

O'CAROLAN ETCETERA

THIS ENSEMBLE OF MUSICIANS from Boston's North Shore brings to life the legacy of Turlough O'Carolan (1670-1738), the blind itinerant harpist whose instrumental compositions are among the most enduring and spirited in the Celtic tradition, joining his works with other great pieces selected from three centuries of traditional music.

O'CAROLAN ETCETERA brings its audiences many of O'Carolan's most exquisite melodies—*Blind Mary*, *Sheebeg & Sheemore*, *Captain O'Kane*, and more. Many of these timeless favorites are paired with pieces written by the composer's baroque contemporaries, with early English dance tunes such as *Hole in the Wall* and *Newcastle*, and with rousing instrumental pieces from Ireland, Scotland, Canada, and New England—both old and new. This program of music transports listeners to another time and place.

The group was founded in 2006 by fiddler/concertina player Herb Smooth of Boxford, Massachusetts, whose appreciation of O'Carolan's works led him to other like-minded players: Trish DeCaprio (fiddle), Cindy McIntire (flute & tin whistle), and Richard Luecke (acoustic & classical guitar).

These musicians have taken the single-line melodies written down after O'Carolan's death and developed them into richly harmonic pieces that take full advantage of their string and wind instruments. And, using their experience as contra dance and "session" players, they have combined O'Carolan pieces with other traditional tunes into dynamic "sets" that produce a varied and entertaining program for listeners. Says guitarist Richard Luecke, "If O'Carolan's *Blind Mary* makes you teary-eyed, the French-Canadian *Reel des Accordionistes* will make you rock!"

CONTACT INFORMATION

O'CAROLAN ETCETERA is available to play at weddings, company events, private parties, and public performance venues. For more information, visit www.ocarolanetcetera.com. For bookings, contact info@ocarolanetcetera.com, or call Richard Luecke at 978.740.0381.