

ENSEMBLE GALILEI

Hailed for its unique blend of Irish, Scottish, Early and Original music, Ensemble Galilei has created an inspired sound on stage and CD. Touring both gorgeous instrumental programs and exciting collaborative projects, the group takes each audience on an exquisitely designed journey.

Mixing the colors and styles of early instruments with Celtic traditions, the group is equally at home with Irish Reels, Medieval Cantigas and English Country Dance tunes. Ensemble Galilei is versatile, virtuosic, energetic, and very entertaining. Ensemble Galilei bring to CDs and the stage "All the precision of a first rate classical string quartet" and "communication between performers and audience at it best."

Ensemble Galilei collaborates with NPR's Neal Conan (host of *Talk of the Nation*) on a series of innovative programs that include **First Person: Stories From the Edge of the World**, **A Universe of Dreams**, and **A Winter's Night**.

Hanneke Cassel, fiddle

Allison Edberg, Baroque violin

Kathryn Montoya, recorders, whistle, oboe

Sue Richards, Celtic harp

Carolyn Anderson Surrick, viola da gamba

Danny Mallon, percussion

Jackie Moran, percussion

Ginger Hildebrand, violin

Special Guest

Neal Conan, narrator



HANNEKE CASSEL, FIDDLE

"Exuberant and rhythmic, somehow both wild and innocent, delivered with captivating melodic clarity and an irresistible playfulness," says the *Boston Globe* about Hanneke Cassel's playing. Such charismatic fiddling has brought native Oregonian Hanneke Cassel many honors and awards. She is the 1997 U.S. National Scottish Fiddle Champion, she holds a Bachelors of Music in Violin Performance from Berklee College of Music, and she has performed and taught across the U.S., Scotland, England, Sweden, Austria, China, Italy, Hungary, New Zealand, Australia, France, and Canada.

ALLISON EDBERG, BAROQUE VIOLIN

Allison Guest Edberg is a member of Olde Friends, Ensemble Galilei, ViVaCe, Ensemble Voltaire, the Mirabel Classical Quartet, and is concertmaster of the Indianapolis Baroque Orchestra. She was a recipient of the Willi Apel Scholarship in baroque violin at Indiana University where she studied with Stanley Ritchie. With him she appeared in recital at Chicago's Quigley Chapel in 2002. *The Chicago Sun Times* called her performance of the Telemann Eb Fantasie "impeccable, with unerring intonation and an austere beauty." (November 11, 2002). She has collaborated in recent years with

Apollo's Fire, the Washington Bach Consort, La Monica, and Early Music Southwest, and is frequently featured at the Bloomington Early Music Festival. Ms. Edberg has toured nationally and has recorded for the Electra and Centaur CD labels.



KATHRYN MONTOYA, RECORDERS, WHISTLE, OBOE

Kathryn Montoya is completing a doctorate at Indiana University, where she studied historical oboes with Washington McClain and recorder with Eva Legêne. She holds degrees from Oberlin Conservatory and Indiana University. Ms. Montoya has performed with many ensembles, including Apollo's Fire, The Newberry Consort, Ensemble Arion, the Cleveland Orchestra, Chicago Opera Theatre, Aradia Ensemble, and the Washington Bach Consort. She is a recipient of the prestigious Performers Certificate at Indiana University and was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to study in Germany. Kathryn was a finalist in the American Bach Soloist Competition and has appeared as a soloist with the Bloomington Early Music Festival Orchestra and the Indianapolis Baroque Orchestra. In the summer of 2005 she performed with the Boston Early Music Festival Orchestra in the world premiere of Johann Mattheson's *Boris Goudenow* and was on faculty at Oberlin's Baroque Performance Institute. Kathryn has recorded for the Naxos label.



SUE RICHARDS, CELTIC HARP

Sue Richards is a collector of tunes, mostly Celtic and Scandinavian. She has played the harp, both pedal and Celtic, since childhood, and found it to be the perfect instrument for her passion. To this end, she has won the Scottish Harp Society of America championship four times, studied and taught in Scotland, Ireland and Wales, and recorded with many friends, a natural outgrowth of a good party or session. She has sat in with the Chieftains and played for President and Mrs. Clinton. She also performs with "HEN" harp duo and "Harp and Fool" with mime Mark Jaster. Her solo recordings are on the Maggie's Music label.



