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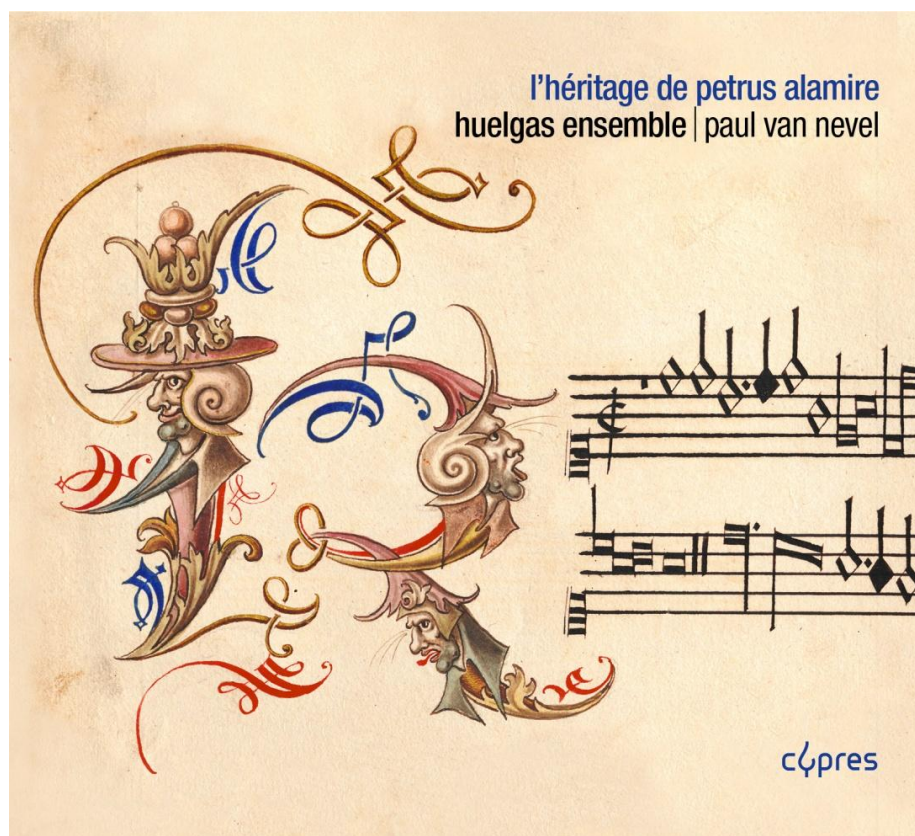
CYPRES NEW RELEASE | AUGUST 2015

NEW DISCOVERY

Johannes Sticheler
*Missa se j'avoye porpoin
de veleur*

5-6 Sanctus & Agnus Dei

l'héritage de petrus alamire huelgas ensemble | paul van nevel



Anonymous (ca. 1500)

Missa sex vocum n'avez point veu
1-2_Sanctus & Agnus Dei

Nicolas Champion (ca. 1470-1533)

Missa de sancta maria magdalena, a 5
3-4_Sanctus & Agnus Dei

Johannes Sticheler (floruit ca. 1500)

Missa se j'avoye porpoin de veleur, a 6
5-6_Sanctus & Agnus Dei

Robert de Févin (floruit 1500-1515)

Missa quattuor vocum supra la sol mi fa re
7-8_Sanctus & Agnus Dei

Mathurin Forestier (floruit 1500-1515)

Missa cinque vocum supra baisés moy
9-10_Sanctus & Agnus Dei

Josquin Desprez (ca. 1450-1521)

Missa malheur me bat, a 4, a 2, a 6
11-12_Sanctus & Agnus Dei

A treasure-house of the grand master of sixteenth-century musical calligraphy, the choirbooks of Petrus Alamire contain some stupendous and hitherto unpublished polyphonic works. Through the hand of the fantastical humanist that was Alamire – famous as a “guardian of the books” and as a spy within the most influential courts of the Renaissance, including those of Marguerite of Austria in Malines, Henry VIII of England and Charles V – the Huelgas Ensemble and Paul Van Nevel trace a portrait of this brilliant humanist in a programme that will take you to the very heart of the secrets of Renaissance polyphony. From among these gems that are the prestigious choirbooks, the voices of Paul Van Nevel portray *The Legacy of Petrus Alamire* through the *Sanctus* and *Agnus Dei* of such exceptional composers as Sticheler in an echo of the divine Josquin.

