



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 22, 2024

Early Music Vancouver presents lestyn Davies and Fretwork chamber group in reflective concert *Lamento*

Acclaimed British countertenor returns to Vancouver alongside instrumental group to explore 17th-century German repertoire by J.C. Bach, Schütz, and more

Vancouver, BC - Early Music Vancouver (EMV) welcomes the return of the UK's exquisite voice-and-viol partnership of internationally renowned countertenor **lestyn Davies** and Renaissance viol consort **Fretwork**, directed by distinguished viol player Richard Boothby, in ***Lamento***, on **November 26, 2024 at 7:30pm at Christ Church Cathedral**.

Praised as having “one of the most glorious counter-tenor voices in the world today,” (NYT, 2013) lestyn Davies and Fretwork present a programme that traverses across the German Baroque period based on their album *Lamento* (Signum Classics, 2021). A specialist in early music, particularly the music of Handel, Davies has appeared on operatic stages worldwide including the Metropolitan Opera, New York; the Lyric Opera of Chicago; Teatro alla Scala Milan; and the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. An outstanding recitalist, he has performed in Vienna, Tokyo, Paris, and New York in repertoire ranging from John Dowland to Eric Clapton.

“We are thrilled to host the stunning collaboration of lestyn Davies and Fretwork once again in Vancouver, following their sold-out performance in 2019,” says EMV’s Artistic and Executive Director Suzie LeBlanc. “This programme of both familiar and seldom-performed works explores music’s ability to act as a balm for the soul, something much needed in these hectic and often difficult times.”

Hailed as the “the finest viol consort on the planet,” (The London Evening, 2016) Fretwork has toured globally for more than 40 years, performing music that ranges from the Renaissance to the modern day. Fretwork has become known as pioneers of contemporary music for viols, having commissioned a multitude of new works.

“It’s a joy for me to reunite with Richard Boothby and Fretwork, who were instrumental in developing my early career in Europe three decades ago,” says LeBlanc. “With their impeccable artistry, and the sublime voice of lestyn Davies, ***Lamento*** is a concert not to be missed by Vancouver audiences.”

A beloved genre in the Baroque era, the *lamento*’s origins lay in early 17th century Italian opera, before finding its way into sacred music. It was quickly embraced by German sacred composers, who used its expressive nature to depict the sorrow of mankind’s sin and the tragic Passion of Christ. ***Lamento*** features works by leading German Baroque composers Heinrich Schütz, J.C. Bach, and Dieterich Buxtehude.

For tickets and information, visit earlymusic.bc.ca



With the generous support of Global BC.

About Early Music Vancouver (earlymusic.bc.ca)

Early Music Vancouver's concerts offer a platform for cross-cultural dialogue and exploration of diverse perspectives and relationships with the past. Under the leadership of Artistic/Executive Director, and internationally acclaimed soprano, Suzie LeBlanc, C.M., EMV presents a variety of live performances and digital concerts featuring some of the most renowned artists in the early music genre drawn from all parts of the globe.

LISTING INFORMATION

EMV presents Iestyn Davies & Fretwork: Lamento

Date:	November 26, 2024
Address:	Christ Church Cathedral 690 Burrard St, Vancouver, BC
Ticket Prices:	From \$25 to \$79 Under age 35: 35% off regular priced tickets Free tickets for Indigenous persons \$10 Student Rush tickets at the door, based on availability
Ticket link:	earlymusic.bc.ca
Website:	earlymusic.bc.ca

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For further media information, contact

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