

# THE TORONTO CONSORT

## CD REVIEWS

### **The Queen: Music for Elizabeth I** (Marquis, 2009)

"The Toronto Consort's new recording of music of Queen Elizabeth I is a welcome addition to the English Renaissance discography. Their performance is finely polished and beautifully presented. The singers in consort deserve high praise for their excellent ensemble sound."

—*Harmonia Early Music*, Indiana

### **The Da Vinci Collection: Italian Music from the Time of Leonardo** (Marquis, 2006)

"The Da Vinci Collection is beautifully put together. It is colourful and spirited, tight, balanced and blended. The jacket notes by Artistic Director David Fallis are well-researched, comprehensive and eye-opening. And the recorded sound here is demonstration quality. You feel as if you're in the same room with the Consort – it's vibrant, rich and alive. A high-class act."

—*Rick Phillips, CBC Radio "Sound Advice"*

### **The Praetorius Christmas Vespers** (Marquis, 2004)

"The Toronto Consort is a world-class group that has been turning out excellent early music performances and recordings for decades, and this entire production measures up to the ensemble's very high standards ...we're drawn in by the grandeur and resoluteness of the melody, the richness of the harmony, and the full-bodied sound of choir, strings and organ. Throughout, these fine musicians and the excellent musical selections compel our attention."

—*Classics Today.com*

### **Mariners and Milkmaids** (Dorian, 2002)

"This delightful recording is a must for Toronto Consort fans... David Greenberg's engaging fiddling and Alison Melville's playful tootling drive the rollicking swing and swagger."

—*The Wholenote*

### **The Way of the Pilgrim: Medieval Songs of Travel** (Dorian, 2000)

"Together, the medieval instruments, distinctive voices, and spirited arrangements combine with clear, realistic sound that highlights the multi-colored timbres, snappy rhythms, and catchy melodies – an excellent representative program ..."

—*Classics Today.com*

### **O Lusty May** (Dorian, 1999)

"The seven-member Toronto Consort demonstrates the precise phrasing and well-developed sense of blend and balance that mark a mature ensemble of intelligent singers. This recording also offers impressive harpsichord, lute, and recorder performances ... listeners will find this an entertaining and spirited celebration."

—*David Vernier, Amazon.com*

"The dazzling Toronto Consort sing and play as if they had just been let out of their winter hibernation and were ready to make up for lost time. The sound is as razor-sharp as Dorian's are famous for and even more luscious."

—*Early Music News*

**Orlando di Lasso: Chansons and Madrigals** (Dorian, 1997)

"The Toronto Consort's debut on the Dorian label is an unqualified hit, with singing and playing that is unfailingly stylish and enjoyable. The group is able to field an excellent five-voice vocal ensemble; the Consort also contains a first-rate recorder ensemble. In addition there is some excellent work on lute, gamba and organ. Throughout the sonics are warm and spacious. Warmly recommended."

—*Continuo Magazine*

**Full Well She Sang** (SRI, 1993)

"Full Well She Sang is a real gem, an inspired and joyously executed survey of women's music from the Middle Ages and the Renaissance."

—*Toronto Star*

"With grace and ease, we move from medieval *cantiga* to Renaissance madrigal. Instrumental accompaniment, as well as instrumental pieces, all are impeccably rendered, not a hair (or note) out of place here. A particularly satisfying performance."

—*Harmonia*, Washington