

Established in January 2017, the professional vocal early music ensemble [APERI ANIMAM](#) has quickly drawn the attention of early music enthusiasts and organizations across the United States. In May 2019, they were selected as one of four ensembles and soloists to perform on [Early Music America's Emerging Artists Showcase](#). Most recently, they premiered [Amanda Schoofs's](#) experimental opera [Eternal Burning](#) alongside Orlande de Lassus's *Prophetiae sibyllarum* in a critically acclaimed collaboration with [Milwaukee Opera Theatre](#) and [Cadance Collective](#).

APERI ANIMAM's repertoire spans from Gregorian chant to 21st-century works but focuses primarily on sacred music from the Renaissance, mainly that of the English school. While there is careful attention to historical performance practice, the ensemble emphasizes the meditative and reflective atmosphere that can be manifested through thoughtful and mindful performance of this music. They hope to bring awareness of its mystical properties and benefit to the soul, which is where their name originates—"open your soul." Led by artistic director Daniel Koplitz, APERI ANIMAM has been praised for their ensemble precision, full-throated vocals, emotional expressivity, and innovative programming.

The ensemble is composed of vocalists, teachers, composers, and scholars who call the Greater Milwaukee area "home." Members have experience performing across the city and country, including engagements with the [Haymarket Opera Company](#), Milwaukee Opera Theatre, [Skylight Music Theatre](#), the [Madison Early Music Festival](#), the [Boston Early Music Academy](#), and the [Amherst Early Music Festival](#). In addition, APERI ANIMAM's practice is enriched through coaching from their resident historical linguist, Joseph Krohlow.

APERI ANIMAM has collaborated with Milwaukee Opera Theatre, Cadance Collective, [St. John's Cathedral Choir](#), and the [Plymouth Chorale](#). They have been featured at the [Madison Early Music Festival](#) fringe series, [Milwaukee Fringe Festival](#), Grace Lutheran [First Fridays](#) series, and [Riverwest FemFest](#), and they have performed for [Early Music Now](#), the University of Milwaukee's [Peck School of the Arts](#), and the [Milwaukee Art Museum](#). APERI ANIMAM has opened for the world-renowned [Flanders Recorder Quartet](#) and worked in a masterclass setting with [The Queen's Six](#) (London), [Calmus Ensemble](#) (Leipzig), [Dana Marsh](#) (Washington Bach Consort, Historical Performance Institute at Indiana University – Bloomington), and [Grant Herreid](#) (Piffaro, Yale University). They currently hold residency at [All Saints' Cathedral](#) in Milwaukee.