

# THE TORONTO CONSORT

## ***A Medieval Christmas – A yuletide feast for the eyes, and ears!***

2016-17 Season: Powerful Encounters in Early Music

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Toronto, ON (November 23, 2016) – After an exciting season opener, **The Toronto Consort, with Katherine Hill as Guest Artistic Director**, is delighted to present an alternative to traditional holiday season concerts: ***A Medieval Christmas***. Featuring the sights and sounds of the Middle Ages, *A Medieval Christmas* runs for three shows: **December 9 and 10 (8pm), and on December 11 at 3:30pm, at Trinity-St. Paul's Centre, 427 Bloor St West.**

*“A Medieval Christmas will provide a glimpse into the physical realities of fasting and feasting, the experience of darkness and light, and the celebration of the mystery of the divine coming to earth in human form.”*

**– Katherine Hill, Guest Artistic Director and Ensemble Member**

The Middle Ages produced some of the **most serene and heartfelt music of all time**. Breaking from our traditional concert format, The Toronto Consort will provide patrons with a well-deserved opportunity to **pause, reflect, and reenergize** by not only highlighting music, written from 1100 to 1500 AD in England, Cyprus, Italy and Poland and in Middle English, Latin, German, and Italian, but also by projecting above the stage a **treasure trove of images including stain glass, illuminations and medieval paintings in a darkened Jeanne Lamon Hall**. *A Medieval Christmas* will be a feast for the eyes, as well as the ears!

*A Medieval Christmas* performances consist of the members of **The Toronto Consort**: David Fallis, Alison Melville, Michelle DeBoer, John Pepper, Paul Jenkins, Katherine Hill (Guest Artistic Director), Ben Grossman, **with guests** Kirk Elliott and Jessica Wright.

Instrumentation for *A Medieval Christmas* will include recorder, flute, medieval fiddles, nykelharpa, harps, hurdy gurdy, bagpipes, and percussion.

*This production is generously supported by Al and Jane Forest.*

### **The Toronto Consort presents**

#### **A Medieval Christmas**

December 9, 10 at 8:00 PM, Matinee: December 11 at 3:30pm

**Venue:** Trinity-St. Paul's Centre, Jeanne Lamon Hall 427 Bloor Street West (just west of Spadina)

**Ticket Prices:** *Regular:* \$27 to \$67 | 65+ : \$22 to \$61

**Club Consort tickets for ages 35 and under and full-time students:** \$15 (with valid photo ID)

**Box Office:** (416) 964-6337

**Website:** [www.TorontoConsort.org](http://www.TorontoConsort.org) Follow us on Facebook

**Pre-Concert Lecture** held one hour before each show, runs 30 minutes.

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*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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