Swan Song

Robert Oliver

Bass Viols & Rebec

My next project is a solo performance, where I play my two bass viols and my rebec, with music spanning 700 years, from 14th to 21st Centuries.

Colin Decio has written a solo suite for bass viol, for me to play, and to give it a context I shall play some Marais on my 7-string, Corkine and Hume on my 6string, and some anonymous medieval music on my rebec. I'll also sing some songs, by Corkine, Hume and Machaut. Apart from Colin's piece, it's all music I have been performing over the years, a very personal choice.



Pretty maids all in a row

Colin's suite has three movements, Allemande, Pavan and Saltatio, referring to Bach's solo suites for cello. It's a beautiful piece, sits under the fingers and the bow very well, and its three movements are nicely contrasted in mood. It's quite substantial, lasting 11 minutes, and its whimsical title: 'A Silver Swan is barking at the Moon' means that I have to call the recital 'Swan Song'



Futuna Chapel 2:00pm – 3:00pm Sunday 19th November Koha