



GAMBA MUSIC CLUB

HEINRICH ISAAC
c1450-1517

FOUR
INSTRUMENTAL PIECES

Tr T T B

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Heinrich Isaac c1450 - 1517

Nothing is known of Isaac's early life. He arrived in Florence at around 1475 having been called there specifically to assume the post of organist of the Capella di San Giovanni. It is assumed that his talents had been known of at the time for him to be given such privileged position at Lorenzo's court. Later he became organist at the churches of Santa Maria del Fiore and the Annunziata. As music teacher to Lorenzo's sons he had among his pupils the future Pope Leo X. He visited the court at Innsbruck in 1484, but returned to Florence to continue teaching. With the downfall of Medici, by 1497 Isaac had become court composer to Emperor Maximilian I. He made many repeated journeys to Konstanz and finally pleaded to be dismissed so he could return to Italy in 1514. He died in 1517 when he was succeeded by his pupil Senfl as court composer in Vienna.