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For Immediate Release

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Photo Assets (include link to Drop Box folder)

Early Music Vancouver Celebrates the 'Merrie Month of May' with Plaisirs du Louvre

(Vancouver, BC) This May, join France's [Ensemble Correspondances](#), on a musical journey to the elegant court of [Louis XIII](#) at **Plaisirs du Louvre**. Presented by [Early Music Vancouver](#) on May 6 at The Chan Centre, this concert features the 15-member Ensemble Correspondances from Lyon, France under the directorship of Sébastien Daucé. Correspondances is a group of singers and instrumentalists, all of whom are specialists in the music of the Grand Siècle. In a few short years of existence, they have become a benchmark ensemble in the 17th century French repertory. The Ensemble enjoys international recognition: at the ECHO Preis ceremony in the Berlin Konzerthaus in 2016, it won the award categories of Best World Premiere Recording (for *Le Concert Royal de la Nuit*) and Best Young Conductor of the Year, while the *Australian Limelight* magazine named it Operatic Recording of 2016 for *Le Concert Royal de la Nuit*.

Known now as one of the foremost art museums in the world, back in the 17th century, the Louvre in Paris was the principal residence of King Louis XIII. As such it was not only the centre of political power but also the arbiter of taste in a very elegant age. During this time the musical genre *air du cour* was developed and quickly became King Louis favourite type of musical form which was frequently performed in *la chambre du Roi* (the King's private apartment). The *air de cour* originated as improvised poetry set to lute accompaniment in the salons of the Parisian elite. As it developed, it became more complex, incorporating multiple instruments and/or voices.

The *air de cour* served as an ornament to royal ballets and divertissements, whose splendour was enhanced with large-scale récits (vocal solos) and dramatic choruses. Most such airs were short settings of refined 'galant' poetry; the growing taste for which subsequently spread to literary, aristocratic and bourgeois circles. With its subtle music capable of expressing all the nuances of the realm of love, the *air de cour* was one of the emblematic elements of a society

where the 'noble or moral man' devoted himself to the art of pleasing his circle and expressing himself elegantly according to the codes of 'galant culture' as defined by the educated literary elite.

This concert is an ideal antidote to the gloom and doom of today's news cycle. Join Early Music Vancouver and Ensemble Correspondances for an evening of beautiful music and be transported to another era at **Plaisirs du Louvre**, May 6 at The Chan Centre for Performing Arts.

Video; <https://youtu.be/JNqcu-mogTs>

Listing Information:

Date/time: Friday, May 6, 2022 / 7:30 p.m.

Location: The Chan Centre, UBC

Featured Artists: Ensemble Correspondances

Ticket Prices: \$26.90 - \$67.50, Free for Indigenous people

Information and Tickets: www.earlymusic.bc.ca

This concert is supported by Bruce Munro Wright.

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About Early Music Vancouver

[Early Music Vancouver's](#) concerts offer a platform for cross-cultural dialogue and exploration of diverse perspectives and relationships with the past. Under the leadership of Artistic/Executive Director, and internationally acclaimed soprano, [Suzie LeBlanc](#), C.M., EMV offers the second largest program of its type in North America, presenting and producing an average of 40-50 concerts annually featuring internationally renowned artists. In addition to presenting visiting artists, EMV is home to the [Pacific Baroque Orchestra](#).

EMV presents a packed performance calendar with 40+ live performances and digital concerts a year featuring some of the most renowned artists in the early music genre drawn from all parts of the globe.

In addition, Early Music Vancouver presents an annual summer festival (including an artist-in-residence component), produces [Notations](#) (a series of informative behind-the-scenes podcasts) and presents online courses. EMV also offers a Baroque Orchestra Mentorship Programme with UBC, plus a BC Scholarship Programme for professional-track music students or active professional musicians seeking to develop skills in early music performance.

Early Music Vancouver (EMV) has been a much-loved, and vital contributor to Vancouver's cultural scene for more than 50 years. Live performances take place at venues such as Christ Church Cathedral, the Chan Centre, St. Andrew's Wesley United Church and Pacific Spirit United Church. EMV acknowledges that we operate on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples—Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), Stó:lō and Səlilwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) and xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) Nations.