The American Promise by The Broken Consort

Following the success of such innovative programs as Radical Softness, The Glorious Cuntata, Made in America, and Sirens, Interrupted!, Big Mouth Society is pleased to present the critically acclaimed chamber ensemble, The Broken Consort, and the world-premiere performance of The American Promise, a logical and timely sequel to our Made in America program.

What did George Washington hope for when he signed the founding documents? What did migrants from all around the world seek in this “promised land”? What did our soldiers fight for in various wars? How did these hopes and promises evolve and change over time, taking us to our current moment? Promises are worth crossing the Rio Grande for, but they are also so fragile and breakable.

The Broken Consort tracks the rise, fall, and evolution of American ideals and promises of the last 250 years, using materials from concerted music, folk music, popular music, poetry, newspaper articles, iconography, and live improvisation. Our historically informed musical experts, who are themselves first-generation Americans and descendants of immigrants, will be performing on handmade instruments from the baroque, classical, and modern periods from all around the USA.

In a time of chaos and despair, we hope to offer a thoughtful review, and a hopeful path forward. Please join us in this project to think deeply, act kindly, and change bravely. Bring your friends and family, and participate in the post-show discussion that will follow each performance. This program is presented by Big Mouth Society with additional funding from the Regional Arts and Culture Council.

Performers: Niccolo Seligmann, viola da gamba, dulcimer, fiddles, and more | Julie Bosworth, voice and fiddle | Emily Lau, voice and percussion | Peter Lim, harpsichord, oboe, recorders

Date and time: March 14 at 7:30PM and March 15 at 5PM
Tickets: Pay-as-you-can
Venue: Apptio Cloudability, 334 Northwest 11th Avenue, Portland, OR 97209