



June 8, 2016

MEDIA ALERT

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The Deer and the Nightingale: Songs of Enchantment and Transformation
-Vivoce Women's Chorus Celebrates 10th Anniversary with Two June Concerts-

ViVoce, Portland Revels' women's a cappella ensemble and Portland's only female world music choir, is celebrating its 10th anniversary with two concerts in the signature Revels style of song, poetry and storytelling. Though the singers will perform music from diverse cultures – Bolivia, Ecuador, Romania, Bulgaria, Xhosa (Africa), France, British Isles and more – the themes of *The Deer and The Nightingale* are universal, weaving together a story of enchantment, transformation and unrequited love.

Concert Highlights: Dragana and the Nightingale - from Bulgaria, originally a monophonic dance song re-envisioned as a polyphonic choral piece by Russian trained Bulgarian composer *Philip Koutev* (Kutev) during the early years of socialism in that country. The text reflects a common folk theme of singers in nature, and of the pure qualities of the ideal Bulgarian girl: the nightingale hears Dragana singing in the garden and challenges her to a singing duel—with either his wings or her hair at stake; though Dragana wins, she has no wish to harm the bird and set him free to feed his babies.

Joc de Leagane - Traditional Romanian/Transylvanian Dance Song - This dance song (dance of the cradles) from the region of Maramures in northern Romania may have been historically sung to honor midwives. The lyrics speak of the "dor" or "longing" that takes hold in infancy, cradled in a mother's arms—a "longing" that carries through the journey of life until the child becomes a mother herself.

Three versions of Psalm 42 in Latin, Xhosa and English: "Sicut cervus" (*Palestrina*), "Njengebhadi Libhadula" (*Xhosa*), and "Another Psalm 42" (*Gabrael St Clair*).

Concert Information: Saturday, June 18, 2016 - 7:30pm
St Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church, 1704 N.E. 43rd Street, Portland

Sunday, June 19th, 2016 - 4:30 PM
First Unitarian Church, Eliot Center, 1011 SW 12th Avenue, Portland

Tickets: \$15.00 Adults, \$12.00 Students/Seniors
Purchase tickets online or at the door: portlandrevels.org/calendar/vivoce-singers/





About ViVoce

Originally formed as The Revels Singers, ViVoce was re-established in 2005 as an all-women ensemble. Made up today of 18-25 performers, the group presents two concerts a year, in January and June, and is recognized for engaging performances that feature stories, poetry, costumes and folk songs from around the world. Jamie Lynn Webster, Ph.D., Music Director, leads the choir, and Antonia Forster, Ph.D., has creative oversight as Artistic Director. Learn more at portlandrevels.org/calendar/vivoce-singers

About Portland Revels

The Portland Revels was founded in December 1994 under the leadership of Richard Lewis, when an audience of 200 attended the "Rose City Revels," a sampling of songs and dances from the original Cambridge Christmas Revels, performed at Mago Hunt Theatre at University of Portland. The following year, the first fully-staged Christmas Revels drew 1,500 to five performances at Portland State University's Lincoln Hall. Since then, Portland Revels has grown to include year-round programming reaching a diverse audience, and in 2014 the Christmas Revels was performed 8 times to patrons in excess of 5,000.

Portland Revels is committed to creating community through shared experiences of celebrating the seasons through cultural arts programs. Today, Portland Revels presents a number of richly historical and cultural public performances and events throughout the year, including the Christmas Revels, Pub Sings, and family-friendly special events. Revels' Preview show ticket giveaway program provides opportunities to lesser-served communities to experience the arts. Learn more at portlandrevels.org

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