

emv:



Boccheriniana

**Accademia de' Dissonanti**

directed by **Elinor Frey**, cello

**FRIDAY OCTOBER 14, 2022 / 7:30 p.m.**

Christ Church Cathedral

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This concert is generously supported by Zelig & Vincent Tan and David McMurtry



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### EMV's Commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Early Music Vancouver's mission is to engage, enrich, and educate through music. In alignment with this mission, the Board of Directors, management and staff of Early Music Vancouver are committed to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. This extends to the consideration of who is in the audience, whose music is heard, who performs that music, and how we operate as a leading performing arts organization. We make these commitments in recognition that discrimination and exclusion in all their forms are realities in our society, and we endeavour to use the power of music to promote understanding and change.

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## THE ARTISTS

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MEMBERS OF THE  
**Accademia de' Dissonanti**

**Elinor Frey**  
CELLO AND DIRECTION

**Jan De Winne**  
FLUTE

**Laura Andriani**  
VIOLIN

**Rossella Croce**  
VIOLIN

**Isaac Chalk**  
VIOLA

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## BOCCHERINIANA

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### PROGRAMME

Luigi Boccherini (1743-1805)  
**Flute Quintet in B-flat Major**, Op. 19, no. 5 (G 429)  
Allegro moderato  
Allegro presto assai

Maddalena Lombardini Sirmen (1745-1818)  
**String Quartet no. 2 in B-Flat Major**  
Andantino  
Allegro

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)  
**Flute Quartet in A major**, KV289  
Andante  
Minuet  
Rondeau allegretto grazioso

### INTERVAL

Boccherini  
**String Trio** Op. 6, no. 5 in G minor (G 93)  
Adagio  
Rondo allegro  
Tempo di minuetto

Johann Christian Bach (1735-1782)  
**Quartet in G Major for flute, violin, viola and cello**, Op. 19, no. 3  
Allegro  
Andantino  
Rondo. Allegretto

Boccherini  
**Flute Quintet in D Major**, Op. 17, no. 1 (G 419)  
Allegro assai  
Minuetto: Amoroso

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## PROGRAMME NOTES

BY ELINOR FREY

Tonight's programme, *Boccheriniana*, celebrates one of the most delightful and original voices of the classical era, Luigi Boccherini. We showcase here two of his flute quintets and a string trio alongside chamber music by household names such as Mozart and J.C. Bach and a string quartet by Maddalena Lombardini Sirmen, the best-known female composer of this genre.

Luigi Rodolfo Boccherini was born in Lucca, Italy, the third child of seven. The oldest, his sister Maria Ester, was an accomplished dancer and danced in Vienna where ballets were all the rage. Indeed, dance was an important part of the Boccherini household. As the son of a double bass player, Leopoldo, who also played in Vienna, it seems that Boccherini developed a concept of string writing where all voices are given both technically demanding and beautifully melodic passages. However, much of Boccherini's music gives prominence to the



Boccherini statue in Lucca, Italy

cello, the instrument that Boccherini championed and played as a traveling virtuoso until he settled in Madrid as court composer.

As a cellist, Boccherini first studied in Rome around the age of 13, taking lessons with the famed musician, Giovanni Battista Costanzi. A few years later he visited Vienna to perform alongside his father. Between 1766 and about 1769 Boccherini may have toured in a string quartet formation with violinist Pietro Nardini and Nardini's pupil, Filippo Manfredi, as well as with Giuseppe Cambini, each composers in their own right. When

trying to verify these facts we run into some inconsistencies, but it makes for a charming tale of an early touring string quartet. While it is also complete conjecture, we could also imagine that the string quartet on tonight's programme by Maddalena Lombardini Sirmen could have been read by this group. A child prodigy, Sirmen grew up in Venice and, like Nardini, was a pupil of Giuseppe Tartini. Her string quartets were published in Paris in 1769 meaning they were probably composed just before then.

Also by Boccherini, we will perform an absolutely charming flute quintet from Boccherini's Op. 19 collection of 1771 and the first flute quintet from his Op. 17 collection from 1773. These two works perfectly embody the idea of "sensibilité" (as discussed by Elisabeth LeGuin in her seminal book *Boccherini's Body*), signified by his many sighs, portamenti, larger melodic trajectories, tender harmonies, throbbing accompaniments, and static passages that bring the listener into the present. Tonight we will also hear one of my favourite genres by Boccherini, the string trio, here Op. 6, no. 5 that features virtuosic writing for the two violins and cello.

