

Egidius waer bestu bleven

Songs from the Gruuthuse Ms. (Bruges, end 14th c.)



A selection from the 147 songs in the *Gruuthuse Ms.* They deal with the melancholy of unrequited love next to the sexual escapades of monks and nuns; courtly love and sensuality; satire and drinking songs; friendship and faith. Some of these are classics of middle-Dutch poetry, but are very rarely heard as they were intended to be heard: as songs.

Besides the singing (and story-telling) of Paul Rans, the four musicians play on medieval instruments and come regularly to the fore in improvised solos – improvisation was after all very important at the time.

No dark Middle Ages here!

Paul Rans: voice, lute

Philippe Malfeyt: lute, hammered dulcimer, percussion, voice

Piet Stryckers: medieval fiddle, hammered dulcimer, hurdy-gurdy, voice

Paul Van Loey: recorders, percussion, voice

CD: Paul Rans Ensemble, EGIDIUS WAER BESTU BLEVEN (EUFODA 1170)