# GAMBA MUSIC CLUB

# PHILIPPE VERDELOT c1490-1540 CLAUDIO MERULO 1533-1604

# TWO MOTETS

Tr Tr T T T/B B B

GMC146 A Gamba Music Club publication 2001

# Philippe Verdelot c1490 - c1540

Verdelot was possibly born in France, but he spent much of his life in Italy where he was active in both Venice and Florence. Little is known of his life although it is possible he studied with Obrecht at Ferrara. In 1523-7 he directed music at the Baptistry of S. Giovanni in Florence. He was in Rome from 1529 for up to 4 years and held a secular appointment in Venice in 1533-5.

# <u>Claudio Merulo 1533 - 1604</u>

Italian composer and organist. Merulo was organist at Brescia cathedral in 1556. In the following year he became second organist at St Mark's, Venice and in 1564 became first organist. In 1586 he moved to Parma as court organist and served at the cathedral in 1587 and at the ducal church of La Steccata in 1591. He was an organ builder, as well as player and while in Venice he was active as a music publisher, his first publication appearing in 1566.

## **Notes and Translations**

All note values have been halved

### Verdelot:

Offertory for the feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (July 2nd)

You are blessed, Virgin Mary, you who bore the Lord, the creator of the world: you gave birth to the one who made you and remain for ever a virgin.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you: you gave birth to the one who made you

and remain for ever a virgin.

#### Merulo:

Antiphon at 2<sup>nd</sup> Vespers of the feast of the Circumcision (Jan 1<sup>st</sup>)

Look! Mary has given birth to a Saviour for us: when John saw him, he proclaimed, "Look! The Lamb of God. Look! The one who takes away the sins of the world. Alleluia!"

#### <u>Acknowledgements</u>

We wish to thank Miriam Prescott for the music and background information, and Nigel Coulton for the translations.