

# MUSIC OF THE SPHERES

## CURRENT PROGRAM OFFERINGS

Detailed programs with timings can be furnished upon request.

**BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY** features violin works by Johann Jakob Walther, Johann Heinrich Schmelzer, and Heinrich von Biber, part of the wave of composers during the 1660's-1680's in Germany, Austria and Bohemia who were influenced and inspired by the Italian fantastic style. All three were well-known virtuoso violinists who performed their own works and took solo violin composition to greater heights of virtuosity by introducing new techniques such as multiple stops, arpeggiation, extended left hand range, and special bow effects.

**IF MUSIC BE THE FOOD OF LOVE** A British feast of famous chestnuts & little-known gems, including Geminiani's Scots Airs, variations on Greensleeves, fiddle tunes from The Division Violin, and sonatas by Joseph Gibbs, William Babell, Scottish composer David Foulis, and both Henry and Daniel Purcell.

**JACARAS, FOLIAS & FANDANGOS!** Transport yourself to the sunny slopes of Spain! A celebration of Spanish dance music with rhythms guaranteed to pull people out of their seats.

**DÉJÀ VU** A collection of delicious French confections from the court of the Sun King & Louis XV, interspersed with quotes on love by famous French authors. This program features the rarely-heard dance suites of Jean-Féry Rebel, court composer to Louis XIV, which employ colorful character movements and imitative effects such as "The Bells." Also included are works by Elisabeth Jacquet de la Guerre, François Couperin, and Marin Marais' popular "Sonnerie."

**THE FANTASTICS** Born in Italy, the fantastic style was an improvisatory, virtuoso solo instrumental style with dramatic contrasts, sudden quicksilver changes of tempi and character, novel and strange flights of fancy. It wandered into bizarre harmonic and chromatic language, and favored extravagant angular gesture to melody. Characterized by a free form, it employed extravagant and unusual melodic, harmonic, and rhythmic features such as wide leaps, strange and dissonant harmonies, and bird and animal imitations. Featuring the rarely-heard violin sonatas of Giovanni Antonio Pandolfi, as well as harpsichord works by Picchi, Froberger and Frescobaldi.

**MUSICAL EVOLUTION** explores the language of Baroque music from its wild beginnings through the development of more formal structures still in use today. The wild improvisatory violin sonatas of the 1660's used richly colorful and dissonant harmonies and an unrestricted form, which allowed for an extremely wide range of expressive possibilities and experimentation that sound strange to our ears today. Throughout the 1700's, the sonata gradually morphed and crystallized into the symmetrical form exemplified by Handel, Corelli and Vivaldi, who created the first harmonic and structural expectations which still govern our responses today. Featuring works by Pandolfi, Gabrieli, Biber, Schmelzer, Corelli, Muffat and Handel.

**MONOLITHS** The violin sonatas of J.S. Bach and G.F. Handel.

**CLASSICAL GEMS** Sonatas & trios by Mozart, Beethoven, Haydn, Hummel, Sammartini, J.C. Bach, C.P.E. Bach, Boccherini, Viotti & Jane Mary Guest.