

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Nêhiyaw-Michif/Cree-Métis Baritone and Tafelmusik Lutenist to Bring Enchanting Renaissance Music to K'jipuktuk/Halifax

**K'jipuktuk Mi'kma'ki/Halifax, Nova Scotia (January 10, 2023):** On Saturday, January 21st at 7:30pm, Cecilia Concerts presents Nêhiyaw-Michif/Cree-Métis baritone Jonathon Adams and lutenist Lucas Harris of the Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra in an evening of Renaissance music entitled "The Music of John Dowland" that is certain to transport listeners back in time.

John Dowland, born in England in 1562, was a composer, virtuoso lutenist, and skilled singer who was one of the most famous musicians of his time. Dowland performed for European kings and queens and colonial decision-makers and his works for lute and baritone provide beautiful echoes of the music played and sung in royal courts, chambers, and music halls four centuries ago. This concert, presented in the Lilian Piercey Concert Hall, within the Maritime Conservatory of Performing Arts at 6199 Chebucto Road, will center on Dowland's music, providing a unique opportunity to experience the enchanting melodies and rich harmonies of Renaissance music.

Born in amiskwaciwâskahikan/Edmonton, Jonathon Adams has appeared as a soloist with Philippe Herreweghe, Sigiswald Kuijken, Vox Luminis, Servir Antico, and B'Rock Orchestra at Opera-Ballet Flanders. In December, Jonathon made their solo debut with the New York Philharmonic at Lincoln Centre in Manhattan. Also this past year, Jonathon was named the first Indigenous Artist-in-Residence at the University of Toronto's Historical Performance Program, and was named the first ever artist-in-residence at Early Music Vancouver. They are also featured in the film *MESSIAH/COMPLEX* created by Against the Grain Theatre and the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Jonathon attended The Royal Academy of Music and the Conservatorium van Amsterdam, and studied with Nancy Argenta, Emma Kirkby, and Edith Wiens. In addition to performing, Jonathon offers an annual workshop for singers at the Lunenburg Academy of Music Performance in e'se'katik/Lunenburg.

Lucas Harris studied early music in Italy at the *Civica scuola di musica di Milano* (as a scholar of the Marco Fodella Foundation), then in Germany at the *Hochschule für Künste Bremen*. Originally from the USA, Lucas now lives in Tkaronto/Toronto where he has been the regular lutenist for the Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra for more than two decades, and performs with many other ensembles in the USA and Canada including the Smithsonian Chamber Players and the Helicon Foundation. He is also a founding member of the Toronto Continuo Collective, the Vesuvius Ensemble, and the Lute Legends Ensemble. For many years Lucas has been on faculty at the Tafelmusik Summer and Winter Baroque Institutes as well as Oberlin Conservatory's Baroque Performance Institute and has also taught for Vancouver Early Music's Baroque Vocal Programme, the International Baroque Institute at Longy, and Amherst Early Music.

Tickets (\$12.50 Student and Child, \$27.50 Senior, \$37.50 Adult) are available online at [ceciliaconcerts.ca](http://ceciliaconcerts.ca) and will be available at the door while they last. The Cecilia Concerts Mainstage Concert Series is generously supported by Major Sponsor Scotiabank and Season Sponsor Jules Chamberlain / Red Door Realty.

**Cultural Context Note:** Cecilia Concerts recognizes that as a non-Indigenous organization, it has a responsibility to actively build relationships with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis artists and

communities. To that end, the organization is committed to promoting diversity, equity, gender balance, accessibility, inclusion, and reciprocity in all its operations, activities, and programming. Cecilia Concerts is proud to present Nêhiyaw-Michif/Cree-Métis baritone Jonathon Adams in a concert featuring Renaissance music by John Dowland. Jonathon has full artistic control over the concert program and performance, and Cecilia Concerts will support and respect their creative vision and input, as well as any guidance provided by their elders.

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For further information, high-resolution musician photography, promotional MP3s, or to book an artist interview or media appearance please contact:

Gregory Morris, Executive Director  
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**About Cecilia Concerts:** For more than thirty years, Cecilia Concerts has been presenting diverse world-class chamber music experiences in welcoming, bilingual, accessible, and intimate settings that connect our communities, educate and inspire audiences and artists, and enhance the rich heritage and culture of K'jipuktuk/Halifax.

A registered charity, Cecilia Concerts operates with support from the Department of Canadian Heritage, the Canada Council for the Arts, Arts Nova Scotia, the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage, Support4Culture, and the city of Halifax. 2022/23 Season Sponsor is Jules Chamberlain of Red Door Realty, 2022/23 Musician-In-Residence Presenting Partner is Lang Optometry & Eyewear, and 2022/23 Main Stage Concert Series Major Sponsor is Scotiabank, 2022/23 Sensory-Accessible Concert Series Major Sponsor is TD. The Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, The Honorable Arthur Joseph LeBlanc, ONS, QC is Honorary Patron of Cecilia Concerts. The organization also benefits from the support of many generous donors and foundations, as well as corporate and community partners and sponsors.