

“Every aspect of this [Paradizo] release, from programming and annotations to the gorgeous engineering, reflects great care and forethought, and demonstrates why the CD still is a viable medium in the download age.”

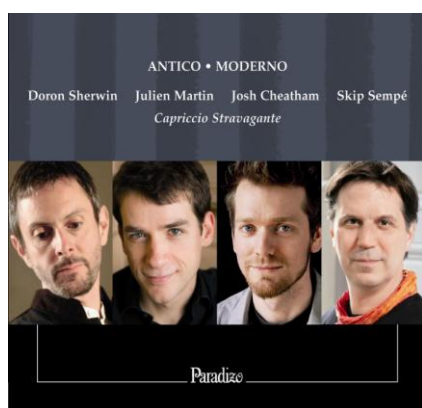
– ClassicsToday.com (September 2009)

Paradizo

ANTICO • MODERNO

Renaissance Madrigals Embellished Throughout the Ages: 1517 to 2009

Doron Sherwin, cornetto **Julien Martin**, recorder **Josh Cheatham**, viola
Skip Sempé, harpsichord **Capriccio Stravagante**



For Immediate Release, November 2009 ... Paradizo's new release, *Antico / Moderno*, is a journey into music embellished throughout the ages, exploring the beauty of Renaissance madrigals with embellishments from as early as 1517 (Marchetto Cara's own embellishments of his *Cantai mentre nel core*) to 2009 (Doron Sherwin's new embellishment of Palestrina's *Io son ferito*). Conceived by **Skip Sempé**, this time traveller's journey demonstrates an incredible diversity of sound and colour, proving that this practice, born over 500 years ago, is still alive today. From this rare testimony of elegance, a simple melody composed at the heart of the Renaissance can still create an intense emotional experience.

The solo instrumentalists are **Doron Sherwin** (cornetto), **Julien Martin** (recorder), **Josh Cheatham** (viola da gamba) and **Skip Sempé** (harpsichord). These stars of the international early music scene are accompanied by two newly-created instrumental consorts, the Capriccio Stravagante Viols and the Capriccio Stravagante Recorders. Mr. Sherwin is also the composer of several of the new embellishments, including works by Pierre Sandrin, Cipriano de Rore and Orlando di Lasso.

The Italian madrigals and Franco-Flemish chansons on which the “diminution” repertoire was based included some of the most popular, beautiful and memorable music of the entire sixteenth century. Many of these works by composers such as Palestrina, Rore, Sandrin, Arcadelt and Lasso survived in dozens of arrangements for instrumentalists in the “diminution” form, the instrumental or vocal performance practice of ornamenting a pre-existing melody. *Antico / Moderno* features as many as four contrasting versions of the original works, dating from 1517 to 2009. The creativity of the musicians combined with astonishing instrumental virtuosity underline the demands of this ultra-rare repertoire.

Paradizo's most recent release, *A French Collection*, received ClassicsToday.com's coveted **10/10** rating: “Sempé's fabulous technique and superb sense of timing allow him to shape melodies and ornaments in clear perspective, make agogic adjustments flow, and resolve cadences so that they feel more like points of arrival rather than mere endings.”

For more information and a complete track listing, please visit: www.paradizo.org

Paradizo: Essential Listening

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