

## VALENTINE'S CONCERT BY THE WAIMEA CONSORT

The Waimea Consort performs in its first 2005 concert on Sunday, February 13 at 4pm in the Davies Memorial Chapel, on the upper campus of Hawaii Preparatory Academy in Waimea. In keeping with its tradition of bringing rarely heard vocal music to the Big Island, the 12-member a cappella ensemble will present songs from the 14th through 20th centuries, not forgetting that Valentine's Day will be the following day.

The program will open with excerpts from a piece never performed in Hawaii before, the "Messe de Nostre Dame" by Guillaume de Machaut, an ars nova (14th century France's new music) composer from the Middle Ages.

Church music was acquiring more complexity after the beginnings of Gregorian chant, while the Roman Catholic leaders were becoming progressively angrier with the composers' intricately woven harmonies, which they thought interfered with the understanding of text. They opposed anything that might obstruct the proper hearing of the words, and, in an example of early censorship, banned the use of hocket, a composing devise where overlapping voices create a sort of hiccupping sound. However, by using discreet rests and syncopation, Machaut cleverly circumvented the ban and got the same result without technically violating the ban. Until Machaut, no composer had written a complete polyphonic mass. Prior



Members of the Waimea Consort hope that you'll join them for their first 2005 concert on February 13.

to this they had only been pieced together, akin to 'cut and paste,' which didn't allow for much continuity.

The rest of the performance will explore various ways composers aurally depict the many shades of love in all its sweetness, angst, and sorrow.

The Waimea Consort is comprised of amateur singers who have come together to share their love of early music with the community through a cappella performances.

The concert is free, but donations at the door are welcome. For further information, call Marilyn Bernhardt at 883-0798 or Christian Veillet 885-7944

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