



Sospiri Ardenti

Julie Comparini - Alto and historical dance

Ellen Delahanty - Soprano and Recorder

Jurgen De bruyn - Lutes, Baroque Guitar and Voice

Geert Van Gele - Recorder and Harpsichord

www.sospiri.com

Kattenberg 43, B-2140 Borgerhout

+32 3 236 66 32

info@sospiri.com

Sospiri Ardenti

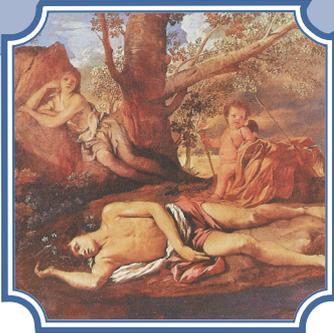


Burning and full of passion, as their name suggests, Sospiri Ardenti brings to audiences staged chamber music of the baroque era. They collected rave reviews from the international press with their programs ,The Nightingale“ , a family opera on a story by H.C. Andersen set on music by Telemann, and a program of Shakespearean music from ,The Tempest‘ and ,Twelfth Night‘. Their first CD will be released on Kattenberg Recordings in the fall of 2009.

The ensemble Sospiri Ardenti specializes in the music of the late renaissance and early baroque -- a period of turbulent discussion over the directions which music should take, and of a passionate interest in the way in which musical texts could and should be emphasized in music and in performance. The name Sospiri Ardenti (passionate sighs) is taken from a song title out of Giulio Caccini's 1602 treatise, „Le Nuove Musiche.“ The humanistic renaissance search for the importance of the text and the early baroque passion for declaiming this text in an intelligible way were inspiring factors for the forming of the ensemble. The members of Sospiri Ardenti have specialized themselves in historical performance practices, and have performed with such renowned ensembles as the Flanders Recorder Quartet, American Bach Soloists, Artek, Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra, Mark Morris Dance Group and others. The ensemble has performed in Europe and in America

Sospiri Ardenti

programs for 2009
2010

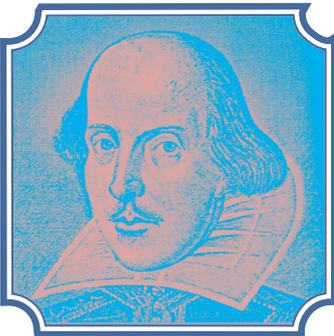


Metamorphoses

Airs de Court in transformation

The goat-footed satyr Pan woos the nymph Echo with dance and music. Echo only has eyes for Narcissus, who pines away for love of his own reflection. Proud Marsyas challenges the god Apollo to a fateful duel. Fate intervenes tragically in the love of Apollo and Hyacinth.

Four backpackers seeking clues to Ovid's Metamorphoses become the characters they are searching for in this musical-theatrical production featuring 17th-century French airs de cour and magical instrumental music from 21st-century composer Janpieter Biesemans. In an evocative staging by Gabi Bartels.



Some Strange Felicity

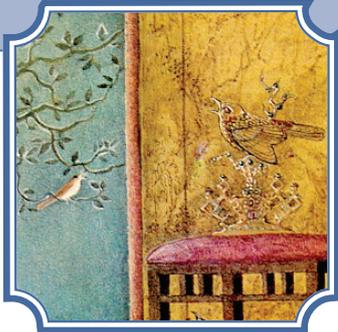
Musical theater with Shakespeare's Twelfth Night and The Tempest

The music of two generations of English composers comes vividly to life in a program created around Shakespearean theater music by the ensemble Sospiri Ardenti. Based on the plays Twelfth Night and The Tempest, this program presents dramatized scenes from the plays, incorporating 16th- and 17th-century songs and instrumental works and dance. A simple but effective staging adds drama, humor and visual spectacle!

Compositions of: Thomas Morley, William Cornyshe, and John Dowland (Twelfth Night); Henry Purcell, Matthew Locke, and John Banister (The Tempest)

Sospiri Ardenti

programs for 2009
2010



The Nightingale

"The Nightingale" by Hans Christian Andersen was the inspiration for this delightful fairy-tale opera by ensemble Sospiri Ardenti. A hit for adults and children alike, this new opera is fully staged and costumed by Gabi Bartels, with a libretto by Hans Wijers and the sparkling music of G. P. Telemann

The little nightingale is not a beautiful bird, but his song touches everyone's heart. The empress is delighted with him until she receives a stunningly decorated mechanical bird as a gift. Thrilled by the beautiful toy, she sends the real bird away. But when the empress falls sick, only the real nightingale can charm Death away from her bedside...

Sospiri Ardenti



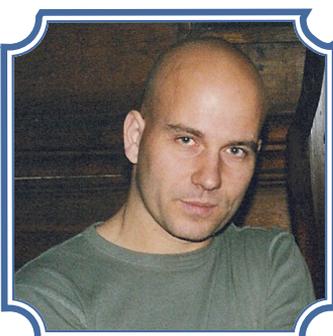
Julie Comparini

Julie Comparini studied linguistics at the University of California at Berkeley and early music at the Hochschule für Künste Bremen where she graduated with highest honors. She has appeared in numerous operatic and theatrical productions in Europe and the United States. As a concert-and ensemble singer she has performed at early music festivals in Göttingen, Halle and Utrecht, the Dollar Festival, the Thüringer Orgelsommer and the Musikfest Bremen, under the direction of Thomas Hengelbrock and Gustav Leonhardt, and with the ensembles x-Pol, Weser-Renaissance and the Balthasar-Neumann-Chor



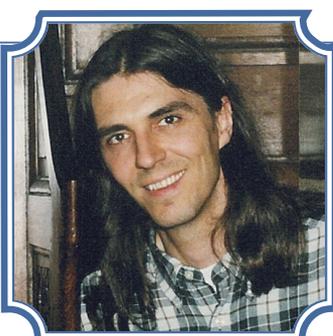
Ellen Delahanty

studied voice with the renowned English voice teacher Jessica Cash in London. At the Mannes College of Music in New York she graduated with a Masters Degree in recorder and early music. She furthered her recorder studies with distinction at the conservatories of Utrecht, Leuven, and Antwerpen. In addition to her solo career and as a member of Sospiri Ardenti, she also performs medieval repertoire with the ensemble Quadrivium. She is a regular guest on several early music festivals in Europe and America.



Jurgen De bruyn

Jurgen De bruyn studied guitar and lute at the Lemmens Institute in Leuven. He has been the artistic director of Zefiro Torna since 2003. He is also a permanent member of the Corydon trio and the Jean-Pierre van Hees Quartet. Jurgen De bruyn has contributed to ensemble projects as the Huelgas Ensemble, Collegium Vocale Gent and the Flemish Opera. He has also taken part in projects in other genres: jazz-world music with The Chris Joris Experience, contemporary dance with Les Ballets C de la B and theatre with music by composer Peter Vermeersch with NTGent.



Geert Van Gele

After finishing his studies at several conservatories in Flanders with honors, Geert Van Gele went on to co-found the world-famous Flanders' Recorder Quartet. For ten years he concertized and recorded with this ensemble in Europe and North- and South America, and won several important international competitions. He is regularly invited to give masterclasses. As a soloist he is admired as much for his Bach interpretations and his performances of early Italian baroque music as for his mastery of contemporary recorder literature, all of which repertoires he has recorded on CD.