

“From Byzantium to Andalusia”

... THE FOREIGN LOOK

Medieval Christian, Jewish and Islamic Music and Poetry

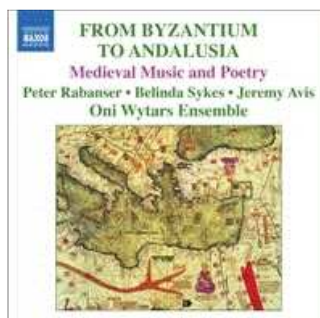
The Mediterranean is a place of meeting, an inland sea that, on its shores, is home to the peoples and cultures of the East and the West. In the Middle Ages the most important example of such a multicultural and multireligious exchange was, paradoxically, in the West the Moorish Andalusia, and in the East, competing with Rome, Christian Byzantium. ‘Christians, Jews and Heathen’, as it says in one crusader song, lived there in more or less adequate mutual respect, each following their own religious traditions in accordance with their beliefs.



This concert-programme intruduces in a most impressing way to the music and poetry of the three great mediterranean cultures: Italian “laude” from the “Laudario di Cortona”, songs und poetry of the Ottoman Derwish-brotherhoods by the great poet and mystic Yunus Emre, Andalusian “Judeo-Sephardic Romances”, Christian-Arabic music from Syria, the Moroccan “Andalusian School”, and Catalan music from the “Llibre vermell de Montserrat”.

Ensemble Oni Wytars

- Belinda Sykes - voice
- Jeremy Avis - voice
- Peter Rabanser - voice, oud, gajda, boha, duduk,
- Marco Ambrosini - vielle, keyed vielle, rebec
- Thomas Wimmer - vielle, lute, rebec
- Michael Posch - recorders and reed-flutes
- Riccardo Delfino - harp
- Katharina Dustmann - bendir, darrabuka, zarb, riqq, davul



The CD:

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Medieval Music and Poetry
Naxos 8.557637

This is a 'must have' release for those deeply into really Early Music ... singing and playing that is superb ... there are moments of hauntingly beautiful music. We have to take at face value the musicianship of the Oni Wytars Ensemble. David's Review Corner

The playing and singing from the Oni Wytars Ensemble is fabulous throughout. 4 stars! Tim Ashley, The Guardian