

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 14, 2014

Camerata Nova presents

Where's **GESUALDO?**

A dark, dramatic and deliciously twisted concert!

WINNIPEG, Manitoba – Can a murderer write celestial music? Find out on **Saturday, March 8, 2014 at 8:00 pm** or **Sunday, March 9th at 3:00 pm**, at Crescent Fort Rouge United Church when Camerata Nova performs *Where's Gesualdo?*, one of its most dark, dramatic and deliciously twisted concerts ever!

Don Carlo Gesualdo (1561-1613), the maverick Italian Renaissance nobleman/composer/murderer, has always been one of Camerata Nova's favourite composers. His strange chromatic harmonies could be from today rather than 1600. In fact, modern mavericks such as Stravinsky loved his work. This concert weaves together works from both periods, plus Andrew Balfour and Michael McKay have both written pieces inspired by Gesualdo. Manitoba composer Michael McKay has written a choral exploration of Gesualdo's descent into depression and obsession with absolution. As well, Andrew Balfour takes a stab (pun intended!) at Gesualdo's murder of his wife and her lover.

Camerata Nova is honoured to have **Christopher Jackson** holding the baton for this *a cappella* concert. Maestro Jackson is Artistic Director of the Studio de musique ancienne de Montréal, former Dean of the Faculty of Fine Arts of Concordia University and one of the top early music conductors in the world.

There will be a 30-minute pre-concert talk at **7:15 pm on Saturday** and at **2:15 pm on Sunday** afternoon. Camerata Nova Artistic Director Andrew Balfour will "interview" Christopher Jackson about the work of Gesualdo, his dramatic life and the music of his period. ***SPRING AHEAD: Don't forget the time change from Saturday to Sunday, March 8, 2014!***

Tickets (adults \$28, seniors \$23, students \$12) are available at McNally Robinson Booksellers, through our website (www.cameratanova.com) and at the door, as well as by phone (204.918.4547). High school students can also get tickets for \$5 through the eyeGo to the Arts program. This performance being the first of the two paying concerts of our regular season, it is still worthwhile to get a 2013-

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2014 subscription. Individual subscriptions are \$50 (adults), \$45 (seniors) and \$20 (students), and buddy subscriptions (two tickets to each concert) are \$95, \$85 and \$35. Subscribers are ensured prime seating at our season concerts, and can buy Camerata Nova products at a reduced price.

Still to come this season...

- Later this month, Camerata Nova is launching its second annual online auction which will continue until mid-March. As last year, we will be auctioning goods and services including a house concert with New York harpist Grace Cloutier, a Arctic-themed supper and a handyman's services. New items will be added to the auction regularly. Watch our Twitter account, our Facebook page and our website for more details.
- On May 15, 2014, we leave the purity of *a cappella* and team up with Vince Fontaine and his new band, **Indian City** (with Don Amero and William Prince), in an acoustic concert entitled *Red and White Unplugged* that pushes the boundaries of traditional and contemporary Aboriginal music. Songs by Vince Fontaine, new compositions and arrangements by Andrew Balfour plus a guest performance by Cree drummer/singer Cory Campbell make this a unique exploration of indigenous chant, rock and classical music.

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For questions or interviews, please call Janet Charron at 204.918.4547 or write to info@cameratanova.com. Photos are available upon request.

About Christopher Jackson...

A pioneer of Montréal's fertile early music scene, Christopher Jackson was among the first to present period music to audiences in the early 1970s. He founded the Studio de musique ancienne de Montréal (SMAM) in 1974. His reputation extends well beyond national borders – he has been invited to conduct several prestigious ensembles in France, Belgium and Spain, and led a tour of Monteverdi's *Orfeo* across France in 1998. SMAM has toured Europe, North America and Mexico. A leader in the academic world, Christopher Jackson was appointed Dean of the Faculty of Fine Arts at Concordia University in 1994, a post he retired in 2005. He was also granted an honorary doctorate by Laurentian University in 1999 and was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 2009 in recognition of his contribution to the world of music. Organist, harpsichordist, conductor, artistic director, teacher, mentor, renaissance man.... Professor Jackson continues to create unique concert programs and recordings with SMAM. His role as ancient music detective is one that he has inhabited for years, searching libraries and working with music historians and musicologists to revive previously unknown or unedited works.

About Camerata Nova...

"You never know what you're going to get..." Camerata Nova is a vocal group without fear, performing medieval, Renaissance, Aboriginal and contemporary music. Often singing *a cappella*, the group also enjoys accompaniment from didgeridoos, crystal bowls, strings, all kinds of percussion, and/or early instruments. Since 1996, they continue to push the envelope, offering authentic early music performances, premières of Manitoba compositions and an eclectic array in between. Camerata Nova has issued four CDs: *Camerata Nova*, *Mystica*, *Nova Noël* and *Christmas in Early America*, as well as a DVD entitled *Wa Wa Tey Wak (Northern Lights)*. Camerata Nova is led by a group of extraordinary individuals: Artistic Director and Resident Composer Andrew Balfour, Early Music Curator and Conductor Ross Brownlee, and Co-Curators and Conductors Mel Braun and Michael McKay.