

## Il Convito

The ensemble IL CONVITO, was founded as a period instrument chamber group in 2005 by French keyboardist Maude Gratton. With organ, harpsichord or piano at its heart, the ensemble's repertoire extends from the Renaissance to the nineteenth century. Drawing on a team of soloists, IL CONVITO varies its constitution according to the programme.

In 2007, IL CONVITO was prizewinner on the Declic programme sponsored by Cultures France and Radio France. It has appeared at numerous festivals : the Roque d'Antheron, Saintes, Sablé, Arques-La-Bataille, la Folle Journée de Nantes, the Bach Academy at Bruges, the Midi-Minimes at Brussels, Musiques en Gatine, the Autumn Music Days of Souvigny... and foreign tours to Washington, Ottawa, Sweden, South and Central America.

The ensemble's first disc, featuring concertos for harpsichord and strings by Wilhelm Friedemann Bach, appears in Autumn 2015 on the Mirare label. The orchestra is currently preparing a first project on Mozart's music for May 2016 with sponsorship from the Musiques en Gatine Festival and the Moulin du Roc, the National Theatre at Niort. For this creative residency, IL CONVITO will consist of 20 musicians with members of the Edding Quartet on the principal desks, English tenor Thomas Hobbs and the art historian Anne Delage.

Translation by Rick Jones