



elizabethan
holiday
feast

MUSIC MADRIGAL SINGERS

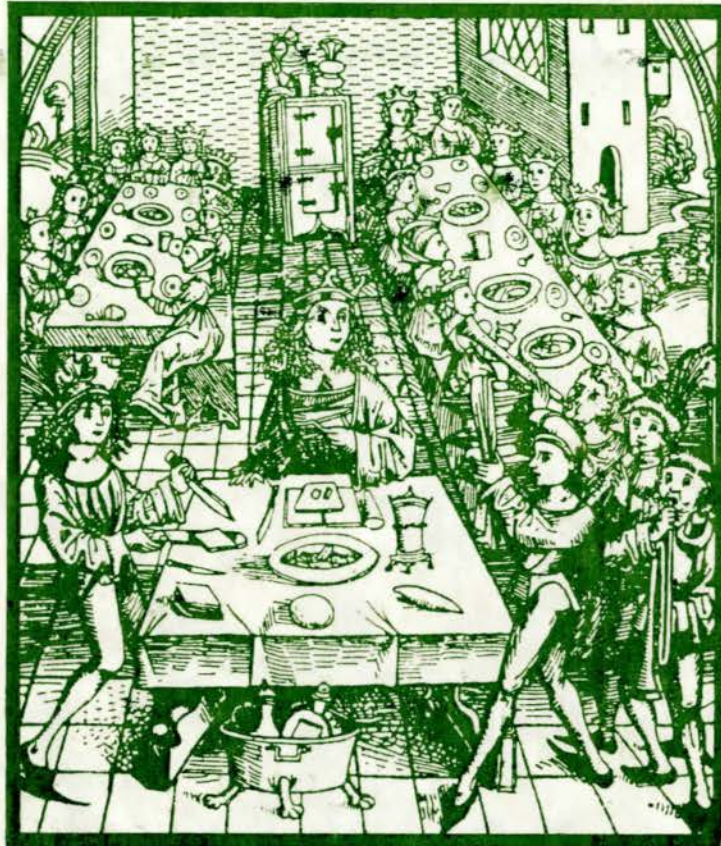
ACAD DEPTS/DIVS



Lindenwood college 1988



an elizabethan christmas rout



welcum

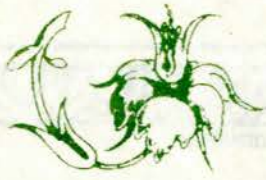
Tonight, as we lift out glasses in a toast to the Christmas season, we greet our old friends, and we welcome our new ones upon this occasion—the celebration of our Traditional Madrigal Dinner.

Madrigal singing, brought to England from Italy in the 16th Centruy, was at first an informal type of private entertainment at the castle and country homes of the landed gentry. Frequently, the lords and ladies performed the music themselves as they sat at dinner in the Great Hall. Naturally, during the twelve days of the Christmas Season, there was much entertaining and singing of Madrigals.

Madrigals are songs written for small groups in which several voice parts are skillfully combined so that each part is interesting and independent, both melodically and rythmically. The Madrigals are sung without instrumental accompaniment, and they are frequently based on a secular text or fable of the times. The first Madrigals were quite spontaneous. It wasn't until the late 16th and early 17th Centuries that they were published in written form.

Madrigal singing continued to flourish in England, and the Madrigal Society, founded in 1741, still meets regularly in Carpenters Hall, London. Today such groups are becoming more and more popular in this country, and small groups of singers get together to sing as a pastime in the tradition of the Madrigals which first reached popularity in England's Elizabethan Age.

With the sound of each fanfare, you will discover Christmas as celebrated in the ancient traditions of Merrie Olde England. We present this annual dinner for your pleasure at the Christmas Season. As we raise our voices in a toast to the meaning of Christmas, we wish you and your families a season filled with joy and beauty.



programme



FANFARE THE FIRSTE _____ Entrance & Welcum

Gloucestershire Wassail Traditional English
Heres's A Health to all Good Lasses..... Anon

"Wassail" was the old Anglo-Saxon drinking pledge Waes-Heal which means "Be in good health." At early Saxon feasts it was customary to drink a wassail to the lord of the house, and thus the wassail bowl became a feature of the English Christmas. Also, the custom of wassailing the fruit trees was common throughout England. Men went out to the orchard with a large jug of cider, and there they drank a toast to the trees, often beating upon them, bidding them bear fruit in the coming Spring.

