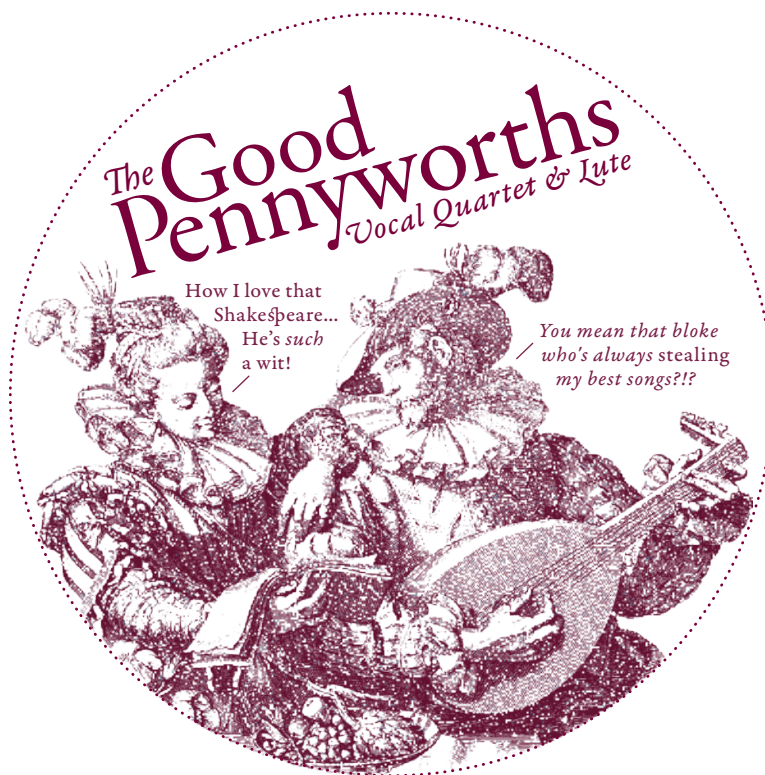


Press Highlights





Double life

Singer in fine voice
as an indie rocker,
in Elizabethan quartet

BY MARY KUNZ
GOLDMAN
News Classical Music Critic

Erika Lloyd leads a double life, and her lives are 500 years apart.

With her boyfriend, she sings in the indie rock band Little Grey Girlfriend. They play a couple of times a month in Manhattan, at venues like the Mercury Lounge and the Trash Bar.

Alternately, she sings soprano with the Good Pennyworths, an Elizabethan vocal quartet. Good Pennyworths, based in New York City, is headed to Buffalo anon, to perform at 8 p.m. Saturday at Ascension Episcopal Church and at 2:30 p.m. Sunday at

the Chautauqua Institution.

Lloyd is not the only rocker in recent history to seek out an earlier groove. Buffalo's own Robert Pacillo went from the band the Incredible Venus Flytrap to lead the vocal group Harmonia, which routinely tackles music from the Renaissance. The Police's Sting is on record singing the lute songs of the Elizabethan master John Dowland.

"I love that album, actually," Lloyd says. "A lot of people would never have heard those songs if it weren't for him. He's bringing it back, making it popular."

The Good Pennyworths — the name comes from a song by Dowland — take a more historically authentic approach. But the way Lloyd sees it, everyone who sings early music inevitably brings to it a touch of our own century.

"We don't know exactly how they sang it," she points out. "We don't have recordings. We're going by old treatises, looking at old portraits for clues. Everything ends up being a modern interpretation to some extent."

The Good Pennyworths' Buffalo appearances coincide nicely, if accidentally, with the opening of "Much Ado About Nothing" staged by Shakespeare in Delaware Park. The Pennyworths will be performing songs that were sung in Shakespeare's era, and intertwining them with scenes from the plays.

"I've grown a lot in the Good Pennyworths," Lloyd says. "Alane [Marco], the mezzo, she's really good about explaining the text. She explains vocabulary that might have gone right over my head. I've studied Shakespeare in school, but I'm not a scholar. I'm getting all the jokes now, all the little things you might not understand. Because of that I can communicate that to the audience. I have a better understanding of the story I have to tell."