**CAROLYN ANDERSON SURRICK
VIOLA DA GAMBA**

Carolyn Anderson Surrick was born on May 31st. Marin Marais, the great 17th century gambist was also born on that date. Probably a coincidence. He had nineteen children. She does not. She does however, love the viola da gamba and all that it can do. She also is driven to create things, which has been useful in her work with Ensemble Galilei since it is her job to make things happen. She is, after all, the ringleader and navigatrix of the band. Its been almost eighteen years of collaborating, conspiring, whispering, and learning and, honestly, it's one of the coolest jobs on earth.

Carolyn has a BA in music from UCSC, and an MA in musicology from GWU, started her recording career in 1977 and has never looked back. She has recorded and produced many projects since then, has built a couple of houses, and would rather travel by horseback than car. She lives with her family outside of Annapolis, Maryland in a house made from a 120 year-old barn. Life is good.

DANNY MALLON, **PERCUSSION**

Danny holds Bachelor and Master of Music degrees in classical orchestral percussion from the Mannes College of Music in NYC, where he has been a faculty member since 1991. In addition to three recordings with Chatham Baroque on the Dorian label, he can also be heard on Pifaro's Dorian recording. He has recently recorded with the Baltimore Consort, Brio and on Ron McFarlane's solo recording on the new Dorian, Sona Luminus label. As well as recording spots for TV, radio and film, he has performed with Jordi Saval's period orchestra, "Le Concert Des Nations,"; The Baltimore Consort; Ensemble Galilie; Rebel; Apollo's Fire; The NY Collegium; Artek; AmorArtis Chorus and Baroque Orchestra and with Paula Robison and Ken Cooper. His festival appearances include Spoleto; the Berkeley Early Music Festival; the Madison Early Music Festival; the east Coast Baroque Dance workshop; the International Festival of Latin American Renaissance and Baroque Music in Bolivia and the Festival of Baroque Music in San Louis Potosi, Mexico.

JACKIE MORAN, **PERCUSSION**



Born in Thurles, Co. Tipperary, Jackie immigrated to Chicago with his family at age 10. Displaying the intense zeal of a natural-born musician, he was firmly ensconced in the Chicago Irish music scene by the young age of 14. Several prestigious awards later, he'd proven his mettle in Ireland, as well. Jackie has been a founding member of many popular performing groups: Comas, Gan Bua, The Drovers, Wilding, The Otters, Trinity Irish Dance Company. On the cutting edge of the Irish music scene, he has toured with *Riverdance*, and has performed and recorded with some of the top Irish musicians in the world, including Kevin Burke, Dennis Cahill, Liz Carroll, John Doyle, Martin Hayes, Paddy Keenan, Larry Nugent, and John Williams, among others. Jackie's percussive stylings have even been featured in a number of major motion pictures: *Backdraft* (1991), *Blink* (1993), *Traveller* (1997), *The Road to Perdition* (2002).



GINGER HILDEBRAND, **VIOLIN**

Ginger Hildebrand holds a Master's degree in guitar performance from the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore where she worked with Manuel Barrueco; and she studied both violin and guitar in her undergraduate work at Dickinson College. She claims her ability to perform on many instruments is due more to her lack of focus than any abundance of talent. She's been performing professionally since she was 19 with her husband David, focusing on authentic early American music and instruments. Together they've provided music for documentaries, PBS specials, and on stages at Williamsburg, Mt. Vernon, the Smithsonian, and the like. They have released five CDs and two children. Ginger also teaches privately and does educational outreach for the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra through their Arts Excel program. She is thrilled to be touring with Ensemble Galilei this season.



NEAL CONAN, **NARRATOR**

Neal Conan may be the luckiest man on earth. With no discernable musical skill whatsoever, he somehow managed to achieve a lifelong ambition to perform on stage with a great band.

Mr. Conan first read poetry and stories to the music of Ensemble Galilei in 2000 and worked with the group to put together both "A Universe of Dreams," which debuted in 2004, and "First Person: Stories from the Edge of the World," which had its premiere at the National Geographic Society in 2007. He tours with both programs.

Weekdays, Mr. Conan hosts "Talk of the Nation," which is broadcast on about 300 NPR stations and NPR Worldwide. Before that, Conan served NPR News as a reporter, editor and producer and as Bureau Chief in New York and London. He covered many elections, several wars, one impeachment and, in 2004, moderated the first radio only presidential debate since 1948. In 2000, Mr. Conan took a leave of absence to broadcast baseball play by play for the Aberdeen Arsenal, a team in the independent Atlantic League and wrote a book about his experiences, *Play by Play: Baseball, Radio and Life in the Last Chance League*.