

The Atlanta Early Music News

Newsletter of the Atlanta Early Music Alliance

Volume III, No. 2

October 1995

Editorial Notes

Happy Hallowe'en!

This is another AEMN lite edition. Paste the calendar on your refrigerator and tell friends about the many concerts coming up. We have had some interesting responses to the Reader's Round Table. What doesn't fit in this issue will appear in following issues, so keep them coming. The next full issue will come out in December, when we will print your concert reviews and articles as space permits.

Keep in mind that **you** can contribute to the Atlanta Early Music News. Just write or call, or email tishb@aol.com or pnord@aol.com

We still need money for the Baroque Festival. If you haven't donated yet but have considered doing so, please do it quickly! Don't let the name stop you - there will be Renaissance music too, as well as a half-day workshop for amateur gambists, recorderists, and singers on the Purcell ode "Welcome All Ye Pleasures". (see calendar)

Round Table, continued

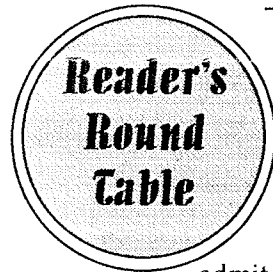
challenging to me as a player. Special projects will naturally emerge from the ongoing musical activity of a blended group. Maybe a professional concert is arranged with guest performers who will lead a weekend workshop on an area of early music. Or perhaps a guest conductor is hired to work with an ensemble or pick-up orchestra with a concert to follow. I suspect that the reluctance of amateur involvement demonstrates a conflict in the goals of the AEMA. The two groups you define (professional and amateur) need to be blended by finding what they have in common by playing side by side. Whatever may be lost in repertoire will easily be compensated by the gains in loyalty and involvement of the entire AEMA membership.

Brief note from Letitia Berlin:

Please note that amateur groups are performing on the series, and two workshops for amateurs are planned. See the calendar!

AEMA - what's happening?

Thanks to the many members who have responded to our call for donations, we now have enough money to file for incorporation and non-profit status. Unless we continue to receive donations, however, we will have to rely on potential advertising to pay for the Baroque Festival. Our role in the Festival now consists of creating, printing and distributing a brochure for mailing and on-site availability, and program covers for the many concerts that will be part of the Baroque Festival (see calendar). If you haven't donated yet, please consider doing so (it will be tax-deductible because of our affiliate status with Early Music America - checks must be made out to EMA), if you have, please accept our gratitude and tell your friends and neighbors about it. It's a great time to fit in some more tax deductions!



Kathy Kennedy, a member from Belvedere, SC sent this reply to September's "AEMA is for everyone: Atlanta Purcell Festival and Amateur Musicians".

Because distance prevents me from anything other than the newsletter, you must forgive me if my comments reveal some lack of basic information. I must admit that I had assumed the AEMA membership was mostly amateur musicians who enjoyed early music and wanted to perform publicly together. I knew from the newsletter that there were some professionals in the organization but I had never thought of AEMA as a we/them sort of group.

My views about professional and amateur musicians working side by side are in part a result of my membership in a string quartet (two of whose members are professional) which plays gigs in the Augusta area. This quartet began because of our mutual desire to play Baroque music in quartet form and quite logically that is exactly where we began, with music everyone could play. We continue to take on more difficult material but we always perform publicly what we are able to play with technical excellence. This self-imposed standard limits the repertoire we play.

If I may, I would like to suggest that the AEMA form ensemble groups which practice regularly together and then perform publicly with at least one professional member (hopefully more) to guide, encourage, give leadership and perform with them. It would also be possible to form a larger pick-up "orchestra" which would certainly have historical precedence. Musicians of all ability levels made up those pick-up orchestras which Handel, Vivaldi and Bach (during his 27 years in Leipzig) used.

Amateurs often feel embarrassed to play with professional musicians. They are afraid they will be made to feel inferior because of their lack of knowledge, experience or technical ability. In light of this, it is unlikely that your desire to have the amateurs of the group "...Take Over!" has even the slightest chance of occurring. Rather, the professional musicians need to accommodate the amateurs by accepting both the limitations and possibilities of mixed groups. He or she must come to value the skills and passion that the amateur offers and provide the encouragement necessary to bring them into the full musical experience. What we all have in common is the desire to be a part of the music making and the sense of belonging you feel when you are making music you love with people you value.

Do you see the contradiction in an all-professional Purcell Festival in the light of the amateur's desire to be a vital part of the music performance? Once the focus is on a professional level will the amateurs form their own ensembles and perform on stage before or after the professionals? I don't think that is very likely. Will they be content to play together in private? That doesn't sound very (cont'd)

EARLY MUSIC CALENDAR

October 13 - 15
Olde English Festival
at St. Bartholomew's.

Cover charge - call 634-3336 for info.

Friday, Oct. 13, 7 pm - The Hampton Court Minstralsye plays Music from Tudor Courts, Palaces and Prisons

Saturday, Oct. 14
1:30 pm - Soc. for Creative Anachronism holds a medieval fashion show.

2:30pm - Lauda Musicam plays "O Henry"

3 & 3:45 pm - SCA does armed combat.

4 pm - Musica Dolce plays English Renaissance Music.

7 pm - Night Song performs Madrigals in costume.

Sunday, Oct. 15, 3 pm - SCA: medieval fashion show

Fri. Oct 6, 7:30 pm. Baltimore Consort, Univ. of AL/Huntsville, Admin. Science Bldg. \$8

Sun. Oct. 15, 4 pm. Frances Blaker and Letitia Berlin, recorders, **Barbara Blaker**, cello, **Daniel Pyle**, harpsichord. "Sonades en Trio". Independent Presbyterian Church, Birmingham, AL. Call (205) 290-2790.

