

# THE COLLEGIUM VOCALE OF SAINT LOUIS

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### “A NEAPOLITAN SERENADE: The Trials and Triumphs of Love”

**ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI** – The COLLEGIUM VOCALE OF ST. LOUIS is proud to present “A NEAPOLITAN SERENADE” a concert of unpublished secular cantatas and arias newly edited for this performance. The concert will be presented on Friday, May 18, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. at the Second Presbyterian Church, 4501 Westminster, St. Louis, MO 63108. Artistic Director, Dr. Bruce Carvell, will present a pre-concert lecture at 7 p.m. Admission to the concert and lecture is free, though donations are appreciate. Ample free parking is available on the adjacent church lot.

Naples, one of the oldest cities in Europe, had become, by the 17th century, the second largest city in Europe after Paris. At this same time, Naples was also one of the most important musical centers in Italy, famed for its music conservatories that produced many famous composers and singers. This concert will focus on vocal chamber repertoire composed by a few of these composers, some well-known and others more obscure, including Alessandro Scarlatti, Francesco Durante, and Francesco Mancini, as well as a representative of an earlier generation, Sigismondo d’India.

The program will feature the most important form of vocal chamber music of this time – the solo cantata - that consists of alternating arias and recitatives. These cantatas set highly dramatic texts that allowed both composer and singer ample opportunities to display their talents. Also included on this program will be one of Alessandro Scarlatti’s madrigals, a shining example of the work of one of the greatest composers of his time and one of the last generation of the great Italian madrigal composers.

This is a rare opportunity to hear this music performed live in concert, some for the first time in over 200 hundred years. The singers will be accompanied by harpsichord and other period-appropriate instruments. The splendid acoustics and intimate setting of Niccolls Hall are sure to provide an entrancing venue for music lovers to experience this unique program.

The COLLEGIUM VOCALE OF ST. LOUIS is an ensemble devoted to presenting historically informed performances of a diverse and wide-ranging repertory of seventeenth and eighteenth century music.

**WHAT:** A NEAPOLITAN SERENADE:  
Performed by THE COLLEGIUM VOCALE OF ST. LOUIS

**WHEN:** Friday, May 18, 7:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Second Presbyterian Church – Niccolls Hall  
4501 Westminster Place  
St. Louis, Missouri, 63108 – Central West End  
Suggested donation \$10 / Free parking

The Collegium Vocale of St. Louis is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization.

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