



MURMUR MORI

◀ *new early music* ▶

“VAGANTES”

Music and poetry from the Codex Buranus



[...] we grant this privilege out of our magnanimity to all scholars who travel from one place to another for the sake of study, and especially to professors of canon and civil law, so that both they and their envoys may go and live in complete safety in the places where the studies of letters are practiced. We deem it right, in fact, that, exercising such a praiseworthy activity, they should be supported by our approval and protection, that they should be preserved from every offense, so to speak, with a special affection, since they enlighten the world with their knowledge and educate their subjects to live in obedience to God and to us, his ministers [...]

This is an extract from the document called *Authentica Habita* compiled in Roncaglia by Emperor Frederick Barbarossa in November 1158, in which the Emperor grants privileges and immunities to the nowadays so called "Clerici Vagantes", figures in between jester-poets and ecclesiastics. These students and their erudite teachers have left us a poetical and musical repertoire of extreme interest for European culture, preserved mainly in the manuscripts Clm. 4660 and Clm. 4660, better known as *Codex Buranus* or *Carmina Burana*. These two manuscripts were written in South Tyrol between the 13th and 14th centuries and the poetic-musical corpus

includes compositions of erotic love, spiritual songs, Bacchic hymns and satirical songs. This repertoire was widely known in Europe and witnessed inside other manuscript sources, with the aid of those is possible to reconstruct the music of the poems. The ensemble Murmur Mori offers a selection that, like most of these songs, offers us an image of a Middle Ages full of color, fun and a biting satire and social criticism.

Program:

Estuans intrinsecus (Confessio Goliae)

Lyrics: Carmina Burana, BSB Clm 4660, f. 89r · Music: Vorau, Stift bibliothek, 374 "Ad terrorem omnium"

Bacche bene venies

Lyrics: Carmina Burana, BSB Clm 4660, f. 89r · Music: GB-Lbl, Egerton 2615, f. 96v

O Fortuna velut Luna

Lyrics: Carmina Burana, BSB Clm 4660, f. 1r · Music: Mirkò Virginio Volpe

Fortune plango vulnera

Lyrics: Carmina Burana, BSB Clm 4660, f. 48v · Music: Silvia Kuro, Mirkò Virginio Volpe

Veris Dulcis in Tempore

Lyrics: Carmina Burana, BSB Clm 4660 f. 36v · Music: BSB Clm 4660, f. 64r - El Escorial, Bibl. del Monestir, z.ii.2, f. 287r

Fas et Nefas

Lyrics: BSB Clm. 4660, f. 1rv · Music: Pluteus 29.1

Exiit diluculo

Lyrics: BSB Clm. 4660, f. 38v · Music: Clm 5539, f. 35v

Alte clamat Epicurus

Lyrics: BSB Clm. 4660, f. 92v · Music: Walther von der Vogelweide, "Nu alrest leb ich mir werde", Münster, Staatsarchiv, VII 15

Danza bacchica

Music: Mirkò Virginio Volpe

Congaudentes Ludite

Lyrics: Clm. 4660, f. 49v / Music: Mirkò Virginio Volpe



Musicians and Musical Instruments:

Mirkò Virginio Volpe

Chant, Symphonia, Gittern, Frame Drum

Silvia Kuro

Chant, Portative Organ, Bells, Tambourine

Alessandra Lazzarini

Transverse Flutes

Matteo Brusa

Citole, Drum

Murmur Mori ensemble has never used electricity or amplification during its shows, a choice that is not only aesthetic but determined by the desire to offer a more authentic listening experience, since ignoring or modifying the sound of the place would be a failure towards the music that Murmur Mori wants to reconstruct. Music resonates within historical environments that for centuries have returned it to our ears enriched with their personality.



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