

LIONHEART

Lionheart is one of America's leading ensembles in vocal chamber music. Acclaimed for its "smoothly blended and impeccably balanced sound" (Allan Kozinn, *The New York Times*), Lionheart (Jeffrey Johnson, Lawrence Lipnik, John Olund, Richard Porterfield, Kurt-Owen Richards, and Michael Wenger) gives voice to medieval, Renaissance, and new-music repertoires in concert, on radio, and in recordings. Touring extensively throughout the U.S. and Europe, Lionheart has collaborated with other performers including Anonymous 4, and premiered new works by composers Julia Wolfe, Marc-André Dalbavie and Ingram Marshall. 2009 saw the release on the Cantaloupe label of composer Phil Kline's *John the Revelator* commissioned by WNYC Radio for Lionheart with the string quartet ETHEL. Their latest CD, *Laude: Joy and Mysetery* released by eOne Music in 2013, was created while working closely with the Getty Museum's exhibition *Florence at the Dawn of the Renaissance: Painting and Illumination, 1300-1350*. Lionheart continues its tradition of New York holiday concerts at The Cloisters in New York City. The current season also includes concerts at Early Music Now in Milwaukee and the Folger Library in Washington, D.C. Recent touring seasons have included appearances at the Krannert Center, Carolina Performing Arts, the Aspen Music Festival, Virginia Arts Festival, Troy Savings Bank Music Hall, Music Before 1800, and an appearance at Carnegie Hall's Zankel Hall as part of cellist Maya Beiser's performance of Brett Dean's *Sparge la morte*, based on a Carlo Gesualdo madrigal. In March 2012 Lionheart presented a world premiere at Stanford Lively Arts, *Psalmbook*, written for them and the American Contemporary Music Ensemble (ACME) by renowned composer Ingram Marshall.

For its recording on Koch International Classics, *El Siglo de Oro*, Lionheart was hailed by Early Music America for their "rich, true tones and flawlessly blended harmonies...their superb articulation and impeccable sense of rhythm." The ensemble's CD of the music of Palestrina and his contemporaries and its CD, *Tydings Trew*, also garnered much critical praise and were released by Koch International Classics. Lionheart also released two CDs on the Nimbus label: *MyFayre Ladye: Tudor Songs and Chant* (1997) and *Paris 1200: Chant and Polyphony from 12th Century France* (1998). Lionheart is heard on Sony Music's CD companion to *A History of Western Music*, and on NPR's Christmas Around the Country II, a collection of favorites from NPR's Performance Today. On radio, it has been featured on Performance Today, PRI's Harmonia, WGBH, and the ensemble appears regularly on WNYC radio in New York.

(updated January 2014)