

Renaissance & Baroque

BRINGING EARLY MUSIC TO PITTSBURGH

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Soprano Deborah York to Replace Carolyn Sampson on Renaissance and Baroque Concert Series

Grammy award winning British soprano Deborah York will replace Carolyn Sampson in concert with countertenor Daniel Taylor and Theatre of Early Music on November 12, 2011 for Renaissance and Baroque. Ms. Sampson has withdrawn from overseas touring for health reasons. The concert "Handel Love Duets" begins at 8:00 PM, and will take place at Synod Hall (125 N. Craig St.), Oakland.

"Deborah York gives a magnificent performance of Handel's 'Gloria' which really leaves nothing to be desired and seems hard to surpass," writes Johan van Veen on the website *Musica Dei Donum*. "Deborah York rejoices in Handel's 'Gloria' with her pure, clear, wafting, heavenly soprano," states Manuel Brug in the German national newspaper *Die Welt*.

Ms. York has toured and recorded with early music conductors/ensembles such as Christophe Rousset, Paul McCreech, Trevor Pinnock, Rinaldo Alessandrini, The King's Consort and Alessandro de Marchi. Her portrait of Anne Truelove in Stravinsky's *The Rake's Progress*, recording for *Deutsche Grammophon* with the London Symphony Orchestra and John Eliot Gardiner, was awarded a Grammy Award. Born in Sheffield, Ms. York graduated from Manchester University before going on to further her studies at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London. She now resides in Berlin. Ms. York regularly gives baroque solo recitals, performs roles in baroque operas, and sings with period ensembles in projects that have included recording Bach cantatas.

Deborah York will join countertenor Daniel Taylor and the Canadian early music ensemble Theatre of Early Music to sing duets from Handel operas including *Rinaldo*, *Rodelinda*, *Xerxes* and *Giulio Cesare* for the Renaissance and Baroque audience in Pittsburgh. Daniel Taylor is an exclusive recording artist for *Sony Classical Masterworks* and appears on more than 90 recordings. His recital tours have taken him across Canada, Europe and South America. Daniel is a Visiting Scholar at the University of Toronto, Professor of Voice at the University of Ottawa and an Adjunct Professor at McGill University. Mr. Taylor is Artistic Director and Conductor of the Choir and Orchestra of the Theatre of Early Music. The Theatre of Early Music performs more than 30 concerts every year in concert halls all over the world.

Renaissance and Baroque of Pittsburgh has been the city's leading presenter of early music performances for the past 42 years. Its mission is to further the education of the community by fostering the understanding and appreciation of the music, arts and culture of the Renaissance and Baroque, and to

present historically informed performances of music from the Medieval through the Early Classical periods.

For additional information and tickets, please visit www.rbsp.org, or call (412) 361-2048. Ticket prices range from \$10 student admission to \$35 reserved seating. Discounts are available for seniors and groups of 8 or more. Visit www.rbsp.org for more information on its upcoming performances.

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