

Born in Italy in the 16th century, Palestrina ranks with Lassus and Byrd as one of the most important figures in the music of this time. Though conservative in style, he was one of the first composers to bring together the influences of Italian, French and Flemish music. His output was prolific, and among his sacred works are 104 Masses, 375 Motets and 35 Magnificats. In his *Missa L'homme armé* Palestrina makes use of a fifteenth-century secular song of the same name as a *cantus firmus* for polyphonic elaboration. This performance of the Mass, with its interpolation of organ *ricercari* by Girolamo Cavazzoni, seeks to restore earlier performance traditions.

Giovanni Pierluigi da PALESTRINA

(1525/6 – 1594)

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| ① Girolamo Cavazzoni (c. 1525-after 1577): Ricercare primo * | 5:39 |
| ② Palestrina: Missa L'homme armé: Kyrie | 3:31 |
| ③ Palestrina: Missa L'homme armé: Gloria | 6:48 |
| ④ Cavazzoni: Ricercare secondo * | 5:15 |
| ⑤ Palestrina: Missa L'homme armé: Credo | 9:13 |
| ⑥ Cavazzoni: Ricercare terzo * | 5:42 |
| ⑦ Palestrina: Missa L'homme armé: Sanctus | 8:03 |
| ⑧ Cavazzoni: Ricercare quarto * | 5:20 |
| ⑨ Palestrina: Missa L'homme armé: Agnus Dei I | 3:06 |
| ⑩ Palestrina: Missa L'homme armé: Agnus Dei II | 2:46 |

Soloists of the Cappella Musicale di S. Petronio di Bologna

Michel van Goethem • Renzo Bez • Vincenzo Di Donato
Alessandro Carmignani • Furio Zanasi • Marco Scavazza • Sergio Foresti

Sergio Vartolo, Director & Organist *

Recorded in October 1995 in the Chiesa di S. Zeno a Cavallo, Verona

Producer: S. Melloncelli • Engineer: G. Melloncelli

Cover Painting: Elmo Palestrina C (*Missa L'homme armé a 5 voci*) (Fotostudio Rapuzzi, Brescia)

NAXOS

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Playing Time
61:18



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