

CANTADERAS

medieval and traditional music

MULIER, QUID PLORAS

Woman, why do you cry?

Notes to the program

The meaning of this sentence, originating in the liturgical dramas of the Middle Ages, is one of the most important messages to society of these centuries: Woman, there is no reason to cry - your son is alive! The miracle of the resurrection occurred! We have been suffering with you and your son but we are going to celebrate this miracle.

Cantaderas proposed program gives shape to **one of the most important periods of the liturgical year: Easter time**. Its importance is due to an annual great transformation: sorrow turns into happiness, grief into hope and sadness is replaced by joy. Thus the miracle of the resurrection does not stay locked away in the church but arrives in every aspect of daily life. The old becomes new, nature revives and the end becomes a beginning.

The medieval repertoire chosen from the **Florence Manuscript (the most important source from the Notre Dame repertoire)** are the Rondelli sung during Easter time. Dated to the 1240s, these Rondelli are paraphrases of liturgical texts for this year's time. These Latin-texted motets were sung and possibly danced by the religious community. In the programme Cantaderas includes the first religious piece written in Occitan language arrived to our days: a St Martial de Limoges Versus dedicated to the Virgin Mother: O Maria Deu Maire

The traditional repertoire chosen to frame these Rondelli, surprises by the modal, formal and thematic characteristics shared with them: pieces from the provinces of Teruel, Caceres, Burgos, Seville and Salamanca, sung by the people inside and outside the temple, liturgical and paraliturgical pieces, monodies and polyphonies express dramatically the grief of a son's death and the joy of his resurrection.