

Early Music Now with Sara Schneider
Broadcast Schedule — Summer 2026

PROGRAM #: EMN 26-04
RELEASE: 7/6/2026

Jan Dismas Zelenka

Jan Dismas Zelenka is an inventive and long underrated composer from Bohemia. Collegium 1704 and director Václav Luks have a new release of masses by Zelenka, including Missa Corporis Domini, and we'll hear selections on this week's show.

PROGRAM #: EMN 26-05
RELEASE: 7/13/2026

The Lions of Flanders

Today we're spending some time with composers who were tastemakers at courts and cathedrals all over Europe, but who originated in a relatively small area in what is now Belgium. We'll hear music by Johannes Brassart, Johannes Ockeghem, Heinrich Isaac, and Jacob Obrecht.

PROGRAM #: EMN 26-06
RELEASE: 7/20/2026

Henry Purcell: Orpheus Britannicus

This program focuses on music from Restoration England, including choral, chamber, and keyboard works by two of the most famous composers of the period: John Blow and Henry Purcell. We'll hear performances by the Choir of Westminster Abbey and the Arcadian Academy.

PROGRAM #: EMN 26-07
RELEASE: 7/27/2026

The Seer and the Troubadour

While Hildegard of Bingen (c.1098-1179) was writing her ecstatic, visionary poetry and music in Germany, troubadours like Bernart de Ventadorn, Marcabru, and Jaufre Rudel were singing about distant love in the south of France. This program combines sacred and worldly love with performances by Sequentia and Obsidienne.

PROGRAM #: EMN 26-08
RELEASE: 8/3/2026

The Angel's Voice

Francisco Guerrero (1528-1599) was not only one of the most prominent composers of the Spanish Renaissance, he also traveled widely and published a book describing his adventures in the Holy Land. On today's show we'll hear motets, mass movements, and secular songs by Guerrero, from a recording featuring Ensemble la Sestina.

PROGRAM #: EMN 26-09
RELEASE: 8/10/2026

From Florence to Basel

This week's show presents several recordings from La Morra, co-directed by Corina Marti and Michal Gondko. We'll hear selections from *Splendor da Ciel*, with rediscovered music from a Florentine Trecento manuscript. We'll also hear tracks from my favorite CD featuring La Morra: music from the Council of Basel.

PROGRAM #: EMN 26-10
RELEASE: 8/17/2026

Recent Releases

This week we're discovering recent recordings like music from the Notre Dame School of Paris, circa 1200 performed by the Huelgas Ensemble. We'll also hear selections from Peterhouse Mass by Christopher Tye sung by Cinquecento, and madrigals by Giaches de Wert performed by La Compagnia del Madrigale.

PROGRAM #: EMN 26-11
RELEASE: 8/24/2026

Speer was Here

This week's show introduces Daniel Speer, a musician/composer of the German Baroque who worked in Göppingen, a small town near Stuttgart. We'll hear world premiere recordings of his instrumental dances suites and sacred vocal works, from a recent release from Capella Itineris. Music by Dieterich Buxtehude, his exact contemporary from Northern Germany, is also included.

PROGRAM #: EMN 26-12
RELEASE: 8/31/2026

Sun, Moon, and Stars

We're going stargazing on today's show! Various heavenly bodies are mentioned in texts set by composers like Thomas Tomkins, Francisco López Capillas, Johannes Ciconia, and Giovanni da Palestrina. We'll also hear selections from the opera *Phaëton* by Jean-Baptiste Lully, a cautionary tale about the son of the sun god who borrows the family vehicle.

PROGRAM #: EMN 26-13
RELEASE: 9/7/2026

Apollo and the Lyre

The poetry of Quintus Horatius Flaccus was a cornerstone of Latin learning in the Middle Ages, and singers and musicians also set his poems to music. This week we're checking out a recent release by Stefano Albarello of Medieval settings of Horace's Odes. We'll also hear settings of Virgil's poems featuring the Huelgas Ensemble.

PROGRAM #: EMN 26-14
RELEASE: 9/14/2026

The musical world of Maria Sibylla Merian

Today we're following the groundbreaking entomologist, naturalist, and illustrator Maria Sibylla Merian (1647-1717) on some of her travels. We'll hear music from her hometown of Frankfurt, Germany by Johann Andreas Herbst, plus works by Carolus Hacquart and Augustin Pflieger.

PROGRAM: EMN 26-15
RELEASE: 9/21/2026

Bach in Köthen

Today's show presents a recent release by Les Arts Florissants, directed by Paul Agnew. J.S. Bach spent a happy and productive period in Köthen, working at the court of Prince Leopold of Anhalt-Köthen. We'll hear pieces associated with this period of Bach's life, including a cantata and the Orchestral Suite No. 2.

PROGRAM: EMN 26-16
RELEASE: 9/28/2026

Music from a Collegiate Church

Bruges was a wealthy, artistically vibrant metropolis in the late Middle Ages, and the church of St. Donatian was an important musical hub there. Today's show presents music by composers who were associated with St. Donatian, including Jacob Obrecht, Gilles Joye, Jacobus Vide, and Lupus Hellinck