

# Songs of Time

## Music for the Muses



### *Long & Away*

Karen Burciaga, treble & tenor viol, vielle

Anne Legêne, treble & tenor viol

James Perretta, bass viol, vielle

Filmed July 2, 2025 at the Chapel at West Parish, Andover, MA

*Image: ceiling in the Chamber of the Muses at Crathes Castle, Banchory, Scotland*

Song of Time  
This day dawns

Koji Kondo (b. 1961)  
Anonymous 15th c.

Mon chier amy  
O rosa bella  
Triste plaisir et douloureuse joye

Guillaume DuFay (c.1397-1474)  
John Dunstable (1390-1453)  
Gilles Binchois (c.1400-1460)

Sonnes muses melodieusement  
Tander Naken

Alexander Agricola (1446-1506)  
Henry VIII Manuscript (ca.1510-20)

The Nine Muses, Fancies of Three Parts (1638)  
*Melpomene*  
*Thaleia*  
Ayres for two trebles and a bass (ca.1640)  
*Ayre*  
*Sarabande*  
*Sarabande*  
*Maske*

Michael East (1580-1648)

John Jenkins (1592-1678)

Fantasia à 3 (ca.1620)  
Fantasia in 3 parts no.2, Z.734 (1680)

Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)  
Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

Sonata on Scots Tunes (ca.1750)  
*O Mother what shall I do*  
*She rose and let me in*  
*Polwart on the Green*

James Oswald (1710–1769)

Crathes Castle  
Madrigal aux Muses (ca.1925)

Angus Fitchet (1910-1998)  
Albert Roussel (1869-1937)

Dance for a May Eve (2003)  
Fantasy on Now Give Me Your Hand (2023)

Will Ayton (b. 1948)  
Larry Wallach (b. 1944)

Consort Fantasy on the Song of Time (2021)

James Perretta (b. 1991)

## Songs of Time: Music for the Muses

At tonight's concert Long & Away sweeps you into a centuries-long journey, by way of musical delights of times past and present. As we were gathering up our travel itinerary, several themes evolved, which, like the themes of a fine Fantasia, will be reiterated as we keep encountering them on our way.

For those of you unfamiliar with the video game "Legend of Zelda", the "Song of Time" is one of the prerequisites needed to open the way to the Sacred Realm found within the Temple of Time. Among many other things, it opens the Door of Time, and is used to call in the aid of the Goddess of Time. Our sacred realm tonight is the realm of a different Goddess: Euterpe, the Muse of Music. We shall pay homage to her and her companion Muses, with music written to delight them through the ages.

Having opened the door of time, we begin the concert in the late Medieval times, on the cusp of the early Renaissance, celebrating Spring time, Nature, Love, and of course, the Muses. We proceed chronologically with music from the bountiful golden ages of viol playing: the high Renaissance and early Baroque periods; particularly fantasias and dances of several of the great English consort composers.

While mourning the fact that playing the viol went out of fashion and practically disappeared during the 1800's, we linger on in the British Isles, and travel to Scotland, making up for the loss with a visit to Crathes Castle in Kincardineshire. Here, on one of the ceilings painted in the 1590's, we find the marvelous nine muses which grace our program booklet. Melpomene, the Muse of Tragedy, plays the bass viol and Thalia, the Muse of Comedy, a fiddle. Euterpe, Muse of Music, plays a tenor flute.

The revival of the viol, and of early music in general, began to happen in the 20th century. The dawn of that century is here represented by a Madrigal for the Muses, its title harking back to earlier times. Originally a composition for voices, tonight we might be giving its most unusual performance yet!

Will Ayton wrote his "Incantations for the Solar Year" while also working on settings of Songs from the British Isles, and a Celtic influence slipped in, making the Incantation related to Spring a perfect choice for our program. Larry Wallach traveled back in time through music, upon unexpectedly hearing snippets of a long forgotten beautiful Celtic melody heard on a Chieftains Five album many years ago. His Fantasy, composed in 2023, reflects the process of slowly recovering the full melody, at first in disconnected phrases, until it falls into place, its emotional impact revealed, the past recovered. We truly have arrived in the present time with tonight's performance of this composition!

What more fitting way to end the program than with the inspiration for our time travels, James' Fantasy on the "Song of Time". It connects the past with the present, applying the Renaissance tradition of taking a popular contemporary tune and weaving it together with newly-written counterpoint. Thank you for taking this journey with us! — Anne Legêne, 2023

## The Musicians

**Karen Burciaga** is an early strings specialist who enjoys bridging the worlds of classical and folk music. She is a founding member of Long & Away and of Boston's folk/early music ensemble Seven Times Salt. Karen has performed on violin and viola da gamba across New England and Texas with groups including The King's Noyse, Arcadia Players, the Folger Consort, Zenith Ensemble, Austin Baroque Orchestra, and many others, and she appeared in Boston's Midwinter Revels on vielle and rebec. A lifelong love of Celtic music led her into the world of fiddling and folk traditions, and she enjoys playing (and dancing!) Scottish, Irish, English, and contra styles. She has fiddled for the Celtic band Ulster Landing, southern Italian folk band Newpoli, and English Country Dance bands in Greater Boston. Karen earned an MM in Early Music Performance from the Longy School of Music where she studied early strings with Dana Maiben and Jane Hershey and historical dance with Ken Pierce. She has taught privately and at Pinewoods Early Music Week, the Texas Toot, and workshops for the Viola da Gamba Society - New England. Karen is also a teacher and arts administrator and serves on the board of the VdGS-NE. When not making music, she can be found reading, petting cats, or climbing very small mountains.

**Anne Legêne** performs chamber music on cello and viola da gamba in the Berkshires and beyond, with her husband, pianist and harpsichordist Larry Wallach, with harpsichordist Mariken Palmboom, and with her sister, recorder virtuosa Eva Legêne. She is a member of the viol consorts Arcadia Viols and Long & Away. Anne has played with numerous ensembles and soloists in the North East. She conducts the chamber orchestra and teaches cello and viola da gamba at Bard College at Simon's Rock, and at her home studio in Great Barrington, MA. Anne studied cello at the Royal Conservatory in The Hague, Netherlands. She received a Graduate Performance Diploma in Early Music from the Longy School in Cambridge, MA, where she studied viola da gamba with Jane Hershey and baroque cello with Phoebe Carrai. She loves gardening and crafting, and most recently has been trying her hand at the potter's wheel.

**James Perretta** is a Boston-based viola da gamba player who is active as a performer, arranger, and teacher. Co-founder of the ensemble Lyracle, James arranges polyphonic madrigals for voice and viol, synergizing his facility on the viol with his knowledge of 16th and 17th-century counterpoint. He is also active on TikTok and YouTube recording his own arrangements of video game music for solo viol or viol consort. James enjoys working on projects that span multiple genres and explore the use of extended techniques on the viol. While attending the Silkroad Ensemble's 2022 Global Musician Workshop, he was selected to teach a participant-led elective on Renaissance and Baroque improvisation. He currently teaches at the Powers Music School in Belmont, MA and performs with viol consort Long & Away. James holds a B.M. in Cello Performance and a M.S. in Computer Science from the University of Michigan, where he studied modern cello with Richard Aaron and Baroque cello and viola da gamba with Enid Sutherland. He recently earned a Ph.D. in Computer Science at Northeastern University and is pursuing a dual-career as a musician and Computer Science teacher.

*We would like to thank Josh Schreiber for the loan of his vielle.*

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