

# Oluf Strangesøns Dystrit/Oluf Strangeson's Joust

Fleeing horses, duels, cold winter, prayers and beautiful women

Harp, Baltic cittern (kantele), bells and singing  
Agnethe Christensen and Leah Stuttard

'Oluf Strangesøns Dystrit – Oluf Strangeson's Joust' is like a scrapbook full of music and poetry from around 1500. Harper Leah Stuttard and singer Agnethe Christensen present a fascinating programme with songs, instrumental music, dance music and hymns to the Blessed Virgin together with one of Denmark's most unique medieval ballads "Oluf Strangesøns dystrit" about two friends, Oluf and Hasburd, who embark on a dangerous journey with deadly duels in the early morning. This many-faceted and sometimes rather surreal story inspired us to find more songs about horses or battles but also a hymn to the Blessed Virgin Mary based on similar melodic material from a collection of songs and other texts, the Rostocker Liederbuch.

We have chosen to also present one of Sweden's earliest medieval ballad texts from around 1600 for which Agnethe reconstructed music. Here we have the light, sensual midsummer time when the evenings are bright and long. The young man comes riding on his grey steed in to a Rosegarden where he finds a traditional dance in which his beloved is participating.

Together with music from another book of songs, the Lochamer Liederbuch, we create a musical meditative universe where the past come alive and reaches out to us with the timeless stories of the medieval ballads and varied musical material from the German sources displaying tenderness as well as virtuosity.

For more information please contact [ulvarim@gmail.com](mailto:ulvarim@gmail.com)

Take a look at Leahs website [www.leahstuttard.co.uk](http://www.leahstuttard.co.uk)

This is Leah's and Agnethe first programme together – stay tuned for further information and news.

Agnethe/Leah