

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
SEPTEMBER 10, 2009**

From Venice to Iqaluit to Portage Avenue via Thompson

Hang on to Your Seats for Camerata Nova's 2009-2010 Season!

WINNIPEG, Manitoba – Camerata Nova is pleased to announce its innovative and eclectic 2009-2010 season, featuring three unique concerts with exciting guest artists, new compositions, glorious early music and a brand new Winnipeg downtown venue!

- ◆ ***Bright Day Star, Saturday, November 28 at 8:00 pm and Sunday, November 29, 2009 at 3:00 pm at Manitoba Hydro Place*** (360 Portage Avenue) – Camerata Nova teams up with the University of Manitoba's Cantata Singers to explore the beautiful acoustic in the atrium of the new Manitoba Hydro Place. Repertoire includes Renaissance music from Praetorius, Gabrieli, Bach, and Morales with glorious double chorus motet, contemporary and medieval carols and new arrangements by Andrew Balfour. There will even be a chance for some amazing sing-a-longs! ***Admission is free but donations are encouraged.***
- ◆ ***Medieval Inuit, Saturday, March 13 at 8:00 pm and Sunday, March 14, 2010 at 3:00 pm at Église Précieux-Sang*** (200 Kenny Street) – Artistic Director Andrew Balfour and Inuit songwriter and folk/throat singer Madeleine Allakariallak partner to celebrate the music of the Inuit and the Europeans who first made contact with them. The concert will offer a fascinating range of elements from traditional throat singing to medieval music from Scandinavia, to contemporary songs written by Allakariallak and Scandinavian composers. The concert will also feature the premiere of *Medieval Inuit*, a major new sound drama by Andrew Balfour based on the theme of first arctic contacts. The soaring spirals of Église Précieux-Sang will provide a perfect setting for this haunting, innovative performance. *Admission is \$22 for adults, \$20 for seniors and \$10 for students.*
- ◆ ***Venice, Vespers and Viols, Wednesday and Thursday, June 2 and 3, 2010 at 8:00 pm at St. Mary's Cathedral*** (353 St. Mary Avenue) – Camerata Nova is proud to present another early music concert designed and conducted by Ross Brownlee featuring period instruments and styling. Joining Camerata Nova for this concert is the internationally-known Spanish baroque soprano Maria Luz Alvarez (who currently lives in Thompson, Manitoba) as well as lutenist and theorbo player Phillip Rukavina from

Minneapolis and our early music string quartet of WSO players led by Claudine St-Arnauld. Repertoire will be from the glorious Italian Renaissance and Baroque periods, including composers Andrea and Giovanni Gabrieli, Monteverdi, Palestrina and Vecchi. *Admission is \$22 for adults, \$20 for seniors and \$10 for students.*

This season, Artistic Director Andrew Balfour is very pleased to be collaborating with prominent Winnipeg musicians Mel Braun and Ross Brownlee who will share the conducting honours for the three concerts. “As I evolve musically, I find that I want to spend more of my time on performance concepts and composing, rather than conducting. I also enjoy just being able to sing my heart out as part of the group”, said Balfour. Camerata Nova feels fortunate to benefit from the formidable combined talents of these three musicians.

In addition to offering its own concert series, Camerata Nova will be participating in the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra’s Indigenous Festival to be held June 21-26, 2010.

Tickets will be available over the phone, at McNally Robinson and at the door of each concert, as well as through our website.

Camerata Nova was founded in 1996 as a Winnipeg vocal ensemble dedicated to the exploration and performance of Renaissance music. Today, the group enjoys stretching the boundaries of its repertoire, performing a range of works from medieval songs to new Canadian works, including compositions by its Artistic Director, Andrew Balfour. The group has produced three CDs in the last seven years: *Camerata Nova*, *Mystica* and *Nova Noël*, as well as a DVD entitled *Wa Wa Tey Wak*.

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To arrange an interview or for more information, call Cindy Singer at (204) 918-4547.