Lloyd found the Elizabethan era by accident when she was majoring in voice at the University of Indiana.

"I was auditioning for the opera program. And I can sing straight tone," she says, meaning singing without vibrato. "That's how I found out my voice was suited to Elizabethan music. My voice

teacher, he said, 'You have such a light voice, so appropriate for lute songs.' I ended up loving the repertoire, so it was a great thing."

What about the music grabbed her?

"It's kind of unpredictable," she reflects. "A lot of old Renaissance and medieval music was written, it was built on a modal model, not what you're used to hearing. I like a light vocal technique. When you're accompanied by lute, or a light chamber ensemble, you don't have to produce so much sound. Also you're in a smaller area, not in an opera house, so you can use a much lighter vocal technique. To me, it sounds more natural."

Sometimes, Lloyd's musical lives collide. A rock song she wrote has been picked up by the vocal group Chanticleer, who sings music ranging from ancient to modern.

She's also found Elizabethan song helped her singing in Little Grey Girlfriend.

The band got its name because when Lloyd and her boyfriend began dating, they were separated while he entertained on a cruise ship. They kept in touch long-distance, and he called his cell phone his little gray girlfriend. Nothing Elizabethan about that.

But Lloyd finds that her Renaissance self has things to teach her modern rock self.

"I have more control over my voice," she says. "And I have pretty big range as a rock singer, which really impresses people. People in the audience say, 'I didn't know you could sing that high.' It's great to use my full range, because not a lot of rock singers do it."

Singing early music, she adds, has also made her more open. "I'm really vulnerable to the audience, showing them who I am. I'm much more connected with the audience."

Finally, as far afield as Little Grey Girlfriend is from the songs of John Dowland, the music shares certain basics.

"It's all about the same thing," Lloyd says. "We're still singing about love, still singing about heartbreak. It was popular music in Elizabethan times. We haven't changed that much."

e-mail: mkunz@buffnews.com



classics

THE BLADE | TOLEDOBLADE.COM

New York early-music group performs at St. Paul's

The Good Pennyworths Quartet will make its Toledo debut in a staged concert at 7 p.m. tomorrow in St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 428 North Erie St. The New York City-based early-music group will perform music by John Dowland, Robert Johnson, Thomas Morley, Thomas Campion, and other lute song composers of the Elizabethan era. Dialogue from plays by William Shakespeare will be recited between musical numbers.

Founded in 2007 by Toledo native **Gerald Farnham**, the GPO comprises sopranos **Erika Lloyd** and **Alane Marco**, tenor **Christopher Preston Thompson**, and baritone and lutenist **Farnham**. The group is on an eight-city Midwestern tour that includes stops in Columbus, Ann Arbor, and Grand Rapids, Mich.

Admission is free; an offering will be collected. For more information and clips from the group's new CD, check goodpennyworths.com.

The Toledo Symphony Brass Quintet and organist **Barbara Dulmage** will present a benefit concert at 7:30 p.m. July 2 in Collingwood Presbyterian Church, 2108 Collingwood Blvd. On the program will be music for organ and brass by Giovanni Gabrieli, as well as works for the quintet and solo organ.

Admission is free. Proceeds from a collection will go to restoration of the church organ, a 1955 Holtcamp instrument with 61 ranks.



The Good Pennyworths Quartet performs at 7 p.m. tomorrow in St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church.

nounces its summer series, 7 to 9:30 p.m. to begin July 12 and continue July 26 and Aug. 2. No auditions are required.

Pearl Shangkuan, Calvin College choral professor, will conduct Franz Joseph Haydn's "Mass in Time of War" at the opening session, to be held in the Walgreen Drama Center on the university campus. On July 26, **Paul Rardin**, University of Michigan choral professor, will lead Ludwig van Beethoven's Mass in C in the Walgreen Center, 1226 Murfin Rd. at Bonisteel Parkway on the U of M North Campus.

Jerry Blackstone, conductor of the Choral Union, will lead an evening of great English anthems on Aug. 2 in Hill Auditorium on the main campus.

