

Adam de la Halle “the Hunchback” is justly the most famous composer of the late 13th century, and his greatest gift to posterity, *Le Jeu de Robin et de Marion*, is the first-ever opera – a pastoral romp brimming with delightful songs that so easily stand the test of over seven centuries. In this authentic yet innovative performance, the narrator (stage-right) tells the story in the original French dialect with his many voices – from coarse to courtly – while the singers move between a contemporary English interpretation (stage-left) and the timeless mediaeval lyrics and melodies of the super-troubadour himself.

## Adam DE LA HALLE

(13th century)

### Le Jeu de Robin et de Marion

**Mary Remnant** . . . . . Bells, Drum, Fiddle, Gittern/Citole, Harp, Pipe and Tabor,  
Rebec, Shawm, Symphony, Copy of Whitecastle Pipe  
**John Crook** . . . . . **Adam li Bochus/Pilgrim/Narrator**, Voices  
**Alexander Hickey** . . . . . **Aubert li Chevaliers/Sir Albert**, Tenor  
**Richard Eteson** . . . . . **Baudons/Baldwin**, Tenor, Coconuts  
**Francis Brett** . . . . . **Gautiers li Testus/Walter the Mule**, Bass  
**Joanna Forbes** . . . . . **Huars/Howard**, Soprano  
**Kathryn Oswald** . . . . . **Marion**, Alto  
**Rebecca Hickey** . . . . . **Péronnelle**, Soprano  
**Alexander L'Estrange** . . . . . **Robin**, Countertenor, Tambourine  
**Antony Pitts** . . . . . **Rogaus/Roger**, Bagpipe Drone, Copy of Billingsgate Trumpet,  
Cownorns, Portative Organ, Tambourine, Director

### TONUS PEREGRINUS

A full track list can be found on the last page of the booklet

Recorded\* from 22nd to 23rd September and on 3rd October, 2003, at Sedgwick Park, West Sussex.

Producers: Joanna Forbes, Geoff Miles, Antony Pitts • Engineer: Geoff Miles

Editor: Antony Pitts • Booklet notes: Antony Pitts and John Crook

Music edited\* and arranged by Antony Pitts

English versions by Rosemary Pitts and Antony Pitts, directed by Joanna Forbes and Antony Pitts

\*Except track 23 edited by Rebecca A. Baltzer/TONUS PEREGRINUS and recorded on 28th September, 2004, at Finchcocks, Goudhurst, Kent.

Cover painting: *19th century facsimile of a 15th century manuscript of Adam de la Halle*  
(Bibliothèque des Arts Decoratifs, Paris, France / Archives Charmet / The Bridgeman Art Library)



8.557337

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Playing Time

74:26



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