

Pentagonale



Ensemble

The early music ensemble Pentagonale is an intercultural melting pot of musical-artistic ideas that bind together the five musicians of the group. It was created 2009 in connection with the international Early Music Festival trigonale in Austria and has been profoundly influenced by its mentor Claudia Caffagni (La Reverdie). Since then the group has developed a variety of programs which all primarily focus on a repertoire from the late Middle Ages. Special features of the ensemble are its the great variety of the instruments used, the members' shared passion for this particular period of European music and their interest for thorough research in the original sources of the music. Since its debut in Venice in 2010 the ensemble has performed concerts in Estonia, Italy, Germany and Austria, including the Early Music Festival in Haapsalu and at trigonale. In order to create an even more varied and unique musical experience Pentagonale often invites guest performers who share the same taste and enthusiasm.

Biographies



Marilyn Lips, *soprano*, studied medieval singing with Maria Staak in her native city, Tallinn. She has been a member of the Estonian early music group Rondellus since 1996, performing in a number of European countries (2 CD recordings: Carmina Sanctorum (1998) and Adoratur Rosa (2009)). Her formation as a singer has been strongly influenced by the master classes in medieval music with Claudia Caffagni, as well as by her studies of early Christian song with legor Reznikoff. Presently she studies cultural theory at Tallinn University in order to explore the medieval singing with the help of contemporary methodology. This will enable her to combine her experience as a singer with her earlier studies in the fields of semiotics and literary theory.



Sara Mancuso, *gothic harp, clavicytherium, clavicymbal, portative organ*, started her musical education studying pianoforte at the Conservatorio Benedetto Marcello in Venice. Since then she has dedicated herself to early music focusing especially on the early keyboard instruments and the respective repertoire. She studied harpsichord, clavichord and fortepiano with Giorgio Cerasoli and Bernard Brauchli, and gothic harp with Hannelore Devaere and Marina Bonetti. Presently she collaborates with various early music ensembles, including the medieval music ensemble La Reverdie (CD-Recording by Arcana), the Spanish Ensemble Puy de sons d'autre fois, the Venetian ensemble La Frottola and the Ensemble for sephardic-medieval music Sensus.



Matthias Otto, *medieval lute, fiddle*, was born into a family of musicians. He obtained his first musical education (singing, violin) in the Dresdner Kreuzchor. He studied chemistry and violin and was actively involved in the work of very different ensembles in Leipzig, Vienna and Dresden. Later on he focused on baroque violin, studying with Simon Standage and José Vazquez, and on theorbo, studying with Frank Pschichholz. He also participated in many master classes, including those taught by Daniele Caminiti, Evangelina Mascardi, Nigel North, Eduardo Egüez and Eugene Ferré, and studied medieval lute with Claudia Caffagni. He performs as a lute player in numerous projects in the field of medieval, renaissance and baroque music.



Stefanie Pritzlaff, *recorders, medieval travers flute*, studied mechanical engineering at the University of Munich. In Munich she also studied historical performance practices (traverso) with Marion Treupel-Franck, Hans-Joachim Fuss and Michael Eberth (concert diploma in 2011). She studied recorders with Iris Lichtinger (Augsburg, focusing on contemporary music) and Maurice van Lieshout (Munich, focusing on medieval music). She also holds a pedagogical degree in modern flute and attended numerous master classes with Han Tol, Barthold Kuijken, Kees Boeke, Josep Maria Saperas Lafarga, Gabriel Persico, Kate Clark, Liane Ehlich, Antonio Politano and Claudia Caffagni and others. Presently she is working on her thesis in musicology at the Maximilian Ludwig University of Munich.



Marie Verstraete, *recorders, fiddle*, was born in Belgium. She has studied musicology as well as performance of medieval and renaissance music. She graduated in 2009 with a master's degree in recorders, having studied with Joris Van Goethem, Bart Spanhove, Bart Coen and Koen Dieltiens in Leuven, Belgium. After that she studied the medieval fiddle and renaissance viola da gamba with Lorenz Duftschmied (Trossingen), Randall Cook (Basel) and Claudia Pasetto (Italy). She obtained deeper general knowledge of medieval music through her university studies and through master classes with Kees Boeke and Claudia Caffagni amongst others. She is presently a doctoral student in musicology at Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz.

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