On the program will be works by Handel, Parry, Ireland, Boyle, and Vaughan Williams. Scott VanOrnum will accompany at the Hill Aeolian Skinner organ.

Admission is \$5 per session and covers musical scores and refreshments. Registration begins at 6:30 p.m. for each session, at the site of the singing.

Spring for Music, the New York organization which will bring the Toledo Symphony and six other North American orchestras to perform in Carnegie Hall in 2011, has announced a change in the upcoming roster, the inaugural season for this new artistic project.

The Atlanta Symphony, which has previously performed at Carn-

Music
Bettye L
316 Sou
Saturday a

THURSDAY |

E

The Columbus Dispatch
SUNDAY
JUNE 20, 2010



ARTS & LIFE

BREAKING NEWS: DISPATCH.COM

THIS WEEK IN THE ARTS

CLASSICAL MUSIC

► The **Worthington Chorus** will present the concert "**Opposites Attract**" at 2:30 p.m. today in Worthington Kilbourne High School, 1499 Hard Rd. Tickets cost \$10 to \$12. Call 614-870-6430 or visit www.worthingtonchorus.com.

► The **Brass Band of Columbus** will perform at 7 tonight in the gazebo at the Whetstone Park of Roses, 3923 N. High St. Admission is free. Visit www.brassbandofcolumbus.org.

► The **Worthington Civic Band** will perform at 7 tonight on the Village Green at High Street and Rt. 161, Worthington. Admission is free. Call 614-436-2743 or visit www.worthington.org.

► The **Cosmos Trio** — Katherine Borst Jones, flute; Mary Harris, viola; and Jeanne Norton, harp — will perform a free concert at 8 tonight in Weigel Hall, 1866 College Rd., on the Ohio State University campus. The ensemble will perform several selections commissioned and written for the trio. Call 614-292-4618 or visit www.music.osu.edu.

► The U.S. Army big band **Jazz Ambassadors** will perform a free concert at 7 p.m. Monday on the Village Green in Worthington. Call 614-436-2743 or visit www.worthington.org.

► The staged concert "**Songs From Shakespeare: True Love Never Did Run Smooth**" will feature early music and adaptations of passages from Shakespeare's plays sung by the **Good Pennyworths** vocal quartet of New York, with lute accompaniment, at 7:30 p.m. Monday in Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1555 S. James Rd. The suggested donation is \$10. Call 614-237-1263 or visit www.redeemerluth.com.

► The **Columbus Symphony Brass Quintet** — James Akins, tuba; Thomas Battenberg and Jeffrey Korak, trumpets; Andrew Millat, trombone; and Gene Standley, horn — will

series at 6:30 p.m. Sunday in Evergreen Heritage Park, 6000 Ave., Westerville. Call 614-901-6500 or visit www.westerville.org.

► The **New Albany Chorus** will perform "**For All Seasons**" next Sunday in the High School cafeteria, 100 Fodor Rd. Admission is free. Call 614-775-6100 or visit www.naarts.org.

JAZZ

► The **Creekside Jazz Festival**, in downtown Gahanna and



KHPR Hawaii Public Radio

88.1fm Honolulu, HI

Show: *The Early Muse* with Ian Capps

Host: Ian Capps

Show Title: Popular Music in 17th Century England

Broadcast Date: Sunday, May 9, 2010 9-10pm

Transcription of Broadcast Segment

Song: *It was a lover and his lass*' (Thomas Morley; duet arrangement by Edward Naylor)

“Elizabethan popular music was a mixture of frothy madrigals, songs for stage plays and street or tavern music. The New York quartet GOOD PENNYWORTHS was a hit at the 2009 Boston Early Music Festival. Their first recording, drawn from that concert, included a neat arrangement of Robert [*sic*] Morley’s best known madrigal, *It was a lover and his lass*. They continue with two rather more raucous or suggestive songs, typical of the newfound confidence of a populist society. In *Heigh ho! for a husband*, a young maid cries, ‘I will have a husband, be he old or young!’ and then revises her ideas. In the more raunchy *Bugle Britches*, a farm girl tempts a soldier into the hayloft, and, well, you know the rest. Good Pennyworths is directed by lute player and baritone Garald Farnham.”

