

A SPANISH NATIVITY

For its latest Christmas programme, Stile Antico turns to the sensuous musical world of Renaissance Spain, drawing together an irresistible mix of sumptuous polyphony and infectiously joyful folk dances. A superbly rich and luminous mass by Alonso Lobo, based on a motet by Guerrero and intended for performance at Toledo Cathedral, forms the programme's centrepiece. Interspersed between its movements are an exuberant 'ensalada' by Mateo Flecha, inviting us to be present at the nativity through the use of traditional dance rhythms, beautiful Christmas miniatures by Tomás Luis de Victoria, and classic *villancicos* - Spain's answer to the traditional carol. And just as in Spain the feast of the Epiphany forms the climax of the Christmas season, so this enthralling selection is capped by a magnificent motet by Morales retelling the story of Herod and the Three Kings.

A Spanish Nativity is the latest Christmas programme from Stile Antico. Its two previous Christmas programmes, *Puer Natus Est* and *A Wondrous Mystery*, are available on Harmonia Mundi.

Mateo Flecha el Viejo Riu riu chiu

Francisco Guerrero Beata Dei Genetrix

Pedro Rimonte De la piel de sus ovejas

Alonso Lobo 'Kyrie' from Missa Beata Dei Genetrix

Pedro Rimonte Rey del cielo

Francisco Guerrero Nino Dios d'amor

Mateo Flecha el Viejo El Jubilate

Alonso Lobo 'Gloria' from Missa Beata Dei Genetrix

INTERVAL

Tomás Luis de Victoria O Magnum mysterium

Alonso Lobo 'Credo' from Missa Beata Dei Genetrix

Francisco Guerrero A Un Niño llorando

Alonso Lobo 'Sanctus & Benedictus' from Missa Beata Dei Genetrix

Pedro Rimonte Luna que reluces

Alonso Lobo 'Agnus Dei' from Missa Beata Dei Genetrix

Cristóbal Morales Cum natus esset

'the singing is staggeringly beautiful' **Sunday Times**

Meet the artists: at least four singers will be available after the concert to talk to audience members.



Stile Antico is one of the world's finest vocal ensembles, renowned for vibrant and expressive performances of music from the Renaissance. The ensemble has an extensive and award-winning discography on the Harmonia Mundi label.

The programme is subject to change. Please request the most up-to-date version of this programme before going to print. Programme notes and texts & translations are provided. Stile Antico's programmes are introduced by members of the ensemble.

stile antico
early music vocal ensemble

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