

# GAMBA MUSIC CLUB

ADRIAN WILLAERT  
c1490-1562

## Three Chansons

T T B

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**Adrian WILLAERT (b. Bruges c. 1490; d. Venice 8<sup>th</sup> Dec 1562)**

Willaert was the son of Denis Willaert, possibly a church musician. Initially Willaert was trained for a career in law and was sent to Paris for study around 1514, but he soon turned to his natural abilities becoming a pupil of Jean Mouton in the theory of music. He returned to Flanders for a while, then went to Italy. On 1<sup>st</sup> March 1522 he was engaged for the chapel of Alfonso (I) d'Este, Duke of Ferrara. From Feb. to April 1525 he was briefly in the service of Ippolito (II) d'Este, Archbishop of Milan, the duke's brother.

On 12<sup>th</sup> December 1527 Willaert was appointed *maestro di capella* of St Mark's at Venice. His career in Venice, where he lived until his death in 1562, is associated principally with the foundation of the singing school, which would soon produce a whole dynasty of musicians of the highest eminence in their day.

Willaert's compositions are very numerous, including masses, motets, madrigals, psalms, hymns, fantasias, ricercares. The chansons published here have been selected from *Trium vocum cantiones centum* published in Nuremberg by Johannes Petreius in 1541.