

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Note: Both high resolution photos of The Lyric Consort and the complete text of this release can be downloaded from the "Pressroom" page at www.lyricconsort.com

Contact: Alan Baker
(570) 343-6707

Lyric Consort will open season with Italian Madrigals

"Sweet Death" will feature music of Marenzio, Monteverdi, and Gesualdo

WILKES-BARRE/SCRANTON, PA – The Lyric Consort, northeast Pennsylvania's critically acclaimed professional vocal ensemble, will open its 2011-2012 concert season on **Saturday, November 19th at 8:00 p.m. in the sanctuary of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Scranton.** The program, entitled "Sweet Death" will survey the great madrigals of sixteenth-century Italy, including music of Luca Marenzio, Claudio Monteverdi, and Carlo Gesualdo. Such madrigals were wildly popular in the second half of the sixteenth century, and over 2000 collections were published between 1530 and 1600. In their search for ever more vivid emotional expression, they also set the stage for the rise of the first Western operas. Many take as their topic love's passion and heartbreak, but others attempt to depict sounds of nature such as birds, running waters, and sunsets. Their use of intricate poetic form and word play also make them appealing on a purely literary level. General admission for the program is \$10.00 for adults, with all students admitted free of charge with presentation of a current school ID. A reception will follow in the church's Kreitler Hall.

Formed in 1993, to explore the myriad riches of the world's acappella traditions, the Lyric Consort maintains this annual concert series in Scranton and has performed throughout the

northeast United States as members of the Pennsylvania Performing Arts on Tour program. Members of The Lyric Consort include; Dr. Alan Baker, artistic director/tenor; Lisa Cardoni, alto; Francis McMullen, bass; Christopher Gallo, bass; Carol McMullen, alto; Dr. Steven Thomas, tenor; Leslie Mason Moran, soprano, and Larry Hickernell, tenor.

This program is generously supported by The Pennsylvania Partners in the Arts, a joint effort of the PA Council on the Arts and the Pocono Arts Council; and by a Lackawanna County Arts and Cultural Grant, a program of the Lackawanna County Commissioners and the Lackawanna County Council on Art, Culture and Education.

For more information on The Lyric Consort or to order or reserve tickets for this concert, visit the website at www.lyricconsort.com or call at (570) 343-6707. Tickets will also be available at the door 30 minutes prior to the concert.

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