

MEDIEVAL VOCAL CONCERT SERIES SPEAKS TO CHAMPLAIN'S LEGACY

The exquisite duo Asteria will perform **Sunday, November 16 at 3:00 p.m.** at the **Church in the Hollow** on Route 3 in Saranac, NY. This is the second concert in the Hill and Hollow Music series commemorating the Champlain Quadricentennial by telling the story of French exploration and settlement in our region through performances of French and Franco-American music.

ADDITIONAL RESIDENCY ACTIVITIES GIVEN BY ASTERIA

Lecture-Performance: Thursday, November 13 at 7:00 p.m.

Krinovitz Recital Hall on the campus of SUNY Plattsburgh (*free and open to the public*)

Live Broadcast Interview and Performance: Friday, November 14 at 11:00 a.m.

Vermont Public Radios *Live Classical Music with Walter Parker*

Mini-Concert: Saturday, November 15 at 6:30 p.m.

Lake Forest Senior Living Community

Asteria burst onto the Early Music scene in 2004, winning Early Music Americas' first Unicorn Prize for Medieval and Renaissance Music with a performance heralded by *The New York Times* as "intimate and deeply communicative... meltingly beautiful." The European early music magazine *Goldberg* called them "captivating and intimate." *San Francisco Classical Voice* marveled at the easy fluency of their performances, writing "Asteria's appeal is extraordinary, with an uncanny quality of emotional immediacy and intimacy. Rhyne and Redlinger seem entirely comfortable in their music, inhabiting the style. Anyone who can convey the inside of a musical world so unfamiliar and yet so lovely as theirs is doing something right."



The engaging duo bring out the passion and emotional impact of late medieval vocal and instrumental music with timeless love songs of wide appeal, transporting listeners back to the age of chivalry. Asteria will perform their latest program of chansons from 15th-century Burgundy, entitled ***Un Tres Doulx Regard: (pronounced uhn tray doo rugarr and translated as a most sweet look) the Blossoming of the Burgundian Spirit in Song 1390-1440.*** Just like a shy lover smitten by the merest glance from the object of his affections, the music of Burgundian composers in this period, known as the *ars nova* or "new art," is infused with the sweetness and explosive passion of new love.

This program is the result of extensive archival research during Asteria's sabbatical year in France in 2006-2007.

Largely drawn from anonymous or unattributed compositions from the last decade of the 14th century and beginning of the 15th, this body of work represents the generation of Dufay's teachers, and contains many of the elements that will later be the hallmarks of the mature Burgundian style that swept Europe during the middle of the 15th century.

15th-century Burgundy was a center of wealth and power in the western world. The dukes of Burgundy exercised more influence than the kings of France. They were also legendary patrons of the arts, with a particular appreciation for music, which contributed to a legacy of poetry and song that continued to be performed and imitated for generations. The most gifted composers and performers of the period prospered in the service of the dukes of Burgundy and were the envy of the royal courts of Europe. The art and music emanating from the Burgundian Ducal Courts rivaled even that of the Pope in Rome.