Song: *Heigh ho! for a husband* (Anonymous)

Song: *Bugle Britches* (Appalachian variation of ‘Trooper & Maid’ - Child Ballad #299)

“*Heigh ho! for a husband* and *Bugle Britches*, popular songs from Elizabethan England. Actually, in the second case, following an Appalachian variation. Garald Farnham, directing the New York quartet, GOOD PENNYWORTHS, on their debut recording.”

— Ian Capps, host

Songs from the CD titled *‘Love! Lust! Longing... Loss’* by the GOOD PENNYWORTHS © 2009, ® 2009

Broadcast © 2010 Hawaii Public Radio

WBAI Pacifica Radio 99.5fm New York, NY

Show: *Cosmik Debris*

Host: Mark Laiosa

Broadcast Date: Sunday, August 15, 2010 5-6am

Transcription of Broadcast Segment

“Without further ado, John Dowland’s hit tune, *Come Again*.”

Song: *Come Again* (John Dowland)

“Come Again - the Good Pennyworths performing John Dowland’s work from their CD, *Love! Lust! Longing... Loss*.” They’re based in New York, and a small taste of the talent we have in the metropolitan area that I don’t think gets much airplay. Without your support, you do not become ear-witness to this great music. 212-209-2...”

Songs from the CD titled ‘*Love! Lust! Longing... Loss*’ by the GOOD PENNYWORTHS © © 2009

Broadcast © 2010 WBAI

COLUMBIA, SC
THE STATE
Featured Listing
1/16/2009

The State WEEKEND 01.16.09

WEEKEND • WHAT'S GOING ON? FIND OUT AT EVENTS.THESTATE.COM

CENTER STAGE



HANDOUT PHOTO

The Good Pennyworths

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 21

The Good Pennyworths, a quartet of merry minstrels, want to make you laugh and cry at their entertaining dramatic recital featuring a repertoire of secular lute songs. They will perform at 6:30 p.m. at Shandon Presbyterian Church, Woodrow and Devine streets. Free; (803) 771-4408

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY

THE RING-TUM PHI.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2009

BY THE STUDENTS AND FOR THE STUDENTS SINCE 1897 VOLUME CXII, NUMBER

Musical group has old inspiration

The Good Pennyworths performed music that you've never heard before

By Caitlin Edgar
STAFF WRITER

Today's musical artists are drawing on classic and retro inspirations. Some will go back as far as Buddy Holly and the Beatles, others will turn to classics such as Etta James and Billy Holiday to create chart-topping hits. The Good Pennyworths, a unique quartet, turned instead, to the Golden Age of England.

On January 17, 2009 in Lee Chapel, the Good Pennyworths performed "Love, Lust, Longing, Loss," a vocal presentation of Elizabethan lute songs.

Colorful period costumes illustrated the historical context of the songs, and the singers' playful expressions visually

conveyed the meaning of the old-fashioned lyrics.

The singers' clear voices and dramatic approach blended into a beautiful and entertaining performance.

Gerald Farnham, the baritone, also accompanied the quartet with the lute, a stringed instrument which is somewhat similar to the guitar, but has a deep round back.

While descriptions such as "Elizabethan" and "Renaissance" may sound formal and dry to contemporary ears, the ballads sung by the quartet were laced with witty word plays, sexual innuendos, and real human emotion.

Rhythm and instruments may

have changed since the 17th century, not a single drum or electric violin was used throughout the performance, but the heart of

rap, hip-hop, and rock. Unlike much current music, the lyrics are poetry in their own right and remind one of Shakespeare.

While descriptions such as "Elizabethan" and "Renaissance" may sound formal...the ballads...were laced with witty word plays, sexual innuendo and real human emotion.

popular music has changed very little in the last few centuries.

The Good Pennyworths' music carries the same themes of lust, humor, frustration, and passion that are woven into current

Shakespeare's sonnets.

