

The Terra Nova Consort

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The Terra Nova Consort was founded in 1988, by Sue Carney and Pat O'Scannell, with the idea of exploring ethnic influences on the performance of early music. Subsequently, they were granted a residency at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. Some years later, in 1998, Terra Nova attained national notice in the first EMA/Dorian recording contest, and began a new relationship with Dorian as recording artists for the label.

Since the release of their debut CD with Dorian, Renaissance en Provence, (1999) Terra Nova has been active on the national and international touring circuit. In the summer of 2000, the ensemble made their European debut at the Täge Alter Musik Festival, in Regensburg, Germany. Dubbed "the absolute discovery" of Täge Alter Musik 2000 by festival founder Stephan Schmidt, the Consort brought their fresh and inventive sound to a wildly appreciative international audience. They have been asked to return to Täge Alter Musik Festival in June of 2003, to perform works from their new CD Baylado! In addition, Terra Nova has begun appearing throughout the United States as well as in Canada and Mexico, playing to sold out houses and delighted critics.

Since its founding, Terra Nova has been actively involved in educational programs through Southern Oregon University, the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, the Oregon Arts Commission, Elderhostel, and the Seattle Early Music Guild. In addition, members have appeared in educational settings throughout the west, bringing early music to students of all ages and backgrounds.

The Terra Nova Consort was part of a select group of U.S. touring ensembles named to a program called The Star-Spangled Season, funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, and administered and sponsored by EMA magazine. A roster will be sent to thousand of early music presenters, and concerts made possible with matching funding for the 2003 season.

NEW RECORDING

Terra Nova's new recording Baylado! is now being released in 54 countries on the Dorian label. The CD features music of the Spanish Renaissance, with sizzling vocals and wild percussion. A tour de force!

RECORDER BOOK

Pat O'Scannell and Sue Carney have collaborated on a series of recorder books to be published by Mel Bay Publishing. The Spring Garden: The Complete English and Scottish Country Dance Master for Recorders, Book 1, with arrangements by Pat O'Scannell, is now available. The book features over 40 of O'Scannell's 2,3, and 4 part arrangements for recorders (and other instruments). More information is available at www.4pato.com/recordings.shtml.

COLLABORATION WITH LOS TIEMPOS POSADOS

In the year 1999, Sue Carney and Pat O'Scannell, the Artistic Directors of the Terra Nova Consort, were given a wonderful opportunity which was bestowed on them by the Oregon Shakespeare Festival and the "Amistad" program at Southern Oregon University. The two musicians were sent to the Sister-City of Guanajuato, Mexico, where they met director Armando Lopez Valdivia and performed a concert with his accomplished group Los Tiempos Pasados at the Teatro de la Compania.

The directors and group members hit it off extremely well both professionally and personally, and thus began a great collaboration between the two groups which was to last four years, and is still continuing.

In 2000, Pat and Sue returned for a second visit, this time as official performers for the Festival Internacional Cervantino and representing Mexico in Mexico's largest, and one of the oldest, Arts Festivals, putting on over one hundred performances in numerous theatres, cathedrals, churches and outdoor venues throughout the picturesque colonial town of Guanajuato in September each year. Artists from all over the world appear during a three week stretch in this acclaimed music, dance and theatre event, for the multitudes who throng the streets from all parts of Mexico to attend the sold-out programs or many open-to-the-public performances in a number of outdoor locations.

In the year 2000 the two directors appeared in a show written by famed Mexican writer Juan Ibanez, who had died only weeks before the show opened, entitled: Siempre Es Hoy (It Is Always Today) featuring poetry and verse by the aging writer and music by Los Tiempos Pasados. The magical show was presented in a tiny and ancient church called the Santa Ana. With marigold petals strewn on the floor, over a hundred candles lighting the church, fog, and with the mesmerizing sound of Sephardic and other medieval music as a back drop, it was truly a wonderful experience for performer and audience.

The following year, Terra Nova in its entirety traveled to Guanajuato, where they performed a collaborative concert in the Juarez Theatre to a sold out and enthusiastic audience. Later that week the TNC performed Renaissance en Provence both in Guanajuato and later in Mexico City at the huge Instituto Polytechnica, and were well received. Upon returning to Guanajuato, the two directors performed a final time with Los Tiempos Pasados in a beautiful and aging cathedral located atop the surrounding hills. Los Tiempos Pasados performed in Ashland in September of 2002 in collaborative Green Shows with the Terra Nova Consort, as well as other concerts and workshops.