

Banchetto Musicale

Flanders Recorder Quartet

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In 1733, Telemann composed his famous collection, “Musique de Table”. A manuscript dating from 1670, belonging to the archbishop of Olomouc was given the title “Sonata pro Tabula”. Henry VIII took daily pleasure in the sound of recorders during his meals and in the company of dainty ladies and influential politicians. Schein collected his dance music into a “Banchetto Musicale”. Titles such as Musicalisches Tafel-Konfekt, Tafel-Dienst, Mensa sonora, Musicalische Tafel-Bedienung, Musique pour les soupers du Roi, Musical Banquet, Encaenta musices, and Servizio della tavola have been the daily fare over the ages. The idea of the musical banquet was popular throughout the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries. Christoforo di Messisbugo, a renowned chef at the court of the countess of Ferrara in Italy around 1550, compiled a splendid cookbook with 315 different recipes accompanied by careful instructions on how, where and when music, dance and theatre should be performed during the various dishes.

With this program, “Banchetto Musicale”, we hope to tickle your palate with a musical banquet in which we get out our best silver service, recorders of the highest quality in all shapes and sizes, and use them in 1001 different ways. To live up to the title, we’re even performing on beer and wine bottles from our own cellars!

Our menu, “Symphonie des 7 Dégustations”, is made up of French hors d’oeuvres, Italian antipasti, a queenly serving of our daily special, and to finish, a scrumptious array of desserts. You’ll be offered something of everything: old and new dishes from the north, south, east and west. Crack open a bottle of bubbly, sit back, and enjoy our house specialties. Cheers!

French aperitif:

Louis-Antoine Dornel (1684-1765): Sonate en Quatuor.

Dornel's Sonata – also the opener of the very first concert of the ensemble twenty years ago – remains a strong and elegant piece of music. An inquiring chord vibrates through the concert hall, followed first of all by a passionate answer, and then by a collage of a rhetorical adagio and a very vibrant allegro. The two movements are 'jiggled', taking the audience 'surfing through Baroque music'.

Italian antipasti

Tarquinio Merula (1595-1665): canzon la Marcha – canzon La Livia

Virtuoso diminutions combined with a few dabs of delectable, creamy melodies. A paradise of mild and sharp tastes.

Sorbet

Bach (1685-1750): concerto in a minor BWV 596

Allegro – adagio – allegro – largo - allegro

A very spicy, piping hot bouillon accented by a past master, with sweet-voiced harmonies and sizzling counterpoint and served in 5 contrasting movements.

Speciality of the house

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958): Suite for Pipes. Intrada - Minuet - Valse - Finale (Jig) (1939)

The ingredients are splendid melodies served up on a bed of soft, sweet harmonies.

Intermission

Le Coup de Cœur du Chef de Cuisine

Jan Van der Roost (°1956): I Continenti (2002) (dedicated to the Flanders Recorder Quartet). South America - Oceania - Africa.

A home-made culinary version of hits from modern international cuisine. A dish to tempt even the greatest connoisseur.

Dessert 1

Frans Geysen (1936): On the bottle (2002, dedicated to the Flanders Recorder Quartet)

The crème de la crème, a unique Flemish dessert with chef Bach in mind!

Dessert 2

Czaldy Waldy-La Manfredina-La Rotta della Manfredina (circa 1400). Arrangement: Flanders Recorder Quartet

A hearty dessert with seasonal treats from the good old days.