

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Krannert Center for the Performing Arts

500 South Goodwin Avenue  
Urbana, IL 61801-3788



December 15, 2010

Steve Shaiman  
Concert Artists Guild  
850 Seventh Avenue, Suite PH-A  
New York, NY 10019

Dear Steve,

What a delight to have a taste of Calmus's artistry! Their tightly blended voices, their attention to musical nuances, and their wonderfully wide-ranging repertoire (both serious and light hearted) made their Krannert Center performance a real treat.

After familiarizing themselves with our set-up (much of the audience seated onstage with the performers as well as audience in the balcony areas around the stage), Calmus surprised everyone by opening the concert singing from the house main floor before processing to the stage. Then they took us on a musical journey from Gesualdo and Bach to Schumann and Sting. Their spoken introductions to each selection gave us a sense of their personalities and offered just enough background to fully engage the audience. We also enjoyed their "musical personalities" in their arrangements of tunes like "Crazy Little Thing Called Love" and "Bongo Bong" during the second half of the performance.

A small selection of our audience was made up of a group of graduate choral conducting students who relished the opportunity to engage with Calmus on a more scholarly level later in the evening. There was singing together, conversation about interpretive issues, and a wonderful sense of camaraderie.

Thanks to Concert Artists Guild for making us aware of Calmus, and for working with us on their Krannert Center appearance. We look forward to following Calmus and wish them all the best.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Tammey Kikta'.

Tammey Kikta  
Assistant Director for Artistic Services  
Krannert Center for the Performing Arts