



• Ensemble ONI WYTARS • concert programmes •

venite a laudare!

The Italian *lauda* in the „laudaro di Cortona“



They called themselves *Disciplinati di Gesù Cristo, Confraternita di Santa Maria delle Laudi* or *Compagnia di Sancto Spirito*, they roamed through the streets of Tuscany and Umbria chanting their songs of praise to god, the holy virgin and all the saints. Saint Francis' message had reached the hearts of the mostly simple people and so they started gathering in confraternities, the so called *laudesi*.

Italian melody, deriving from the tradition of Gregorian chant and folksong approaches its maximal expression in the *lauda*. During the Middle Ages it was common to put religious lyrics into secular music and viceversa. The church as the client was trying to spread the religious contents, and the more popular melodies were used the better the message was passed on. A *lauda* had to arouse the minds of the simple people immediately. This could only be approached by using melodies and rhythms of some of the "greatest actual hits".

An outstanding portrait of the amazing music of the "Laudesi - brotherhoods".

Ensemble Oni Wytars:

5 - 7 musicians (singers & instrumentalists)