

EARLY MUSIC

Il Festino

Manuel de Grange ARTISTIC DIRECTION



ARTS/SCENE
DIFFUSION

Photo: Amaud Robert

Il Festino

To please the senses and elevate the mind through poetry, gesture and music. That, in a few words, is the aim of this ensemble. Directed by the lutenist Manuel de Grange, the group is faithful to the 17th century's aesthetic and rules of declamation, applicable not only to singing and recitation, but also to instrumental music, played on period instruments. The ensemble attempts to bring together poetry and songs of the same period, in such a way that they mirror one another, creating a unique experience for the audience. The listener is transported into the company of the men and women of a bygone age who expressed their passions, joys and sorrows, and their fondness for the pleasures that have always been with us.

Since it was founded in 2009, Il Festino has appeared at major festivals in France and elsewhere (Pontoise Baroque Festival, Lanvellec, Haut-Jura Festival, Namur Music Festival, Saint-Michel-en-Thiérache, the Festival Musique et Mémoire, the Midis-Minimes Festival...) and on renowned national stages (Théâtre de Cornouaille, Le Quartz, La Passerelle, L'ARC de Rezé...).

The ensemble's first two recordings both received among others 5 diapasons from the highly respected magazine.

Programmes suggestions

Armonia Divina y Humana

Canciones, villancicos and hispano-americans cachuas at the 16th and 17th centuries

Dagmar Saskova & Barbara Kusa + 4 instrumentalists

Donna

Madrigals and motets for 1 and 2 voices by Claudio Monteverdi

Dagmar Saskova, Claire Le illiatre or Barbara Kusa + 4 ou 5 instrumentalists

Luzzasco Luzzaschi

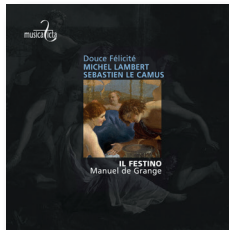
Madrigali per cantare, et sonare, a uno, e doi, e tre soprani. Rome, 1601

Dagmar Saskova, Barbara Kusa & Edwige Parat + 4 instrumentalists

The performers here are outstanding. Soprano Dagmar Saskova has a powerful, ringing, and beautiful voice [...] sweetly expressive, is tenor Francisco Javier Mañalich, who also plays bass viol. Three other musicians make their contributions on some five or six instruments.

The loving commitment of these performers to Landi's music make this program a great treasure. I really loved it, and I think anyone else is likely to also. Good notes, full texts and translations. Totally splendid!

**John W Barker,
American Record Guide,
September 2015**



NEW

Douce Félicité

Airs de cour by Michel Lambert and Sébastien Le Camus

Musica Ficta, March 2017