Sun. Oct. 22, 5 pm. Festival Singers, Patrick Hagan, director. Byrd Mass for 4 vcs et al. Church of the Epiphany, 2089 Ponce de Leon Ave. \$7/\$5. Call 404-525-0183

Sat. Nov. 18, 8 pm. Schola Cantorum of Atlanta, John Austin, dir. Music of Britain, medieval to Purcell. Emory Presbyterian Church, 1886 N. Decatur Rd. \$5. Call 378-0595.
Repeated Sun. Nov. 19, 5 pm.
Dec. 6-9. Atlanta Camerata presents **The Play of Herod**. Trinity United Methodist Church, 265 Washington St. \$10. Call 404-378-0595

Purcell Festival

Sponsored and coordinated by the Atlanta Early Music Alliance. For general information on the Festival or the Alliance, call (404) 658-1357 or (770) 507-1121.

For specific information on an individual concert, call the number listed for that group.

Thurs. Oct. 26, 7:00 pm. Emma Kirkby/Anthony Rooley: Masterclass. Spivey Hall, CSC. Call (770) 961-3683.

Fri. Oct. 27, 8:15 pm. Emma Kirkby, soprano & Anthony Rooley, lute. "The Theater of Music". Music of Purcell and his colleagues. Spivey Hall at CSC, Morrow, GA: (770) 961-3683.

Thurs. Nov. 2, 8 pm. Camerata Chamber Ensemble (Thomas Gibbs, dir.) Purcell odes, catches, & anthems. Hill Recital Hall, Birmingham Southern College, 800 8th Ave., West Birmingham, AL: (205) 226-3505.

Fri. Nov. 3, 8:15 pm. CSC Early Music Ensembles & Camerata (Lyle Nordstrom, dir.) "Purcell and his Predecessors." Spivey Hall at CSC. Free. (770) 961-3609.

Sun. Nov. 5, 3:00 pm. Harmonie Universelle (Catherine Bull, flute, Daniel Pyle, harpsichord with guest Patricia Adams Nordstrom, gamba). The Transitional Flute in Purcell's Time. In-Town Community Church, 2059 LaVista Road NE, Atl.: \$7.50; students/seniors: \$5.00

Tues. Nov. 7, 8:00 pm. Emory Faculty Recital: Eileen Moremen, soprano, with Leila Lazenby, soprano, Barbara Blaker, cello, Jennifer Phillips, harpsichord, Letitia Berlin, recorder. "Passion, Drama and Devotion: Masters of the Baroque." Cannon Chapel, Emory University. Admission: Free.
Sat. Nov. 11, 7:30 pm. The Merry Band (Leila Lazenby, soprano, Jennifer Phillips, harpsichord, Patricia Nordstrom, gamba, Lyle Nordstrom, lute & theorbo). "Sweeter than Roses: Purcell's London." With Wayne Baughman, bass. All Saints Episcopal Church, W. Peachtree at North Ave. \$12/\$7. Call 404-924-8182.

Sat. Nov. 11, 9 am - 5 pm Recorder and gamba workshop: "English Music: from Baldwine to Purcell." Faculty: **Letitia Berlin & Frances Blaker**, recorders, **Martha Bishop**, viola da gamba. Intermediate to advanced players.

Church of the Epiphany.
Tuition: \$40.00, after Nov. 4, \$50.00. Call 404-658-1357.
Sun. Nov. 12, 3 pm.

Diverse Musicke (Berlin

and Blaker, recorders, Martha Bishop, gamba, with guests, Sumner Thompson and Patrick Hagan, countertenors, Elizabeth Phillips, violin, and Agnes Harty, reader). Theatre and Consort Music of Purcell and Blow. \$8/\$5. Church of the Epiphany, 2089 Ponce de Leon Ave. Call 404-658-1357.

Sun. Nov. 12, 8:15 pm. Collegium Vocale. Works of Purcell and Britten. Glenn Memorial Church at Emory University, Decatur, GA. Call 404-921-1153.

Tues. Nov. 14, 8:00 pm. Ted Huddleston, tenor, with Daniel Pyle, harpsichord and organ. Music (Verse) for a While. In-Town Community Church. 2059 LaVista Rd. NE. \$7.50/\$5. Call 404-633-8077.

Sat. Nov. 18, 2:30-6 pm. Coached rehearsal and informal performance of Purcell's ode "Welcome All Ye Pleasures", arr. by Peter Seibert. Open to amateur singers, continuo, wind and string players. \$2.00 for AEMA members, \$5 for non-members. Coaches: Eileen Moremen, chorus; Letitia Berlin, winds; Martha Bishop, strings. Call 404-658-1357 to register **no later than Nov. 11.**

Sun. Nov. 19, 2:30 pm. Red Mountain Chamber Orchestra Thomas Gibbs, dir. All Purcell. The Cathedral Church of the Advent, 6 Ave., N, at 20th St., B'ham, AL. Free. Call 205-252-7035.

Sun. Nov. 19, 7:30 pm. Festival Singers of Atlanta. Byrd & Purcell. Church of the Epiphany. Free. 404-373-8338.

Mon. Nov. 20, 8 pm. blaker•bande. Frances Blaker, recorder, Barbara Blaker, cello, Hanneke van Proosdij, harpsichord. Purcell and English Division pieces. Church of the Epiphany, 2089 Ponce de Leon Ave. \$8/\$5. Call 404-658-1357.

quiz answer: zink, flauto dolce, virginals, lautenwerk, orpharion, psaltery, chalumeau, ud, chitarrone, traverso, bandora, gittern, violone, viol, regal, cembalo, theorbo, organetto, violin, rebec. also present: lur and ch'in. Winner: Kevin Dunn. Thanks to E. Stevenson.