

THE TORONTO CONSORT

Launches season with Alison Mackay's new multi-media creation

Paris Confidential

November 7&8, 2014

Toronto, October 16, 2014 ... The Toronto Consort launches its 2014-15 season with *Paris Confidential*, a brand new multi-media creation by the award-winning **Alison Mackay**. *Paris Confidential* is a musical and social portrait of Paris in the 16th century, when it was a leading centre of Renaissance learning and thought. French Renaissance music, narration, and stunning high-definition images are combined to create an experience that takes audience members on an insider's tour of Paris's bustling markets, booksellers, royal chapel, and academies. *Paris Confidential* takes place at **8:00 PM on November 7 and 8**, at Trinity-St. Paul's Centre, Jeanne Lamon Hall. For tickets and information, call the box office at (416) 964-6337 or visit torontoconsort.org. **Jane Couchman**, professor emerita of French and Women's Studies at Glendon College, York University, will give a free pre-concert talk in the gym one hour prior to each concert.

Alison Mackay's earlier program *A Woman's Life* capped the Consort's 40th anniversary season in 2013, and her Tafelmusik creations *The Galileo Project* and *House of Dreams* have been seen around the world. *Paris Confidential* is her latest creation for the Consort. Following a period of several months of broad reading and surveying music, Mackay has put her "remarkable multimedia musical storytelling skills" (*Musical Toronto*) to work to develop the concept for the script and select the repertoire.

As her *Paris Confidential* narrator, Mackay chose the figure of George Buchanan, a famous scholar and poet who went to Paris to study at the Sorbonne. Buchanan's letters home, along with reports by other chroniclers of the time provide insight into the texture of daily life in 16th century Paris, while carefully selected music of the period by Jannequin, Sermisy, Chardavoine and LeJeune forms the centrepiece of the evening. Enhancing the music and narration are a number of gorgeous high-definition paintings, illuminations, drawings, maps and photographs, which will be projected behind the musicians on a large screen.

The Toronto Consort presents

***Paris Confidential*, created by Alison Mackay**

November 7 & 8 at 8:00 PM

Ticket Prices:

Regular: \$23 to \$54 | 65+ : \$21 to \$49

Club Consort tickets for ages 30 and under: \$10 (with valid photo ID)

Venue: Trinity-St. Paul's Centre, Jeanne Lamon Hall

427 Bloor Street West (just west of Spadina)

Box Office: (416) 964-6337

Website: www.torontoconsort.org Follow us on [Facebook](#)

Media Contact: Luisa Trisi, Big Picture Communications,
ltrisi@sympatico.ca (416) 481-1161

*The Toronto Consort is Canada's leading ensemble specializing in the music of the Middle Ages, Renaissance and Early Baroque — roughly 1200 to 1675. Founded in 1972, The Toronto Consort was one of the city's first professional period music ensembles. Over the past four decades, the Toronto Consort has continued to expand listeners' appreciation through inventive programming that breathes life into period music. The ensemble has become internationally recognized for its excellence in live and recorded period music, and has collaborated on a number of film and television projects including Atom Egoyan's *The Sweet Hereafter* and two Showtime series, *The Tudors* and *The Borgias*.*

The Toronto Consort gratefully acknowledges the support of:



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