



HARMONIA STELLARUM H O U S T O N

2024/2025
SEASON

9/8

4 p.m.

"A True Palestrinian Torrent of Sound"

Celebrating Anton Bruckner's 200th birthday and the old masters that inspired him

10/13

7:30 p.m.

Maria, dolce Maria

Virtuosic violin music by female composers from early seventeenth-century Italy

12/1

7:30 p.m.

"Es gab sich zu der Zeit ..."

An anonymous Christmas oratorio (1682) from Dresden and Kapsberger's *Shepherds of Bethlehem*

1/10

4 p.m.

Laudate Dominum

Mozart's *Vesperae solennes de Domenica* and *Missa in C, K. 259* ("Organ Solo")

3/2

4 p.m.

Zefiro torna!

Claudio Monteverdi's sixth book of madrigals for five voices

3/23

4 p.m.

Fiori musicali

Highlights of Italian keyboard music and Gregorian Chant

4/27

4 p.m.

Triumph, Triumph, Victoria!

Polychoral music for voices, cornettos, and sackbuts by Schütz and contemporaries



All concerts at First Lutheran Church
1311 Holman Street, Houston TX

www.harmoniastellarum.com





Modeled after the great court chapels of the seventeenth century, Harmonia Stellarum Houston is an ensemble of vocal and instrumental virtuosos from across the US and beyond who devote their careers to performing on period instruments and with historically informed vocal technique. Our programming explores repertoire off the beaten path and presents popular masterworks in new contexts. In our intensive rehearsal phases we strive for growth as an ensemble developing a performance style that, grounded in meticulous scholarly research, fuses historical authenticity with artistic innovation.

The ancient idea that the harmony of music reflects the proportions of the universe was the basis for music theory from its very beginnings well into the mid-seventeenth century, including the *Musurgia universalis* (1650) by German polymath Athanasius Kircher. In his analysis, the “choir of choirs” in the musical universe is the harmony of the stars—*harmonia stellarum*.

Harmonia Stellarum’s artistic director, Austrian conductor, harpsichordist, and scholar Mario Aschauer, has made his life’s work the interface of music scholarship and performance. He is Associate Professor of Music and Director of the Center for Early Music Research and Performance at Sam Houston State University. He also teaches harpsichord and basso continuo at Rice University. He holds degrees from the University of Music and Performing Arts, Vienna, and the University of Vienna.

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