

From the Artistic Director:

Just a note to bring you up to date on our current thinking about next season's concerts.

We have decided not to offer a concert in the Fall, due to the uncertain circumstances in which we find ourselves. Looking forward, we would like to present a program of Graupner cantatas in February, if conditions permit, and a program of 17<sup>th</sup> century Roman music, including Giacomo Carissimi's tragic masterpiece, *Jephthe*, sometime in the Spring. This latter concert will be presented in the spectacular Old Cathedral.

We hope that you are holding up well through these uncertain times and finding comfort where you can. Personally, I very much miss being able to make music with the members of the Collegium Vocale and look forward to the time in the future when we can resume our efforts to entertain, educate, and delight our audiences. While confined to my home, I have been using the time to seek out and prepare more wonderful music for future concerts.

Covid-19 has brought two important topics up for conversation. One is the idea that social distancing for choirs and singers involves much greater distance than is otherwise recommended. Evidently, in projecting our voices we send particles traveling greater distances than we ever considered! The second, more reassuring, concept is that music calms, comforts, and relaxes the listener, thus lowering stress levels.

While we understand that there are many serious issues that demand our attention these days, we hope that you will think of CVSL and of music as a source of comfort. We will need your support for our efforts when the day arrives that we can perform again in public. That will be a happy day for all of us.

In the meantime, please stay safe and remain hopeful for better days to come for the world of live performances of all types..

Bruce Carvell  
Artistic Director  
Collegium Vocale of St. Louis  
May 28, 2020