

## Women and power

Marion Leeper, long-time member of Cambridge Storytellers and the first Bard of Cambridge, has joined forces with acclaimed singer-songwriter Jessica Law to bring to life the strong, sexy and badass women of Ludovico Ariosto's epic poem, *Orlando Furioso*. This virtual feast of story and song will also act as the official launch event for the show's accompanying concept album, *Lovers and Fighters*. In celebration of this launch, a free download of the album will be available with every ticket – the link will be sent out with the Zoom code, an hour before performance.

As war rages across Europe, fearless female knight Bradamante finally meets a man whose power matches her own. In the midst of a fierce battle, they fall in love. The only problem is, *he's* on the enemy side, and in the clutches of an evil necromancer.

These two lovers pursue each other around the globe, facing strange monsters, bewitching magic, furious rivalry and everyday prejudice in their fight to be together. Based on the Italian epic poem *Orlando Furioso*, their story is bizarre, audacious and as relevant today as the day it was written.

Stories are interspersed with songs that offer a window into the minds of the characters, as Marion and Jessica bring out the tragic, funny and human aspects of this timeless tale. Working together to fuse narrative seamlessly with song, their storytelling duo is truly greater than the sum of its parts.

