

English Concert Notes

Biography

Benjamin Narvey was born in Montréal in 1978 and began his musical training at the Royal Conservatory of Music (Toronto). Upon completion of his conservatory training in classical guitar in Canada, he took a Bachelor of Music degree from the Guildhall School of Music & Drama in London, where he studied the lute and continuo with David Miller. Benjamin has also benefited musically from studies with Paul O'Dette, Nigel North, Robert Barto, Pat O'Brien, Stephen Stubbs, Jacob Heringman, Elizabeth Kenny, and William Carter on the lute, as he has further refined various aspects of period practice with Emma Kirkby, Anthony Rooley, Rachel Podger, Nancy Hadden, Stephen Preston, Nicholas Parle, Pamela Thorby, and Rachel Brown. After having taken a Master of Studies degree from the University of Oxford in 2004, where he researched elements of enlightenment tonal theory with special reference to the writings of Jean-Philippe Rameau, Benjamin has continued at Oxford pursuing the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Music. In 2005, Benjamin was awarded the Lute Society of America Scholarship, and became the Invited Lecturer and Guest Performer at the Lute Society of America Western Seminar 2005, which was held in conjunction with the Vancouver Early Music Festival (Canada). Benjamin currently resides in Paris where he pursues his research, whilst continuing as an active professional lutenist performing both as a soloist and with numerous singers and ensembles. Recent performance highlights include appearances at the Brighton Early Music Festival, the City of London Festival, the Mars en Baroque Festival (Marseille & Aix-en-Provence) and in concerts accompanying singers Matthew Vine, Robert MacDonald, and Ian Honeyman.