



| | | |
|---|------------------|----------------|
| Claudio Monteverdi LAGRIME D'AMANTE Madrigals of love and grief La Compagnia del Madrigale | GCD922810 | PC: 01Q |
| | 1 CD 2020 | |

Also available:

Carlo Gesualdo
SECONDO LIBRO DI MADRIGALI (1594)
 La Compagnia del Madrigale

GCD922809



With *Lagrime d'amante*, *La Compagnia del Madrigale*, so accomplished with 16th- and 17th-century Italian music and words, turns its attention afresh to the music of Claudio Monteverdi. This new Glossa release faithfully conveys the beauty of the ensemble's vocal blend in a selection of five-part compositions drawn from the Monteverdi of Cremona, Mantua and Venice, but centring on that cornerstone of his art, the *Sixth Book*. The act of singing whilst weeping – as Marco Bizzarini points out in his booklet essay – is somewhat unfeasible, but time after time Monteverdi strove to overcome that improbability by his music, often calling upon the best Italian poetry of the time: here, the fabulously vivid imagery of Torquato Tasso, Battista Guarini and Petrarch are well served by Monteverdi's musical response.

The programme takes us through various troubled emotional states involving love: a lover dying of love, the *partenza amorosa* (or lovers' separation), even a shepherd accidentally wounding his loved one, but also the outpouring of grief in the *Lagrime d'amante al sepolcro dell'amata*, a commissioned madrigal cycle to newly written words lamenting the death in 1608 of the promising singer Caterina Martinelli, a pupil of the composer, but also that of Monteverdi's wife. This work and others on this recording involved the lamented bass Daniele Carnovich to whom the group pay tribute; the sessions were completed by Matteo Bellotto.