

The Story of Passamezzo Moderno

Passamezzo Moderno, founded in 2005, is a period ensemble that performs the music of three centuries, from 1530 to 1830, and specializes in the virtuoso instrumental music of the 17th century. Its members are David Granger, dulcian and bassoon, Jonathan Davis, harpsichord and organ, and Edwin Huizinga and Adriane Post, violins.

Passamezzo Moderno's mission is to provide their audiences the highest caliber performances on period instruments in historically authentic style. We also are committed to broadening the knowledge and appeal of early music by combining brief lectures within the concerts and through educational outreach.

David Granger organized the ensemble in 2005 with Jonathan Davis, Andrew Fouts, violin, and Steve Lehning, viol. In 2007, Steve Lehning left the ensemble, and Edwin Huizinga was asked to join while he was still a graduate student at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. The ensemble performed several concerts from which they assembled a CD. Passamezzo Moderno released its first CD, "From Venice to Vienna in the 17th Century," in August, 2008. The CD is available online at the group's website, www.passamezzomoderno.com, and at www.CDBaby.com. Downloads are available as well at CDBaby, Amazon and iTunes.

David Granger organized Passamezzo Moderno as a sole proprietorship in 2008 in Contra Costa County, California, partly to enable sale of the CD. Sales of printed music, materials for bassoonists, and Passamezzo Moderno's CD, as well as concert fees and ticket sales, are now used to support the ensemble's concert presentations.

Andrew Fouts left the ensemble shortly after release of the CD in order to join Chatham Baroque in Pittsburgh, PA. Adriane Post was asked to join, and the ensemble enjoyed considerable success in the 2009-10 concert season with some important local performances for the San Francisco Early Music Society and Berkeley Chamber Performances.

Passamezzo Moderno did not perform during the 2010-2011 concert season as Adriane Post was studying at The Juilliard School in its new program of Historical Performance. Adriane completed her degree there in 2011 as part of its first graduating class.

Passamezzo Moderno renewed its performances to enthusiastic and large audiences in June, 2012 as part of the Berkeley Early Music Festival Fringe Concerts series.

Passamezzo Moderno has been a fiscal affiliate of the San Francisco Early Music Society (SFEMS) and a member of Early Music America since 2007.

CD, "From Venice to Vienna in the 17th Century", available August, 2008

Past Performances

- March 2, 2013, Trinity Chamber Concerts, Berkeley, CA, "Simfoniae Romanæ"
February 28, 2013, Benefit Concert, Oakland Durant Rockrdige Masonic Lodge, Oakland, CA, "Simfoniae Romanæ"
February 28, 2013, University of California, Davis, Noon Concerts, "Simfoniae Romanæ"
February 27, 2013, University of California, Berkeley, Noon Concert. "Simfoniae Romanæ"
Jun 7, 2012, San Francisco Early Music Society Berkeley Festival "Fringe" Concert, Loper Chapel, Berkeley, CA, "Instrumentalische Sachen"
June 6, 2012, Benefit Concert, Oakland Durant Rockrdige Masonic Lodge, Oakland, CA, "Instrumentalische Sachen"
July 9, 2011, Friends of San Francisco Chamber Music, Legion of Honor, San Francisco, CA, , "Virtuoso Music from 17th Century Italy"
March 24, 2010, Music at Noon, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Sacramento, CA, "Baroque Bravura"
March 23, 2010, Berkeley Chamber Performances, Berkeley, CA, "Baroque Bravura"
November 20, 21, and 22, 2009, San Francisco Early Music Society series, performances in Palo Alto, Berkeley, and San Francisco, CA, "Across the Alps"
November 19, 2009, California State University, Stanislaus, "Across the Alps"
November 19, 2009, University of California, Davis, Noon Concerts, "Across the Alps"
November 18, 2009, Music at Noon, Westminster Presbyterian Church Sacramento, CA, "Across the Alps"
June 27, 2009, Trinity Chamber Concerts, Berkeley, CA, "Ostinato"
October 29, 2008, Music at Noon, Westminster Presbyterian Church. Sacramento, CA, "From Venice to Vienna in the 17th Century"
June 10, 2007, Old First Concerts, San Francisco, CA, "From Venice to Vienna in the 17th Century"
June 9, 2007, Trinity Chamber Concerts, Berkeley, CA, "From Venice to Vienna in the 17th Century"
May 3, 2007, California State University, Stanislaus, "From Venice to Vienna in the 17th Century"
May 2, 2007, Music at Noon, Westminster Presbyterian Church Sacramento, CA, , "From Venice to Vienna in the 17th Century"
January 26, 2006, University of California, Davis, Noon Concerts, "A Golden Age of Spanish Music"
January 11, 2006, Music at Noon, Westminster Presbyterian Church Sacramento, CA, "A Golden Age of Spanish Music"
March 30, 2005, University of California, Berkeley, Noon Concert, "Virtuoso Music from 17th Century Italy"
February 17, 2005, University of California, Davis, Noon Concerts, , "Virtuoso Music from 17th Century Italy"