

Report of recording *Epitaph for a Green Lover*

The Linarol Consort of Viols

with Héloïse Bernard – soprano

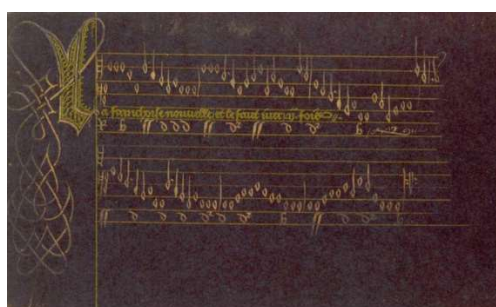
Venue: St Martin's Church, East Woodhay

Engineer / producer: Adrian Hunter

Dates: January 22nd – 24th 2024



Thanks to the generous support of Angel Early Music we were able to go ahead with a recording of this lovely programme that we have performed live many times. The programme is named after a parrot, which belonged to Marguerite of Austria, daughter of Mary of Burgundy and Maximilian I, Holy Roman Emperor. Marguerite inherited the parrot on the death of her own mother, and apparently became very attached to it. When it died, the court poet Jean Lemaire wrote an epic poem 'Epitaph sur l'Amant vert', the final verse of which depicts the parrot calling out to his mistress from his tomb. This last verse is beautifully set to music by one of Marguerite's favourite composers, Pierre de la Rue. The rest of the programme comprises pieces that Marguerite would have known, by composers including Josquin, Ockeghem, Brumel and Obrecht. She was a discerning patron of both fine art and of music, and we know from her accounts that she employed a number of musicians, including viol payers. She also had an extensive music library, such as this exquisite bassedance book printed on black vellum, from which one of the pieces on our disc is taken.



La Franchise Nouvelle, from the Bassedance book of Marguerite

Adrian Hunter is a recording engineer and producer of vast experience, and in possession of some of the keenest ears in the world! We were delighted to be in such safe hands for this delicate and intricate repertoire. We have worked with Héloïse on this programme since its inception, and her unique combination of sound and the handling of text in the way that only a native French speaker can, make her the perfect fit for it. We can't wait to hear the results, and hope that listeners are as enchanted by it in recording as much as they have been in live performances.

Thank you for helping to make it happen!