FANFARE THE SECONDE _____ Processyon to the Grand Hall

FANFARE THE THIRDE _____ Book of Curtasye

Kindly Heed These Rules of Etyquett

- I. Gueysts myst hav nayles cleane or they wyll dysgust theyre talbe companyones.
- II. Gueysts myst aboyd quarrelyny and makyng wyth other gueysts.
- III. Gueysts myst not stuff theyre mouths. The glutton thwo eats wyth haste, if he is addressed, he scarcely answers thee.
- IV. Gueysts should not pyck theyre teethe at the table wyth a knyfe, strawe, or styche.
- V. Gueysts must not tell unseemly tales at the table, nor soyle the clothe wyth theyre knyfe, nor reste theyre legs upon the table.
- VI. Gueysts myst not wype theyre greezy fingers on theyre beardes.
- VII. Gueysts myst not leane on the table wyth theyre elbowes, nor dyp theyre thumbs in theyre drynke.

Boar's Head Carol.....Traditional

The use of the Boar's Head at Christmas is based not only on its value as an article of food but its symbolism as well. The Boar, because he roots into the ground with his tusks, had long been revered as having taught mankind the art of plowing. It was first established as a Christmas dish by Henry VIII. The head was dressed with a garland of Rosemary and Laurel. As a final touch a lemon, the symbol of plenty, was placed in its mouth. The eating of suckling pig today is a variation of eating the boar's head.

We Wish You a Merry Christmas.....Arr. Rutter

The Christmas pudding has evolved from a sorry mess of watery gruel pottage—fermenty—which, according to the oldest recipe extant, was "Wheat boiled 'til the grains burst, and, when cool, strained and boiled again with broth or milk and yolks of eggs." It must have been quite awful, for every Christmas somebody tried to do something about it. Later, lumps of good English suet were added, and by 1670 the old pottage, after centuries of culinary evolution, had sweetened and stiffened into plum pudding, much as we now eat it. It was good luck to eat plum pudding on each of the days between Christmas and Epiphany. A wish was to be made each day upon the first mouthful. But woe to anyone who nibbled at the holiday pudding before the Christmas feast began—he would be in trouble for twelve months.

INTERMISSION

O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL.....Traditional

To Be Sung By All

O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him,
Born the King of angels;
REFRAIN

Sing, choirs of angels
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God
In the highest;
REFRAIN

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n;
Word of the Father,
Now is flesh appearing;
REFRAIN

O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!





After Dinner Entertainment

- Angels, from the Realms of Glory* *Old French Tune*
- O Little Town of Bethlehem* *arr. Stephen Paulus*
- Shepherd's Pipe Carol* *John Rutter*
- Riddle Song* *John Rutter*



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- Selections for Guitar* *Richard Goodman and Pamela Price*
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- What Sweeter Music* *Michael Fink*
- Away in a Manager*..... *W.J. Kirkpatrick*
- Duet* *Gloria delleCese and Jennifer Vorst*
- Shepherd to his Love*..... *Emma Lou Diemer*
- Silent Night* *arr. Walter Pelz*





the Lindenwood chamber singers

Kristana Weiler.....Conductor

Natalie Borders.....Assistant to the Conductor

Ladies of the Court:

Gentlemen of the Court:



Gloria delleCese
Andrea Gubitz
Deborah Jackson
Pamela Pierce
Christie Pruett
Jennifer Vorst
marcy Whiston

James Beck
Paul Davidson
Randal Guignard
Kelly Kerr
David Powell
Joseph Serra
Brian Wilson



cast

Jester.....Michael Ortwerth

Steward.....Jason Quackenbush

Wenches.....Heather Glen, Wendy Brothlin, Barb Samuels

instrumentalists

Natalie Borders, Harpsichord
Heather Glenn, Dulcimer
Richard Goodman, Guitar

production staff

Produced by the Lindenwood College Department of Performing Arts

Music Direction and Script.....Kristana Weiler

Choreographer.....Solan Chervitz

Stage Manager.....Kelly Kerr, Heather Glenn

Lindenwood Food Service.....Sue Brown





menu

French Onion Soup
Cote de Boeuf Rotie
Yorkshire Pudding
Ceasar's Salad
Glazed Baby Carrots
Plum Pudding



A FINAL TOAST.

Por la paz y la armonia de todas los reinos del mundo—
(For peace and harmony among all the kingdoms of the world—)