Boccherini was court chamber composer to the Berlin court, although he stayed in Spain. In the 1780s, the court of Friedrich Wilhelm II was a major centre for violoncello music. Works by Boccherini were premiered there, alongside those by Mozart and Beethoven. To enjoy a bit more of chamber music with flute from the same time, we will perform J. C. Bach's flute quartet Op. 19, no. 3 (pub. approx. 1772) and Mozart's lively and touching *Flute Quartet in A Major* (composed around either around 1778 or later in 1786). For this programme, we are honoured to feature Belgian traverso player, Jan De Winne, who is also one of the most respected flute makers of his time. Tonight De Winne performs on a flute that he made recently, a copy after H. Grenser, tuned to A = 422 Hz, the pitch of the tuning fork of Mozart's piano. ■

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# ACCADEMIA DE' DISSONANTI



**Elinor Frey**  
Photo: Francine Martineau



**Jan de Winne**  
Photo: Kurt van der Elst



**Laura Andriani**  
Photo: Ivano Buat



**Rossella Croce**  
Photo: Carlo Bonazza



**Isaac Chalk**  
Photo: Matthew Perrin

Accademia de' Dissonanti was founded in 2020. As an ensemble and artistic institution, it presents concerts, publications, and educational academies centred on historical performance and creative research under the leadership of artistic director Elinor Frey. In the 2022-2023 season, Accademia de' Dissonanti explores music by Jean Baur, Vivaldi, and others with the participation of specialists in historical performance. Following its January

2020 tour under the name of Elinor Frey and Friends, its current October 2022 tour features "Boccheriniana", a programme dedicated to the charming and fascinating music of Luigi Boccherini in concert in Toronto, Montréal, Vancouver, Victoria, Kénogami, Waterloo, and Salt Spring Island. In Summer 2023, Accademia de' Dissonanti will host "Early Cello Gathering", an in-person master class academy dedicated to exploring the early Italian cello.

## **Elinor Frey** DIRECTOR & CELLO

Elinor Frey is a leading Canadian-American cellist and researcher who specializes in early music and new music. Her acclaimed CDs on the Belgian label Passacaille – most of which are world premiere recordings – include *La voce del violoncello* (2013), *Berlin Sonatas* (2015) with Lorenzo Ghielmi on fortepiano, *Fiorè* (2017), which features soprano Suzie LeBlanc, and *Giuseppe Clemente Dall'Abaco: Cello Sonatas* (2020) which received a Diapason d'Or. Her current release is *Antonio Vandini: Complete Works*, a project in collaboration with Marc Vanscheeuwijck. Her critical edition of Dall'Abaco Sonatas is published in collaboration with Walhall Editions.

Frey's album of new works for Baroque cello, titled *Guided By Voices*, was released on the Analekta label in 2019. In recent seasons she has performed throughout N. America and Europe, as well as with her quartet, Pallade Musica. Recipient of a US-Italy Fulbright Fellowship, Frey holds degrees from McGill, Mannes, and Juilliard. She teaches early cello at the University of Montréal, lectures at McGill University, and is a Visiting Fellow in Music at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford University. Frey was awarded Québec's Opus Prize for "Performer of the Year" in 2021.

## **Jan de Winne** FLUTE

Jan De Winne studied flute, chamber music and transverse flute at the conservatories of Gent and Brussels and graduated in musicology and art history at the University of Gent.

He completed his traverso studies with Barthold Kuijken. He was a finalist of the prestigious international early music competition in Bruges in 1987. He has been a member of the Collegium Vocale and the Orchestre des Champs-Élysées (Philippe Herreweghe) for more than 15 years.

In 2004 he decided to concentrate his energy and enthusiasm

into the organisation and development of his own ensemble il Gardellino, which he founded with oboist Marcel Ponsele in 1988. As a member of il Gardellino and as a soloist he has been performing in Europe, Asia, South and North America, and he recorded over 60 CDs for Accent, Ricercar, Harmonia Mundi and Passacaille. His passion for period instruments led him to research early flutes and to make baroque and classical flutes since 1988.

Since 2006 he is the artistic director of the record label Passacaille. Jan De Winne teaches traverso at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et Dance of Paris, and leads the early music department of the Royal Conservatory of Brussels (KCB).

## **Laura Andriani** VIOLIN

Originally from Italy, Laura studied violin with Elena Guizzardi and Massimo Marin at the Giuseppe Verdi Conservatory of Music in Torino, where she graduated at the age of 17. She also studied with Corrado Romano, Franco Gulli, Adelina Oprean (obtaining the Solisten-Diplom at the Musik-Akademie in Basel, Switzerland) and Salvatore Accardo.

