

## THE INNS OF COURT

The music on this recording accompanied dances performed at the Inns of Court in London between 1570 and 1675. The Inns were buildings where English trial lawyers lived, studied and taught law, and held court. In the Elizabethan period, almost a thousand gentlemen had gathered there; primarily sons of the landed gentry of England, mostly between 17 and 30 years of age. In addition to studying law, they also studied many other skills thought necessary to gentlemen of quality, “singing, and all kinds of music, dancing, and such other accomplishments and diversions... as are usually practised at court”.

Each winter, from All Saints Day through Candlemas, Revels were held at the Inn. They included feasting, dancing, masques, and gambling games. Some personal records survive from this period which document these Revels. Six of the surviving manuscripts include choreographies of dances. Step descriptions for all of the dances on this recording appear in manuscripts dated as early as 1570 (with the exception of Black Alman which first appears around 1600.) These manuscripts only contain music for a few of these dances (those from RCM 1119); all other music is from contemporary sources from throughout England and Europe.

## DANCES FROM THE INNS OF COURT LONDON 1570 - 1675

J O U I S S A N C E

## SOURCES AND INSTRUMENTATION

- THE QUADRAN PAVAN. The Quadrian Pavin from London, Royal College of Music. MS1119, c. 1675. Recorders, harp, drum.
- TURKELONE. The Goddes of Love from Francis Willoughby Lute Book, Nottingham U. Library, c. 1585. Vielle, recorders, percussion.
- THE EARL OF ESSEX MEASURE. Essex Measure from London, Royal College of Music. MS1119, c. 1675. Recorders, drum.
- TINTERNELL. Tinternell from Dallis Lute Book, Trinity College, MS D 3.30, c. 1583. Recorders, vielle, drum.
- THE OLD ALMAN. The Oulde Almaine from A. Holbourne The Citharn Schoole, 1597. Hurdy-gurdy, recorders, drum.
- THE QUEENS ALMAN. Queen's Alman from William Byrd, Fitzwilliam Virginal Book. Cambridge Fitzwilliam Museum, MS 32.G29, c. 1609-1619. Recorders, harp, drum.
- MADAM SOSILIA. Original melody by Joseph Casazza, 1990. Hurdy-gurdy, recorders, drum.
- THE BLACK ALMAN. The Black Almaine from London, Royal College of Music. MS1119, c. 1675. Recorders, shawm, hurdy-gurdy, drum.
- LORAYNE ALMAN. Almande Lorayne from P. Phalese, Liber primus leviorum carminum, Louvain, 1571. Recorders, drum .
- THE NEW ALMAN. Alemande Nouvelle from B. Schmid, Einer neuen kunstlichen, 1577. Recorders, shawm, percussion.

## MORE INFORMATION

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Recording by Gary Uhlig and Glen Uhlig, 1997.

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A companion booklet is available, which includes historical information on the Inns of Court, a concordance of primary sources, and reconstructions of all of the dances. \$3.00 from Peter and Janelle Durham, 16217 NE 44th Court, Redmond, WA 98052. E-mail: [janelyn@msn.com](mailto:janelyn@msn.com)

Jouissance was formed in 1994 as a dance band to accompany the Madrone Dance Guild of the Society for Creative Anachronism. Its members have performed at many Renaissance faires and weddings in the Seattle area, for the Seattle Recorder Society, the Washington Shakespearean Festival, and the annual Folklife Festival.