The connection to Shakespeare is stronger than it first appears. The ballad, "Come Live With Me and Be My Love" was first composed by

Christopher Marlowe, a rival of Shakespeare's, under the name, "The Passionate Shepherd to His Love."

Marlowe sent the poem to his friend, Sir Walter Raleigh, who wrote a well-known poem in response, called "The Nymph's Reply to The Shepherd."

Shakespeare used portions of Marlowe's poem in "Merry Wives."

The original ballads were often played by traveling minstrels, who would tramp around the countryside with their lutes, playing for families, villages, and even royalty.

Musicians passed their music orally to other musicians, which led to many variations within

each song. Some ballads even have Appalachian versions that can be traced to English immigrants.

Each musician in the quartet is conservatory-trained. Between the four of them, the quartet has diverse background of performance in nearly every music arena, from musicals to absurdist operas to indie rock bands.

The vocal group, based in NYC, was formed in 2007 in an effort to show the appeal of what is now considered "Early Music" to modern audiences.

While currently recording their first studio album, the quartet also hopes to release a live Christmas CD.



audio and visual art, will relate to television. 345-3670.

NA FIDLEIRI CONCERT: 8 p.m. Gage Hall Coffeehouse, 4 Archdale St. \$10 adults, \$5 students. A performance by an ensemble of young fiddlers who will perform Celtic and folk music. Coffee, sodas and baked goods also will be available. 224-4472.

Sunday

GENEALOGY SOCIETY MEETING: 2:30 p.m. Charleston Library Society, 164 King St. W. Eric Emerson, executive director of the Charleston Library Society, will lead a tour of the facilities and discuss the society's resources. 830-2392 or 852-0510.

BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION LECTURE: 3 p.m. Second Presbyterian Church, 342 Meeting St. The third installation of the church's Bicentennial Celebration lecture series will feature Waring Howe, an attorney and former chairman of the Charleston County Democratic Party, who will speak about Gov. William Aiken Jr., whose father

Martin Luther King Day and the Presidential Inauguration, pianist Jacqueline Schwab will perform a solo concert that will include Stephen Foster songs, Civil War tunes, American anthems, spirituals and more. Historical readings will be woven throughout the program. 830-1571.

Tuesday

SHORT SALE SEMINAR: 6-8 p.m. Century 21 Properties Plus, 1200-A Two Island Court, Mt. P. Century 21 Properties Plus will offer a free seminar on short sales. Call 856-0021 or visit www.charlestonhomeforeclosures.com for more information.

CLASSICAL MUSIC CONCERT: 8 p.m. Unitarian Church, 4 Archdale St. \$10. The Good Pennyworths, a Renaissance vocal quartet, will perform in "Love, Lust, Longing, Loss." The New York City-based group is known for their renditions of ballads, satirical songs and other humorous numbers. Call 917-459-7561 or 917-232-3747.



LSA Quarterly Journal September 2008

And More Concerts By Jocelyn Nelson

Fine Knacks on a Summer's Day Good Pennyworths Concert



Good Pennyworths in concert: from left to right, Erika Lloyd, Alane Marco, Daniel Molkentin, and Garald Farnham; photo by Steve Ramey

Good Pennyworths opened the seminar with a show that was engaging for eye, ear, mind, and heart. This vocal ensemble, made up of two sopranos, a tenor, and a lute-playing baritone (Erika Lloyd, Alane Marco, Daniel Molkentin, and Garald Farnham, respectively), explored mostly Elizabethan song repertoire. We heard, for instance, John Dowland's "Fine Knacks for Ladies" and Thomas Morley's "It Was a Lover and His Lass." But we also heard some wonderful Appalachian songs: "Barb'ry Allen," and Child ballad "Bugle Britches."

Good Pennyworths' delightful costumes and riveting gestures made the show a visual delight, as well. But the ostensibly light-hearted program featured some surprising moments of depth in topic and in vocal drama. It was a rich performance, after all, and one that deserves to be heard far and wide, throughout the realm.

