

# GAMBA MUSIC CLUB

JACOB OBRECHT c1453-1505  
NINOT le PETIT fl 1480  
LOYSET COMPERE c1455-1518  
ANON

FOUR QUARTETS  
from PETRUCCI'S *CANTI B*

Tr T T B

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### Petrucchi's Harmonice Musices Odhecaton A and Canti B

In 1498 Petrucci petitioned the Signory of Venice requesting the exclusive privilege for twenty years of printing music for voices, lute and organ. However it was not until May 14<sup>th</sup> 1501 that Petrucci's first publication appeared. The *Harmonice Musices Odhecaton A* was the first printed collection of part music using movable type. It contained compositions by a variety of composers that were recognised at the time. It was followed later by *Canti B* and *Canti C*, published in 1502 and 1504 respectively. These three collections form a series that is particularly rich in Franco-Flemish chansons.

### Jacob Obrecht c1453 - 1505

Born in Berg-op-Zoom he learnt music as a choirboy in his native town and became a student at Louvain University in 1470. He took holy orders and officiated his first mass in his home town in 1480. In 1484 he was appointed master of the children at Cambrai cathedral, but was dismissed in 1485 following accusations that he neglected the boys' material welfare. He moved to work at Bruges where he stayed until 1491 when he resigned to go to Antwerp cathedral where he was appointed choirmaster. He resigned in 1496 on account of serious ill health. He tried returning to work at Berg-op-Zoom, but found even that too taxing. Eventually, in 1504 he went to Italy in hope of regaining his health, becoming attached to the court of Ferrara. He died there in 1505 of the plague.

### Loyset Compère c1455 - 1518

Compère had served as a choirboy at Saint-Quentin where he was a pupil of Ockeghem and fellow student of Josquin. In 1486 he became *chantre ordinaire* to Charles VIII and later, canon and chancellor at Saint-Quentin, where he died in 1518.