



CHAMBERFEST

Biber's Mystery Sonatas:

Alexander Read, Mélisande McNabney & Elinor Frey

Wednesday, December 4, 2024 7:00 PM

PROGRAMME

The Mystery Sonatas

Heinrich Ignaz Franz von Biber

The Joyful Mysteries:

(1644–1704)

- The Annunciation
- The Visitation
- The Nativity
- The Presentation of the Infant Jesus in the Temple
- The Twelve-Year-Old Jesus in the Temple

Pause

The Sorrowful Mysteries:

- The Agony in the Garden
- The Scourging at the Pillar
- Crowning with Thorns
- The Carrying of the Cross
- The Crucifixion

Pause

The Glorious Mysteries:

- The Resurrection
- The Ascension
- Pentecost
- The Assumption of the Virgin
- The Coronation of the Virgin

Passacaglia in G Minor

H. I. F. von Biber

The logo for Ottawa Chamberfest features a stylized red 'C' composed of three concentric curved lines. To the right of the 'C', the word 'OTTAWA' is written vertically in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Further to the right, the word 'CHAMBERFEST' is written in a much larger, bold, black, sans-serif font.

OTTAWA CHAMBERFEST

Alexander Read violin

Elinor Frey cello

Mélisande McNabney harpsichord

Alongside Bach's unaccompanied violin music, Biber's Mystery Sonatas rank among the most challenging works in the Baroque violin repertoire. Biber's experimentation with the violin remains unique, and although rarely heard as a collection, these fifteen sonatas are astonishingly powerful and deeply emotional. Tonight, Alexander Read (Principal Second Violinist, Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal) joins forces with keyboardist Mélisande McNabney and cellist Elinor Frey for an evening devoted to these joyful, sorrowful, and glorious pieces. As an added feat, the violinist is required to modify the tuning of his instrument according to the sonata being played: Mr. Read will therefore be using four violins, one at a time!