

Pegasus Early Music and NYS Baroque
present

Exile and Connection

Stories of Jewish Musicians and their Contemporaries in Early Modern Europe

Thursday April 29, 2021, 7:30pm ET
Sunday May 2, 2021, 4:00pm ET

Rebecca Cypess & Liza Malamut, musicians & musicologists

Incantare: Alice Culin-Ellison, Cynthia Black, violins;
Liza Malamut, Ben David Aronson, and Garrett Lahr, sackbuts;
Naomi Gregory, organ

Following the expulsion of the Jewish population from the Iberian peninsula in the fifteenth century, Jewish musicians resettled in various regions throughout Europe, Africa, and Asia. Our story takes as its starting point the rich musical cultures fostered by Jews in early modern Italy and their points of contact with non-Jewish traditions. From there, we touch on the influences of Italian, German, and English music and Jewish culture, highlighting Jewish musicians, the non-Jewish composers they influenced, and composers who inspired innovations in Jewish composition.

Music in the presentation

Sonata detta la desperata	Carlo Farina (ca.1604–July 1639)
Sinfonia à 4	Salamone Rossi (ca. 1570–ca. 1630)
Sonata 20 à 5	Giovanni Battista Buonamente (late 16th c.–1642)
Diminutions on Invidioso amor	Alessandro Striggio (c. 1536/1537–1592) Giovanni Bassano (c. 1561–1617)
Sinfonia 29 & 30 à 2	Nicholas Lanier (1588–1666)
Fantasia No. 4 à 5	Jeronimo Bassano (1559–1635)
A Suite of Dances	
Pavane and Galliard	Augustine Bassano (ca. 1526–1604)
Brando	Salamone Rossi
La Mantovana ("Lekh le-shalom geshem")	Gasparo Zanetti (after 1600–ca.1660)

Rebecca Cypess is Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at Mason Gross and an Associate Professor in the Music Department. She is the author of *Curious and Modern Inventions*:

Instrumental Music as Discovery in Galileo's Italy (University of Chicago Press, 2016); *Women and Musical Salons in the Enlightenment* (forthcoming from the University of Chicago Press in 2022); and over two dozen peer-reviewed articles and book chapters. She is co-editor of the volumes *Sara Levy's World: Gender, Judaism, and the Bach Tradition in Enlightenment Berlin* (University of Rochester Press, 2018) and *Music and Jewish Culture in Early Modern Italy: New Perspectives* (forthcoming from Indiana University Press in 2022). A performer on historical keyboard instruments, Cypess directs the Raritan Players, which is devoted to the exploration of compositions and performance practices associated with women. The group's recordings have been called "simply mesmerizing" (*Early Music America*), "enchanting" (*Classics Today*), and an "unexpected treasure . . . this album could be better only if they could find a way to scent it with freshly-baked cookies" (*American Record Guide*).

Liza Malamut regularly appears as a trombonist, teaching artist, and presenter throughout the United States and abroad. She has performed with Boston Baroque, Tafelmusik, the Handel & Haydn Society, Trinity Wall Street, Boston Camerata, Apollo's Fire, Pegasus Early Music, Dark Horse Consort, and many other ensembles; and her playing can be heard on the Musica Omnia, Naxos, Hyperion, and George Blood Audio labels. A passionate teacher and researcher, Liza's work in trombone pedagogy was supported by an American Dissertation Completion Fellowship from the American Association of University Women. She served as Visiting Lecturer in Sackbut at Indiana University in spring 2015 and 2018, taught as applied instructor in sackbut at Tufts University, and regularly teaches at workshops throughout the country such as Amherst Early Music Festival, Mountain Collegium, and others. Liza most recently coedited the forthcoming book *Music and Jewish Culture in Early Modern Italy: New Perspectives* with Rebecca Cypess and Lynette Bowring. She holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Historical Performance from Boston University, where she studied historical trombone with Greg Ingles. Liza is a founding member and Co-Artistic Director of Incantare, an ensemble dedicated to researching and performing works by musicians from marginalized populations in early modern Europe.

Incantare's concerts highlight the musical and cultural connections of under-explored musicians from the Renaissance and early Baroque periods, especially music by composers, singers, and instrumentalists from marginalized communities in early modern Europe. Founded by co-artistic directors Alice Culin-Ellison, Liza Malamut, Ben David Aronson, and Garrett Lahr, the ensemble strives to discover, research, transcribe, teach, and perform works that may not have been heard since their conception.

Incantare debuted to enthusiastic crowds at the 2018 Twin Cities Early Music Festival, where they were chosen as one of "the week's five best Twin Cities classical concerts" by the Star Tribune. The ensemble was most recently featured in EMAG, Early Music America's quarterly publication, in the article "Going for Baroque Among Spirits and Steeds." Recent engagements include an artist residency at Avaloch Farm Music Institute, a return to the Twin Cities Early Music Festival, and their featured appearance at the 2019 International Trombone Festival, where they were praised for their "beautiful and cohesive sound." (ITA Journal, October 2019). They have performed programs throughout the United States, with 2020 appearances at Hobart & William Smith Colleges, LeMoyne College, and The Perkins Mansion in Rochester, New York. Incantare's EXILE program was recently recognized as an "innovative project" by

the Paul R. Judy Center for Innovation and Research. Audiences have reported leaving the ensemble's concerts "with a sense of awe." (EMAg, October 2019)

The consort of sackbuts and violins has a long history and a unique sound that incorporates the vocal qualities of both instruments while retaining each of their distinct timbres, making it the perfect medium for performing the beautiful works from this rich musical time period. The name "Incantare" is a play on words that links directly to the group's mission as early instrumentalists. "Incantare" means "to enchant" in Italian, and "to sing" in Latin. Incantare seeks to enchant, charm, hypnotize, and spellbind by singing through their instruments. Incantaremusic.com

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