DDD | Digipack Deluxe | Booklet: 36 pages | Texts in French, Dutch & English

Live recording at Antwerp's St.-Paulus church (Belgium), on August 19th, 2015 during 'Laus Polyphoniae – Petrus Alamire Festival' (AMUZ)

Sound & Balance Engineer, Recording, Editing & Mastering: Markus Heiland (TRITONIUS Musikproduktion GmbH, Stuttgart, Germany)

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Huelgas Ensemble

For over forty years the Huelgas Ensemble has been one of the most celebrated ensembles specialising in the performance of polyphonic music from the Medieval and Renaissance periods. The ensemble is well known worldwide for its inventive programming, particularly of unknown masterpieces, delighting audiences again and again with fresh perspectives and the purest intonation. It has performed in some of the world's finest musical centres, including the BBC Proms in London, the Lincoln Center in New York, the Cité de la musique in Paris, the Berliner Philharmonie, the Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian in Lisbon, as well as the Centro Cultural de Belem (Lisbon). The ensemble also appears regularly at the greatest festivals for early music, where it often performs in its

“natural habitat” of ancient chapels, churches and abbeys, thus building an interdisciplinary bridge between architecture and polyphony through its

concerts. Performances by the Huelgas Ensemble are characterized by an in-depth knowledge of the aesthetics and concepts of musical and vocal practices of the Medieval and Renaissance periods. The media and critics alike regularly heap praise on the ensemble for its lively and innovative approach to the repertoire, continuously setting the highest standards in its field. It is precisely for this reason that more and more contemporary composers seek the ensemble out to perform their works (Rihm, MacMillan). The discography of the Huelgas Ensemble encompasses over sixty recordings of vocal and instrumental music from the thirteenth up to the end of the sixteenth century, for example: Dufay, Brumel, de Rore, Richafort, de Kerle, Ferrabosco, Palestrina, Lassus and Ashewell. These recordings have appeared on a variety of labels, including Seon, Sony Classical, Harmonia Mundi France, Deutsche Harmonia Mundi and ECM. The discography of 2012 – 2014 includes “The Eton Choirbook”, the “Melanges” of Claude Le Jeune and a recording of “Et lux”, a work for eight singers and string quartet by the German composer Wolfgang Rihm. Awards include various Caecilia prizes of the Belgian press, as well as “Choc du Monde de la Musique” and the “Diapason d’Or”, the Edison Prize, Cannes Classical Award for Early Music, “Prix in Honorem” of the Académie Charles Cros, the “Carrièreprijs” of the classical music radio station Klara, a commendation of the Europese Radio-Unie and the Canadian Broadcasting Cooperation, alongside the German music award Echo Klassik. Released in 2014, “The oreja of Zurbarán” (CYP1669) receives the “Diapason d’Or”, the “Choc de Classica”, the “Ceacilia” prize and continues to be particularly greeted by the international press.

Paul Van Nevel

Paul Van Nevel is the artistic director of the Huelgas Ensemble, which he founded in 1971 as an extension of his research and studies at the Schola Basiliensis. A pioneer and figurehead for the research and practice of European polyphony from the twelfth to the sixteenth century, he utilises an interdisciplinary approach to original sources, putting them into context with their cultural environment (literature, historical pronunciation, temperament and tempo, rhetoric etc.). He is continuously searching for unknown works, with particular attention to the treasures of Flemish polyphony. Paul Van Nevel is a guest lecturer at the Musikhochschule Hannover and, for the last 25 years, has been guest conductor of the Nederlands Kamoroor. Amongst other things he has written a monograph on Johannes Ciconia and a book about Nicolas Gombert. He has also had transcriptions of renaissance music published by the German publishing house Bärenreiter. An exhaustive knowledge of the catalogues of Europe’s music libraries allows him to continually bring forgotten works to light, which are subsequently performed by his ensemble. His programmes both surprise and delight thanks to inventive perspectives and an in-depth knowledge of the repertoires of the Medieval and Renaissance periods. Paul Van Nevel is an internationally famous “Cigariër”.



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Paul Van Nevel & Huelgas Ensemble @ Cypres



L'oreja de Zurbarán | CYP1669

The title chosen by Paul Van Nevel to illustrate the programme of this disc is a clear indication of his intention: to bring to life the music that the Spanish painter Francisco de Zurbarán (1598-1664) would have heard in the course of a career that led him from Seville to Madrid. Bearing as it does the imprint of the Counter Reformation, the artistic production of this contemporary of Velázquez and Murillo shares with the musical repertory of the time the same desire: to make accessible to all the faithful the mystical ideas – albeit toned down – of religious figures such as Saint Teresa of Avila and Saint John of the Cross.

