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The Victoria Conservatory of Music presents:

Pilgrimage: A Journey of Medieval Song and Dance

VICTORIA, B.C. (February 6th, 2008)- **Early Music and Dance Ensembles Join Forces for Upcoming Performance.** ENSEMBLE LAUDE, B.C.'s only all-women early music ensemble, and special historical dance troupe MOVIMENTO have combined their interpretive and artistic talents for a remarkable concert of music and dance from the middle ages. The performance, entitled "Pilgrimage: A Journey of Medieval Song and Dance," is a tribute to the late Hilary White-Nunn, creator of Movimento and former member of Ensemble Laude. The event will be held at 3 pm on Sunday March 16th, at the Alix Goolden Performance Hall, with admission by donation.

"Pilgrimage" will explore the gamut of medieval vocal sounds: intricate French and Spanish monastic motets, delicate mass monophonies, Hildegard Von Bingen's soaring, mystical melodies and English songs ranging throughout the middle ages. Guests Babak Mehr (tombak), Douglas Hensley (gittern and barbat), Marilyn Rummel (harp), and Molly Janz (rebec) bring their scintillating sonorities to the choral texture. With further accompaniment by the authentic costumes and skilled choreography of medieval dance troupe Movimento, the concert truly promises to be a pilgrimage through the beauty and depth of the middle ages.

Movimento, Victoria's first early dance ensemble, re-creates the spectacle of dance and theatre from Europe's princely courts in order to present fragments of our mediaeval heritage. Founder Hilary White-Nunn passed away last September and was a passionate interpreter of Medieval Music and Early Dance performance practice. We wish to celebrate Hilary's inspired contribution to this area of art in our community.

Ensemble Laude is one of the cornerstones of early music performance and study at the Victoria Conservatory of Music. Under Director Elizabeth MacIsaac, Ensemble Laude was founded in 1999 in order to perform challenging monophonic and polyphonic repertoire that most singers rarely have the opportunity to explore. MacIsaac brings to the ensemble her expertise and passion for early music, teaching practical approaches and creating a dynamic performance experience. Now with the Victoria Conservatory of Music, the popular choir has grown in numbers, attracting capacity audiences with its varied and colourful performances.

Date: 3 pm, Sunday March 16th, 2008

Location: Alix Goolden Performance Hall, 907 Pandora Ave Victoria B.C.

Admission: By donation

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For more information about *Pilgrimage: A Journey of Medieval Song and Dance* or to schedule an interview with Ensemble Laude's director Elizabeth MacIsaac, please contact:

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LINKS:

Review of Ensemble Laude's previous concert: <http://www.horizon.bc.ca/miv/reviews/r2006-06-04-joy.html>

Movimento Early Dance Ensemble: www.earlydance.org

Elizabeth MacIsaac: <http://www.elizabethmacisaac.com/>