

PHILIPPE MALFEYT (lutes, theorbo, hammered dulcimer, baroque guitar) is a mainly self-taught lutenist, but his qualifications do include the London Royal College of Music Performer's Diploma in Lute Playing. He now teaches at the Royal Music Conservatoires of Brussels and Ghent and at the Lemmens Institute in Leuven.

He is a performer who always catches the audience's attention and can be heard in numerous early music ensembles, including *Il Fondamento*, the *Ricercar Consort* and the *Huelgas Ensemble*.

He directs the renaissance ensemble *Romanesque* which has enjoyed much acclaim for its recordings on the Ricercar label, including a *CHOC!* from *Le Monde de la Musique* for their latest disc with music and songs by Alexander Utendal.

His classical background does not stop him exploring all forms of music, and perhaps it is his interest in jazz that makes him such an outstanding improviser on the lute and hammered dulcimer. These talents can also be heard when he plays with *Abid El Bahri* and *Xia Hua* in *Luthomania*, a trio that combines Arab, Chinese and European lutes resulting in *an excellent roots salad* (Rough Guide to World Music).

He can be heard with numerous early music and world music groups, ranging from the *Ricercar Consort*, *La Caccia*, *La Pastorella*, *Il Fondamento*, *Millenarium*, *Romanesque* to *Sheng*, *Luthomania* or his latest project *Pastor de Amor*, also featuring flamenco guitarist *Michel Gillain* and Tunisian singer *Ghalia Benali*.