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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Tickets & Information: 212/854-7799; www.millertheatre.com

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“While many venues play host to artists who tour with the same program around the country, Miller boasts artists who perform to fulfill a specific artistic purpose.”—The Columbia Spectator

MILLER THEATRE AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

continues its *Early Music* series in February:

The Art of the Canon (*Early Music* series)

Crowd favorite Vox Vocal Ensemble conducted by George Steel

Saturday, February 6, 8:00PM

(Church of St. Mary the Virgin)

Circa 1600 (*Early Music* series)

The Flanders Recorder Quartet performs master *Early Music* works by des Prez and Palestrina

Saturday, February 20, 8:00PM

(The American Academy of Arts & Letters)

Tickets: \$35 • Students w/ ID: \$15

From Miller Theatre’s Director Melissa Smey:

“It is my pleasure to present crowd favorites Vox Vocal Ensemble and George Steel, as well as our return to the American Academy of Arts & Letters with the Flanders Recorder Quartet making their *Early Music* series debut.”

Early Music

THE ART OF THE CANON

Saturday, February 6, 8:00PM

Church of St. Mary the Virgin (145 West 46th Street)

Since the 13th century, composers have been obsessed with the musical canon, although the modern interpretation of the word was not realized until the 16th century. **George Steel** leads his **Vox Vocal Ensemble** in an exploration of this musical form and its progression over time. The program spans seven centuries, from *Sumer is icumin in* (probably the earliest example of a canon in existence) to a work written in the late 20th century.

ARTISTS: Vox Vocal Ensemble
George Steel, conductor

PROGRAM: anonymous	<i>Sumer is icumin in</i>
Jean de Ockeghem	<i>Prenez sur moi</i>
John Dunstable	<i>Gloria in canon</i>
Robert Fayrfax	<i>That was my joy</i>
Johannes Brahms	<i>Canons for women’s voices (selections)</i>
Joseph Haydn	<i>Canons on the Ten Commandments (selections)</i>
Anton Webern	<i>Entflieht auf leichten Kähnen</i>
Thomas Tallis	<i>Miserere nostri</i>
William Byrd	<i>Miserere mihi, Domine</i>
W.A. Mozart	<i>Kyrie in G, K. 89</i>
Richard Dirksen	<i>Proverbial Canons</i>
	<i>The Land is Bright</i>

Leonard Bernstein
Jean Mouton

Canons and Chorale from Mass (arr. George Steel)
Nesciens mater

BIOS: The **VOX VOCAL ENSEMBLE**, called “superb” by *The New York Times*, was founded by George Steel in 1992. Since that time, Vox has become one of the most sought-after vocal ensembles in New York, performing in such varied contexts as an all-Penderecki concert in the presence of the composer, music of Messiaen at the Lincoln Center Festival, and ancient Greek chant on Maurizio Pollini’s Carnegie Hall Perspectives series. Vox Vocal Ensemble performs an annual concert of holiday music at the Guggenheim Museum, was a featured ensemble in the MATA Festival, and attracts sell-out audiences for Miller Theatre’s Early Music series. Last season’s performances as part of Miller Theatre’s *Early Music* series included a Christmas concert with reading and music and a Valentine’s Day concert entitled *Songs of Love, Lust and Lamentation*, both as the Church of St. Mary the Virgin.

GEORGE STEEL has changed the musical landscape of New York. Having served as executive director of Columbia University’s Miller Theatre from 1997-2008, in October of 2008 he took the helm at Dallas Opera as its general director. In 2009, he became general manager and artistic director of New York City Opera. Steel has earned a national reputation for innovative programming and audience building. He received the 2004-2005 ASCAP-Chamber Music America (CMA) Award for Adventurous Programming of Contemporary Music; he was awarded the 2003 Trailblazer Award from the American Music Center; the 2003 ASCAP Concert Music Award; and the 2001-2002 ASCAP-CMA Award. *New York* magazine named Steel one of the most influential people in New York in its 2006 “Influentials” issue and recognized Steel’s programming in its 2005 “Cultural Elite” issue. Steel is the founder of Vox Vocal Ensemble, Gotham City Baroque Orchestra, and the Gotham City Orchestra and Sinfonietta.

Early Music

CIRCA 1600

Saturday, February 20, 8:00PM

The American Academy of Arts & Letters (156th St. between Broadway and Riverside Drive)

The **Flanders Recorder Quartet**, a prominent fixture in the world of early music, makes its Miller Theatre debut. A “homogenous and crystal clear sound” and “technical perfection and stylish interpretation” are just some of the distinctive trademarks of the ensemble. The American Academy of Arts & Letters is the fitting host to this glorious program exploring works written around the turn of the 17th century.

ARTISTS: **Flanders Recorder Quartet**

PROGRAM: Matthew Locke	<i>Suite I in D minor</i>
Josquin des Prez	<i>Scaramella va alla guerra</i>
	<i>Comment peult haver joye</i>
Costanzo Festa	<i>Contrapuncti sopra la spagna</i>
G.P. da Palestrina	<i>Ricercar del quarto tuono</i>
Johann Hermann Schein	<i>Suite No. 20 in D minor</i>
Tarquino Merula	<i>Canzon la marcha</i>

BIOS: The **FLANDERS RECORDER QUARTET** was founded in 1987, and the ensemble has since become a prominent fixture in the world of Early Music. Flanders Recorder Quartet concerts are a regular feature at Early Music festivals from Helsinki, Paris, Tokyo, Hawaii, Salzburg, and Ljubljana to Mexico City, Boston, Vancouver, Singapore, and Taipei. The quartet is made up of the four well-known recorder players, Bart Spanhove, Tom Beets, Joris Van Goethem, and Paul Van Loey. Among the group’s milestones is the first prize, in 1990, from the prestigious Musica Antiqua competition in Bruges, Belgium. In 1997 the ensemble was taken on board by the OPUS 111 record label in Paris. Their three record releases were singled out and distinguished with a ‘Repertoire 10’ rating.

*Columbia University's Miller Theatre is located north of the Main Campus Gate
at 116th St. & Broadway on the ground floor of Dodge Hall.*

For tickets, the public should call the Miller Theatre Box Office at 212/854-7799, M–F, 12–6PM.
Tickets can also be purchased online at www.millertheatre.com.

For further information, press tickets, and to arrange interviews,
please contact Aleba Gartner Associates at 212/206-1450 or a@alebagartner.com.

For photos, please contact Christy Pill at 212/854-1488 or cp2234@columbia.edu.

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