Sweet Friendship
Courtly Songs & Dances from 15th-century France & Italy

Tracy Cowart ~ voice & harp
Ben Matus ~ voice, recorders, dulcian & percussion
David McCormick ~ voice & percussion
Elena Mullins ~ voice & percussion
Sian Ricketts ~ voice, recorders & douçaines
Niccolo Seligmann ~ vieles, lute & percussion

Amoroso
Guglielmo Ebreo da Pesaro (c. 1420–c. 1484)

J’ay prins amours
Le joly tetin
Je ne puis vivre
Alessandrescha
Zannetta del Giorno

Antoine Busnois (c. 1430–1492)
Anon., Wolfenbüttel no. 29
Anon., Copenhagen no. 17
Niccolo Seligmann (b. 1993)
Delahaye (fl. 1465)
Anon., Brussels MS
Domenico da Piacenza (c. 1400–c. 1470)

Verçeppe
A la longue
Leonzello
Petit Riense
A vous sans aultre
Jupiter
Le grant pena
Zannetta della Notte
Voltate in ça Rosina

Domenico da Piacenza
Fede (fl. 1450)
Domenico da Piacenza
Guglielmo Ebreo da Pesaro
Busnois
Antonio Cornazano (c. 1430–c. 1484)
Anon., Amiens MS 162 D
Niccolo Seligmann
Guglielmo Ebreo da Pesaro

Note – Today’s program includes three lively balli and a stately bassadanza choreographed by the fifteenth-century dancing master Guglielmo Ebreo da Pesaro. In the case of the balli, the choreographies and music (both attributed to Guglielmo) are preserved in his treatise De pratica seu arte tripudii; for the bassadanza Alessandrescha, we have followed the traditional practice of composing a tenor line over which Niccolo improvises a cantus line. We drew other pieces of dance music from the treatises of Guglielmo’s predecessor Domenico da Piacenza and his colleague Antonio Cornazano, and are pleased to present two additional new compositions by Niccolo. The vocal music was drawn from a group of beautifully illuminated fifteenth-century songbooks known as the Loire Valley chansonniers. We’ve selected two pieces by the great Burgundian composer Antoine Busnois as well as a variety of equally compelling songs by lesser known and anonymous composers.