She Mastered in Chamber Music in England (Britten-Pears School in Aldeburgh and Royal Academy of Music in London) and Italy (Scuola di Musica di Fiesole) with members of the Amadeus Quartet, the Smetana Quartet and the Quartetto Italiano. Alongside her musical life, in 2005 she graduated in Humanities (Letters and Philosophy) with great distinction from the Università degli Studi in Turin.

After performing as First Violin of the Andriani Quartet, Laura became the first violin of the Alcan Quartet and moved to Quebec in 2003. The Alcan Quartet's activity and discography (including works by Mendelssohn, Glenn Gould, MacMillan, and the Complete Beethoven's Quartets) were highly successful in Canada and internationally.



As a chamber musician, Laura has performed in Europe (Italy, France, Germany, Austria, Spain, Belgium, Holland, England and Czech Republic), Canada, the United States, China and Korea.

She is an instructor in Baroque Violin and Ensembles at the Early Music Department at McGill University and she is a Guest Professor at the Université de Montréal; and she is the First Violin of the Isabel Quartet (Queen's University, Ontario). One of her latest research projects highlights concerns with violin postures and the historical performance of Paganini Caprices.

### **Rossella Croce** VIOLIN

Rossella Croce graduated with top marks in violin in 1998 at the Conservatory A. Pedrollo of Vicenza under the guidance F. Missaggia. During her studies she gained several scholarships and was finalist in various violin and chamber music competitions. She then specialized on the early violin repertoire at the Scuola Civica in Milan and at the Conservatory in Den Haag (Holland) with Enrico Gatti following at the same time also courses with R. Terakado, E. Wallfisch and others.

She has an intense concert activity which leads her to play in the most prestigious concert halls and theatres in the world. She works, also as first violin, with many important early music groups such as Zefiro, Ensemble Aurora, Accordone, La Risonanza, Il Gardellino, Seicento Stravagante, Accademia W. Hermans, Accademia Bizantina, Accademia Strumentale Italiana, Meranbaroque, etc.

She played in several broadcasts for RAI Radio 3, RSI, WDR, Radio France, etc. Rossella also recorded for the labels Sony Classics, Alpha, Brilliant, Cipress, Naive, Arcana, Glossa, Amadeus, Bottega Discantica, Classic Voice ,Eloquentia, etc. She has recently recorded the "Invenzioni a violino solo" op. X by Francesco Antonio Bonporti for La Bottega Discantica (Milan), *The Art of Fugue* by J.S. Bach and the *Pieces de Clavecin en Concerts* by J.P. Rameau for Challenge Classics with Accademia Strumentale Italiana led by Alberto Rasi. She teaches at the Music School of The Music & Art Study Centre in Florence.

### **Isaac Chalk** VIOLA

Canadian violist Isaac Chalk has received a rich musical training. In addition to his education as an instrumentalist, Mr. Chalk also worked extensively as a choral singer and attended the *Maîtrise des Petits Chanteurs du Mont Royal* in his earlier years. Mr. Chalk is a graduate of McGill University, where he was a recipient of many awards, including the Lloyd Carr Harris String Scholarship and the prestigious Golden Violin Award, the largest privately funded music scholarship in Canada. Mr. Chalk also holds a degree from the Mozarteum, in Salzburg. In February 2011, he had his Koerner Hall debut performing Béla Bartók's Viola Concerto with the Royal Conservatory Orchestra conducted by Julian Kuerti.

Mr. Chalk was named Principal Viola of les Violons du Roy in June 2013 and since then has performed with the orchestra in their regular series in Quebec City and Montreal, at the Lanaudière Festival, at the Domaine Forget International Festival and on tour in Canada, the United States and Europe. Mr. Chalk recently had his début with the orchestra in Mozart's *Sinfonia Concertante*. Mr. Chalk has been generously supported by the Sylvia Gelber Music Foundation and the Canada Council for the Arts. ■

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In alignment with EMV's mission, the Board of Directors, management and staff of Early Music Vancouver are committed to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. We are always interested in hearing from potential new directors who wish to join us now or in the future to bring fresh perspectives, and add balance and diversity to our collective discussions. We welcome energetic, positive people with broad community connections, business experience, and skills relevant to non-profit governance (including fundraising, leadership, and strategic planning). Directors serve a two-year term, meeting every second month from September to June at Hodson Manor (West 7th Ave and Birch) in Vancouver.

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**Sumner Thompson**, bass; **Pacific Baroque Orchestra**  
directed by **Alexander Weimann**



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