



SIGLO
de
ORO

**PROJECT REPORT: THE MYSTERIOUS MOTET BOOK OF
1539 (Delphian DCD34284)**

THE PROJECT

For this recording project we collaborated with the musicologist Dr Daniel Trocmé-Latter to bring to life a forgotten collection of Renaissance motets. Assembled in Catholic Milan, these Latin motets took a mysterious journey across the Alps and were published in Protestant Strasbourg. The collection features a range of composers from the well-known (Jacques Arcadelt and Nicolas Gombert) to the extremely obscure (Simon Ferrariensis and Johannes Lupi). The intended performers and audience for these exquisite motets

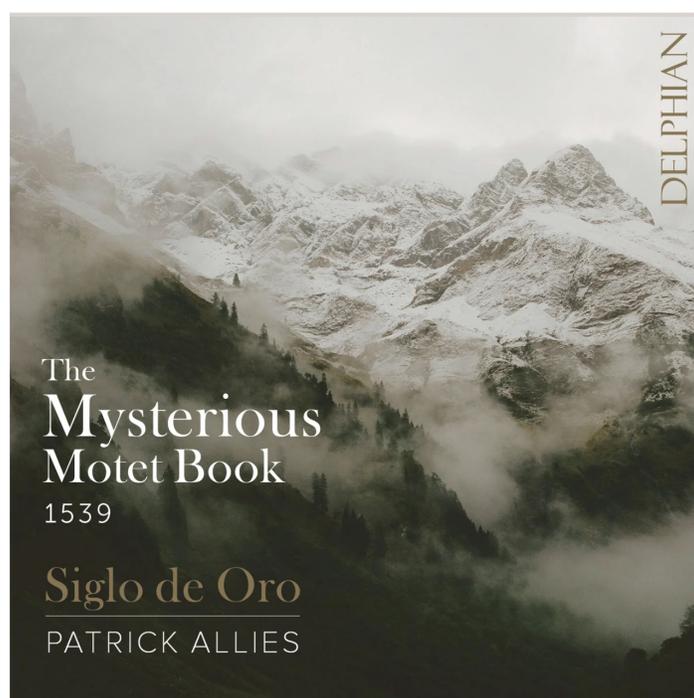
remains an enigma. Thanks to generous grants from Angel Early Music, the Music Department at Cambridge University, and over 50 individual donors, the project was able to go ahead.

RECORDING SESSIONS

The recording sessions took place at St George's Chesterton, Cambridge, in January 2022.

CD RELEASE:

In October 2022 the finished CD was released on Delphian Records (Delphian DCD34284). As of March 2022, the disc has received multiple press reviews and numerous plays on BBC Radio 3. Notably, the disc



was recognised as a Recording of the Year by Music Web International, and awarded Stern des Monats in the prestigious German magazine Fono Forum.

SELECTED REVIEWS

“A revelatory disc of long-neglected music and with a fascinating back story. As I said in my original review, this is an outstanding release which seamlessly combines top-class musicianship with the results of dedicated scholarship. Allies and his first-class choir make the music leap off the page.”

Music Web International -Recordings of the Year-

“Siglo de Oro singt die Werke mit einer Hingabe, Professionalität und Intensität, die Staunen macht. Dieses Album ist wirklich in jeder Hinsicht exzeptionell!”

(Siglo de Oro sings these works with a dedication, professionalism and intensity that amazes. This album is truly exceptional in every sense!)

*Fono Forum (Germany) -Stern des Monats-******

“A radiant performance from Siglo de Oro, directed by Patrick Allies... I thought the singing was really sublime... you can just sit and luxuriate in beautifully sung Renaissance polyphony.”

BBC Record Review

“This is precisely the kind of innovative project Patrick Allies and the Siglo de Oro like to get their teeth into... The big surprise here was the impressive quality of the Christmas piece Haec Dies by the otherwise unknown Johannes Sarton and which attracted a commendably persuasive and alert interpretation – just one of many rare insights on this disc.”

*BBC Music Magazine *****

“Das britische Gesangsensemble Siglo de Oro und sein Dirigent Patrick Allies präsentieren auf ihrer CD "The Mysterious Motet Book" knapp die Hälfte davon in Weltersteinspielungen. Das Ergebnis ist nicht weniger als eine musikhistorische Sensation.”

(The British singing ensemble Siglo de Oro and its conductor Patrick Allies present almost half of them in world premiere recordings on their CD "The Mysterious Motet Book". The result is nothing less than a music-historical sensation.)

Südwest-Presse