

Gotham Early Music Scene (GEMS) presents



Thursday February 1, 2024 1:15 pm  
St Malachy's Church – The Actors' Chapel in New York City  
Live Streamed to [midtownconcerts.org](http://midtownconcerts.org) and [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com)

## Silentwoods Collective *Playing with Fire*

*Cristina Prats-Costa, Ryan Cheng, Lindsie Katz, Lydia Becker, Eleanor Legault & Epongue Ekille ~ violins*  
*Ela Kodžas & Annemarie Schubert ~ violas Allen Maracle & Andrew Koutroubas ~ violoncellos*  
*Jonathan Liuk ~ bass Jason Priset ~ lute Dani Zanuttini-Frank ~ guitar Elené Tabagari ~ harpsichord*  
*Mei Stone & Melanie Williams ~ flutes Ezra Gans ~ bassoon*

- Concerto Grosso in D Major, Op. 6., No. 1** Arcangelo Corelli (1653–1713)  
Largo – Allegro ~ Largo – Allegro ~ Largo ~ Allegro ~ Allegro
- Concerto No. 2 for Strings in G minor** Francesco Durante (1684–1755)  
Affettuoso – Presto ~ Largo Affettuoso ~ Allegro Affettuoso
- Sinfonia from *Il Giardino di Rose*** Alessandro Scarlatti (1660–1725)  
Allegro ~ Presto ~ Largo e Piano ~ Allegro
- Concerto for Two Violoncellos, RV 531** Antonio Vivaldi (1678–1741)  
Allegro ~ Largo ~ Allegro
- Concerto for Two Flutes, RV 533** Antonio Vivaldi  
Allegro Molto ~ Largo ~ Allegro

Midtown Concerts are produced by Gotham Early Music Scene, Inc., and are made possible with support from St. Malachy's Church–The Actors' Chapel, The New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature; public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council; the Howard Gilman Foundation; and by generous donations from audience members.

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Live stream video crew: Gene Murrow, Murat Eyuboglu, Dennis Cembalo  
Naomi Morse, Director of Marketing John Thiessen, Executive Director  
Harpsichord provided by Rebecca Pechefsky



[www.gemsny.org](http://www.gemsny.org)

## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

*Playing with Fire* was first conceived as a journey through myriad Italian Baroque aesthetics and musical expressions. It begins with Corelli's grandiose first Concerto Grosso from his Op. 6 collection, prominently featuring two violins and solo violoncello in dialogue with one another and the rest of the orchestra. The triumphant end of this piece ushers in Durante's Second Concerto for Strings. Wandering with little certainty into a mysterious and emotionally charged arena, each movement of this piece includes the key descriptive word "affetuoso" in its title. Complete with fiery violin solos throughout, Durante guides us through various shades of tenderness, passion, and affection. Scarlatti's Sinfonia introduction to his Oratorio *Il Giardino di Rose* comprises several short and severely contrasted movements. Concluding with a lively and joyous dance, we move to Vivaldi's Concerto for Two Violoncellos, which ignites from the depths of the instrument with menacing, impassioned tones. Followed by a melancholic and dreamy second movement with nuanced back and forth dialogue between the two solo violoncellos, our program finishes by featuring the whole band of 17 musicians with Vivaldi's uplifting and lighthearted Concerto for Two Flutes.

## ABOUT THE ENSEMBLE

Silentwoods Collective is an artist-run organization focused on community building through public arts offerings and support for young artists. Our vision, to make inspiring live performance experiences commonplace, keeps us keenly focused on constantly re-evaluating the modes in which we present early music. We currently have a small team of artists working together to develop an immersive, multimedia, narrative-based series. This project will be a major undertaking requiring a variety of artists and volunteers from the community and every installment of it will remain accessible to the public free of charge. Our program, *Playing with Fire* featuring 17 current and graduated students of The Juilliard School's Historical Performance program will be one of the last traditional concert programs we present for the foreseeable future as we work to develop new innovative offerings for you, our audience. Keep up to date with us at [silentwoodscollective.com](http://silentwoodscollective.com) and reach out to learn how you can get involved by sending us an email at [silentwoodscollective@gmail.com](mailto:silentwoodscollective@gmail.com).

**Next Week: Julia Bengtsson from the  
New York Baroque Dance Company  
*Dances in French, English and Spanish Style***