

MUSIC IN ST GILES

6 pm : 10 August 1975

SOCIETY OF RECORDER PLAYERS (EDINBURGH BRANCH)

Director: ERIC GILLETT

with

Jonathan Harris - treble viol

Linda Howie - tenor viol

Jane Murray - tenor viol

Eric Gillett - bass viol

PROGRAMME - DANCES FROM TERPSICHORE - MICHAEL PRAETORIUS

The extensive collection of dances from which today's programme is taken was published in Germany in 1612 under the title:-

TERPSICHORE the fifth of the muses

Wherein are all kinds of dances and songs

The same as played by French dancing masters in Germany

And at the table of princes

And furthermore may well be used at convivial gatherings for recreation and enjoyment.

Michael Praetorius, the composer of many magnificent and sonorous works of praise for voices and instruments, and the author of "Syntagma musicum", one of the principal textbooks of late Renaissance music and musical instruments, also published works in lighter vein, notably the present collection. Out of the hundreds of dances it contains we have selected a bourée; a ballet (or group of short contrasting sections); a group of courantes in what was later to be called the Italian style (three beats in a bar); two courantes in the French style (six beats in a bar); two groups of voltes (a dance in which the lady had to execute a leap, and therefore considered somewhat daring); and a final group of courantes.

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