

Neidhart was one of the most popular Minnesingers – or “poet-musicians” – of the late Middle Ages. His songs deal with rustic, erotic and violent topics mediated, however, through court culture, which gives them a stylised, ironic sense of detachment. His division of songs into “summer” or “winter” adds another layer of complexity, with melancholy or dance-orientated topics prevailing, depending on the season. The instrumental music carries a rural character. The “Frankfurt Fragment” manuscript has never been recorded in full, and is here performed by one of the most outstanding ensembles in the field.

# NEIDHART

(c.1185-c.1240)

## A Minnesinger and his ‘Vale of Tears’

1	<i>cantilena</i> ‘Der han’ (‘The cock’)	2:36	8	<i>muteta</i> ‘Non veul mari’ (‘I do not want a husband’)	1:46
2	Mir ist ummatten leyde (I am grieved beyond all measure)	5:27	9	Ich claghe de blomen (I mourn for the flowers)	9:30
3	Summer unde winder (Summer and winter)	7:44	10	stantipes ‘Der hedamerschol’ (‘The hedamerschol’)	2:29
4	<i>clausula</i>	3:53	11	Allez daz den sumer (Everything that all summer long)	7:04
5	Sinc eyn gulden hoen (Sing, you golden hen) / <i>stantipes</i> ‘Der munich’ (‘The monk’)	7:40	12	Vil wol gelopter got (God, so highly extolled)	3:09
6	Willecome eyn sommerweter suze (Welcome the sweet summer weather)	5:54	13	Bonus track: Je muir, je muir (I die, I die)	1:40
7	Guoten wib wol üch der eren (Gracious ladies, you deserve honour)	5:49			

## Ensemble Leones

Marc Lewon, Director, Voice 2 5 7 11 13, Lute 10 11, Gittern 4 6, Vielle 2 7 8 12

Els Janssens-Vanmunster, Voice 3 6 9 12 13

Baptiste Romain, Vielle 2-8 12, Bagpipes 1 10, Voice 13

With special thanks to the parish of Heilig Kreuz Binningen

A detailed track list can be found inside the booklet

The Middle High German sung texts, along with Modern German and English translations, can be accessed at [www.naxos.com/libretti/572449.htm](http://www.naxos.com/libretti/572449.htm)

Recorded at Heilig Kreuz Kirche, Binningen, Switzerland, from 6th-9th April, 2010

Producer: Marc Lewon • Engineer and editor: Félix Stricker Batista • Booklet notes and translations: Marc Lewon

Cover: *Neidhart forced by armed peasants to make an oath*, from the Große Heidelberger Liederhandschrift (Codex Manesse) (courtesy of the Universitätsbibliothek Heidelberg, Germany)



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Playing Time  
64:42



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