The Columbus Dispatch

24

THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH | classical music & dance | THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2008

classical music & dance

weekender • a guide for people on the go

also on tap

Amy Pike Memorial Concert

WORTHINGTON UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH, 600 HIGH ST. (614-431-0329,
WWW.WORTHINGTONARTS.ORG)

» Mark Swartzentruber, a
concert pianist and Worthing-
ton High School alumnus, will per-
form classical works. The concert, in
memory of a classmate, will serve
as a fundraiser for the Peggy R.
McConnell Arts Center.

SHOWTIME » 7:30 tonight

TICKETS \$ » 25, or \$10 for students



FILE PHOTO

The Good Pennyworths

Early Music in Columbus

HUNTINGTON RECITAL HALL, CAPITAL
UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE AVENUE AT E. MAIN
STREET, BEXLEY (614-861-4569,
WWW.CAPITAL.EDU/EARLYMUSIC)

» The Good Pennyworths, a
quartet from New York, will
perform songs that were popular
during Elizabethan times.

SHOWTIME » 8 p.m. Friday

ADMISSION » \$10

The Beat

Arts, eats and fun in central Ohio



Los Huracanes del Norte

Latino.net.

3 If there had been "parental advisory" stickers for songs in the 16th century, they might have been placed on more songs than you'd initially think.

New York City quartet **Good Pennyworths** will highlight some of this material in "Love Lust, Longing & Loss: Pop Music, Elizabethan Style" at Capital University's Huntington Recital Hall Friday, June 20.

It's not all about the explicit lyrics, mind you. In addition to bawdy songs, the program — culled from songs popular during the reign of Elizabeth I — also features love ballads and satirical songs.

Suggested donation is \$10. Call (614) 861-4569.

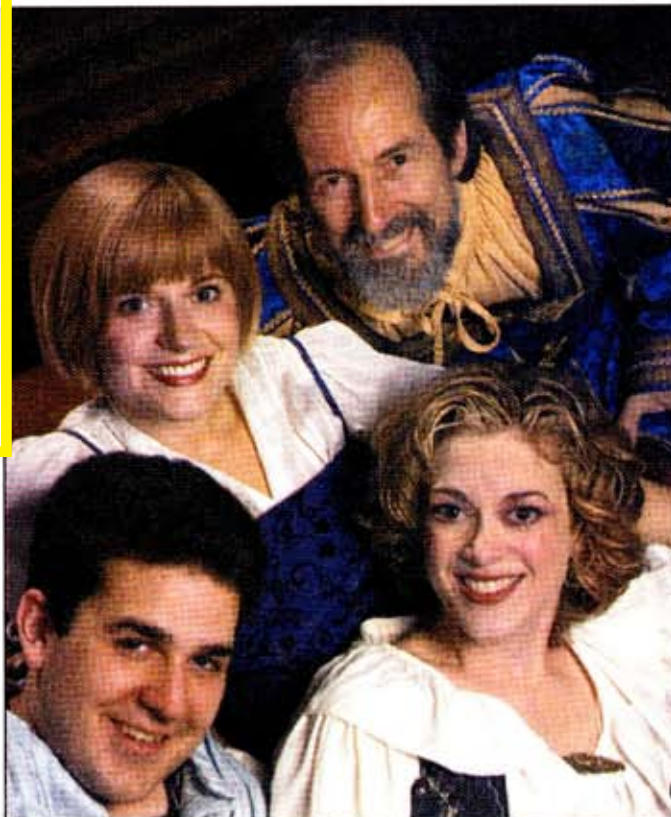
4 If you'd have told us a week before we first heard **Peter Murphy**'s 1990 breakout record *Deep* that we'd become a fan of the former Bauhaus frontman, we'd have disputed vigorously.

Those godfathers of goth were

never The Beat's cup of tea, but Murphy's third solo record was so exquisite, so mesmerizing, that we were captivated. *Deep* was also Murphy's greatest commercial success, but his

solo career has remained ever experimental and expansive.

He will play the Newport Music Hall Friday, June 20. Tickets are \$25/\$29. Call (614) 431-3600.



Good Pennyworths

Community Newspapers
ThisWeek

BEXLEY