

UWM – Fine Arts Recital Hall
Saturday, September 26
2:00-4:00

UWM Students and Faculty Free
All others \$5.00 at the door.

The Art of Improvisation: Early Music and Jazz

Galileo's Daughters:

Sarah Pillow, soprano

Mary Anne Ballard, viola da gamba

with guest Ronn McFarlane, lute

Utilizing our combined experience in the worlds of musical scholarship, opera, drama, and jazz, Galileo's Daughters would be pleased to offer a lecture/demonstration with the topic of improvisation to promote a deeper appreciation of the genre of early music.

With improvisation as the topic, an audience not familiar with early music would learn that it is not only composed from the discipline of scholarly research, technique and linguistics necessary for classical and romantic repertoire, but also the declamatory style and freedom within a pulse as opposed to meter that is found in modern musical language.

Outline:

- ❖ Comparison and contrast of syncopation and divisions (Ortiz-Simpson, for example) and its parallel in jazz patterns
- ❖ The components of a figured bass line
- ❖ The revival of an ancient art: the birth of monody, and how declamatory speech emerged into sustained singing and opera
- ❖ Vocal ornamentation and inflection- written and improvised
- ❖ The 'modern' sound of a 16th-century passamezzo and the blues

The lecture will culminate in a 15-20 minute musical presentation demonstrating instrumental and vocal improvisation.