

## **PROGRAM NOTES**

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Duration: 15 minutes

*Folgore's Months* was commissioned by a consortium of wind ensembles led by Mark Scatterday, Music Director of the Eastman Wind Ensemble. The participating conductors and organizations are:

Mark Scatterday, Eastman School of Music  
Gary M. Ciepluch, Case Western Reserve University  
Robert W. Rumbelow, Columbus State University  
Steven K. Steele, Illinois State University  
Frank Wickes, Louisiana State University  
Tim Weiss, Oberlin College  
Craig Kirchhoff, University of Minnesota  
Thomas Duffy, Yale University

*Folgore's Months* is dedicated to Mark Scatterday. The work is written for the extraordinary musicianship and voice of soprano Tony Arnold. Finally, the 4th song, "December," is dedicated in memory of John Thow, the American composer who died in 2007 at age 57.

## **TEXTS AND TRANSLATIONS**

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Sonetti dei "Mesi" by Folgore da San Gimignano (14th century)  
English translation by Dante Gabriel Rossetti and John Thow

### *February*

In February I give you gallant sport  
Of harts and hinds and great wild boars; and all  
Your company good foresters and tall,  
With buskins strong, with jerkins close and short;

And in your leashes, hounds of brave report;  
And from your purses, plenteous money-fall,  
In very spleen of misers' starveling gall,  
Who at your generous customs snarl and snort.

At dusk wend homeward, ye and all your folk  
All laden from the wilds, to your carouse,  
With merriment and songs accompanied:

And so draw wine and let the kitchen smoke;  
And so be till the first watch glorious;  
Then sound sleep to you till the day be wide'

(Folgore/Rossetti)

### *Di febbraio*

E di febbraio vi dono bella caccia  
di cervi, cavrioli e di cinghiari,  
corte gonnelle con grossi calzari,  
e compagnia che vi diletta e piaccia;

can da guinzagli e segugi da traccia,  
e le borse fornite di danari,  
ad onta degli scarse e degli avari,  
o chi di questo vi dà briga e 'mpaccia;

e la sera tornar co' vostri fanti  
carcati della molta salvaggina,  
avendo gioia ed allegrezza e canti;

far trar del vino e fumar la cucina  
e fin al primo sonno star razzanti;  
e poi posar infin' alla mattina.