

Classical Music Chicago, Concert Update for Chicago Arts Orchestra, Spanish Music Concert Scheduled, 2014 Chicago Music Event

Released on: February 19, 2014, 7:53 am (EST)

Author: **Pam Magnuson**

Industry: [Entertainment](#)

Two concerts scheduled. Classical Music Chicago, Concert Update for Chicago Arts Orchestra, Spanish Music Concert Scheduled, 2014 Chicago Music Event

CHICAGO, February 19, 2014 -- /[EPR NETWORK](#)/ -- Chicago Arts Orchestra Resurrects Treasure Trove of Spanish Colonial Music for 2014 Season. The Kapelle of Concordia University Chicago join the CAO in two performances of Rediscovered Treasures IV Music of 18th-Century Spain and Mexico

CONCERT DATES

Friday, Feb. 28, 8 p.m. at First United Church of Oak Park, 848 Lake St, Oak Park, IL 60301

Saturday, March 1, 8 p.m. at St. Alphonsus Catholic Church, 1429 W. Wellington Ave., Chicago, IL.

The Concert Experience

Opening Concerts Focus on Little-Known Works that Reimagine Scope of 18th-century Classical Music

Reviving long-dormant 18th-century classical music of Latin America, the Chicago Arts Orchestra (CAO) opens its 2014 season premiering choral-orchestral works by Antonio Rodríguez de Hita (1722-1787) and Antonio Juanas (ca.1755-1818) that colored the music landscape in Spain and Mexico.

Joined by guests, The Kapelle of Concordia University Chicago, the CAO presents two performances of "Rediscovered Treasures IV: Music of 18th-Century Spain and Mexico": 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 28, at First United Church of Oak Park, Oak Park, Ill. and 8 p.m. Saturday, March 1, at St. Alphonsus Catholic Church, 1429 W. Wellington Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Drew Edward Davies, PhD, an associate professor of musicology at Northwestern University Bienen School of Music, leads a Prelude pre-concert discussion at 7:30 p.m. focusing on the history of compositions found in regions not typically associated with classical music. Concert highlights include Rodríguez de Hita's "Missa Ecce Sacerdos Magnus" and the U.S. premiere of other works unearthed in Mexico and linked to the Spanish empire that had been met with disinterest, until now.

The upcoming event adds a new dimension to the CAO's collaboration with The Kapelle because of the featured music's uncommon origins, which capture sensibilities of both 18th-century Europe and the New World. The CAO's relationship with the choral ensemble dates to 2007 when both groups, along with chamber choir Cantate, performed Bradley Ellingboe's "Requiem."

The "Rediscovered Treasures" series solidifies the CAO's niche in a local music scene "saturated with eclectic styles," said Charles P. Brown, DMA, Kapelle Conductor and Concordia University associate professor of music. "This particular venture with the CAO allows for an intimate collaboration between orchestra and choir with jubilant, meditative, and reflective moments throughout the program," Brown said. "This music is evocative, and it makes me wonder how much more beautiful music is waiting to be rediscovered."

The CAO is at the forefront of an international movement to draw public attention to the music of the Spanish colonial period; Mexico alone preserves the legacy of thousands of musical works still unheard there or in the U.S. The CAO's first

album released in 2013, "Al Combate: Rediscovered Galant Music from Eighteenth-Century Mexico," featured works by Ignacio Jerusalem (1707-1769) and Santiago Billoni (ca. 1700-1763) and the orchestra received high praise from international publications, including Early Music Today.

"This music is both familiar and unconventional -- to the surprise and delight of listeners" Davies said. "It sounds a lot like Mozart or Handel or other composers well-known to classical music audiences. However, the fact that it comes from Spain or Mexico explodes previously held conceptions of baroque and classical music by opening up a wider slate on which to conceive of the musical past."

Concert tickets

Available at chicagoartsorchestra.org \$25 for patrons; \$20 at the door; \$17 in advance; and \$15 for students and seniors. For more information, call 773.248.0644.

About Chicago Arts Orchestra

The CAO, Artistic Director Javier José Mendoza, strives to touch an underserved and neglected audience by championing all types of art music. The CAO was established by musicians and creative artists to perform great music and to make chamber music accessible and affordable. Comprising young professional musicians with active performance schedules in Chicago, the CAO provides educational opportunities to the community through innovative programming of historic and new orchestral music. For more information, visit chicagoartsorchestra.org

About the Kapelle

The Kapelle, Conductor Charles P. Brown, DMA, is Concordia University Chicago's premier choral performance ensemble. The select voice choir tours annually throughout the U.S. as well as internationally every four years, and records regularly. The Kapelle regularly enjoys collaborating with Chicago-area orchestras with Bach cantatas and symphonic choral classics. For more information, visit the Kapelle.

CONCERT DATES

Friday, Feb. 28, 8 p.m. at First United Church of Oak Park, 848 Lake St, Oak Park, IL 60301

Saturday, March 1, 8 p.m. at St. Alphonsus Catholic Church, 1429 W. Wellington Ave., Chicago, IL.

Prelude pre-concert discussion at 7:30 p.m. lead by Drew Edward Davies, PhD

Concert tickets are available at chicagoartsorchestra.org \$25 for patrons; \$20 at the door; \$17 in advance; and \$15 for students and seniors. For more information, call 773-248-0644

~~~~~

Press release distributed via EPR Network (<http://express-press-release.net/submit-press-release.php>)