program will be available for streaming at any time between May 15-31, 2021. There is no limit on the number of times you can watch the program during this time. Advance ticket buyers will receive an email containing the link to the video when it is ready to view, typically in the afternoon on the first day of streaming. During the streaming period, ticket buyers will receive the link in their email immediately after their ticket purchase.

[Clip 1](#) | [Clip 2](#) – Nigel North, lute

About the Boston Camerata

The Boston Camerata occupies a unique place in the densely populated universe of European and American early music ensembles. Camerata’s distinguished rank stems partly from its longevity: founded in 1954, when the field of endeavor was in its infancy, as an adjunct to the Boston Museum of Fine Arts’ musical instruments collection, Camerata is now one of the longest-lived groups to be functioning, and vigorously so, up to the present day.

Directed from 1969 to 2008 by Joel Cohen, and from 2008 to the present day by Anne Azéma, the Boston Camerata has continued to create, over more than a half-century of activity, a large number of concert and recorded productions. These typically combine scholarship, much of it original, with high performance standards maintained by a

distinguished roster of outstanding vocal soloists and instrumentalists. Anne Azéma's innovative staged productions, including *The Night's Tale* and *The Play of Daniel*, are by now an integral part of the Camerata's public face to the world.

Two new recordings appeared in 2019: *Treasures of Devotion* presents music from the early Renaissance; *Free America! Songs of Revolt and Rebellion* renews a collaboration of the ensemble with Harmonia Mundi.

In November 2020, the Camerata's trailblazing, made-for-streaming production of Henry Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* earned international acclaim as it was viewed by music lovers on five continents. It was closely followed by *An American Christmas 2020*, a reimagining of a classic Camerata program, also released online and hailed as "a balm and a comfort" in a holiday season in the midst of a pandemic.