Dear Friends and Supporters,

We are writing to ask you to please make a generous donation today in support of our artistic work and aspirations. Your participation and support are a critical part of Early Music Seattle’s mission of bringing great early music performances to the Pacific Northwest.

You, our audience, have been our backbone and mainstay for the past 45 years. Your attendance at concerts, participation in educational activities, and your financial contributions have sustained us. Today we face challenges as our audience slowly returns to the concert hall, while we all learn to live with the realities of COVID-19 and its lasting effects on society. Many aspects of our operations have become more expensive, from travel for musicians, rental of concert venues, and the cost of living and working in Seattle for everyone involved in EMS.

Change has been constant for EMS throughout our history, and more is ahead. In 2023, after 22 years as Executive Director, Gus will assume a new role as Artistic Director and a new Executive Director will be hired. Alexander Weimann will also leave his position of Music Director of Seattle Baroque Orchestra at the end of this season, after eight years of artistic growth and excellence. These changes in leadership, managed with great care by our Board of Directors, are presenting exciting opportunities for growth and change for Early Music Seattle.

Thanks in advance for your generous support! We are changing and growing in order to support the future of cultural life in Seattle. Your support will underwrite the careers of the musicians devoted to the music you love, as well as the infrastructure needed to make forward-looking performances and programs a reality.

Sincerely,

Gus Denhard
Executive Director

Aly Gardner-Shelby
President

P.S. We are creating some exciting sponsorship opportunities for the rest of this season, with fun invitations to private receptions where you can meet musicians, receive tickets for friends – and more! Sponsorships begin at $500. Please contact Ann Stickney to learn more, at 206.325.7066 or info@earlymusicseattle.org.

YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS!
Thank you.
Our recent archiving project, pictured here and undertaken with support of the University of Washington, has encouraged us to reflect on the 45-year history of Early Music Seattle. Over these many years, Early Music Seattle (formerly Early Music Guild) launched and nurtured an early music scene in our region, first by presenting world class artists, next by attracting accomplished practitioners of European Medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque music to Seattle, and finally by using our non-profit status to nurture and launch other organizations that would grow to create a rich fabric of early music for Pacific Northwest audiences to enjoy.

As part of a rich cultural scene, Early Music Seattle has always been entrepreneurial and forward looking as it invested in a world-class music series in the 1970s, grew and consolidated in the 1980s, branched out into workshops and educational programs in the 1990s, and developed Baroque Opera for Seattle in the 2000s. By the mid-2010s it was becoming clear that an entirely Europe-focused mission would not allow EMS to change with the times. Our next and continuing challenge has been to expand the implicit Europe-focused definition of early music to include ancient and beloved musical traditions from across the globe. The interaction of cultures through trade and conquest is inspiration for us as we tell the complex, challenging, and often beautiful stories that are best transmitted through music.

Let’s make music for another 45 years!