La Spagna

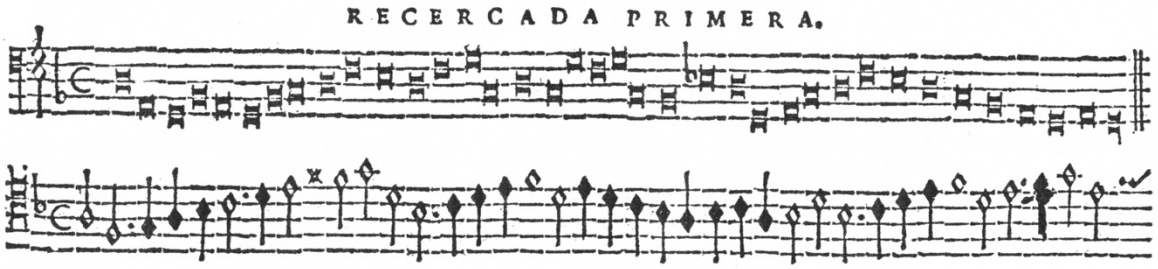
Italian and Spanish music from the 16th and 17th centuries

Margaret Little, viola da gamba
Antoine Malette-Chénier, triple harp





Mediterranean songs and dances for bass viol and harp: plucked and bowed strings unite in a bouquet of vivid colors and funky rhythms! Margaret et Antoine created this program as well as the exciting new arrangements. Both musicians enhance the performance with comments and anecdotes, for the greatest pleasure of the audience.



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PROGRAMME

Recercadas primera, quarta, ottava	Diego Ortiz (1510-1570)
La Spagna – 3 versions	Diego Ortiz
Recercada quinta Recercada primera sobre « O felici occhi miei » Recercada secunda	Diego Ortiz
"Ancidetemi pur per l'arpa"	Giovanni Maria Trabaci (c. 1575 – 1647)
Torneo / Marionas	Lucas Ruiz de Ribayaz (1626 - ?)
Canarios	Gaspar de Sanz (1640-1710)
La Tarantella	Lucas Ruiz de Ribayaz (1626 - ?)

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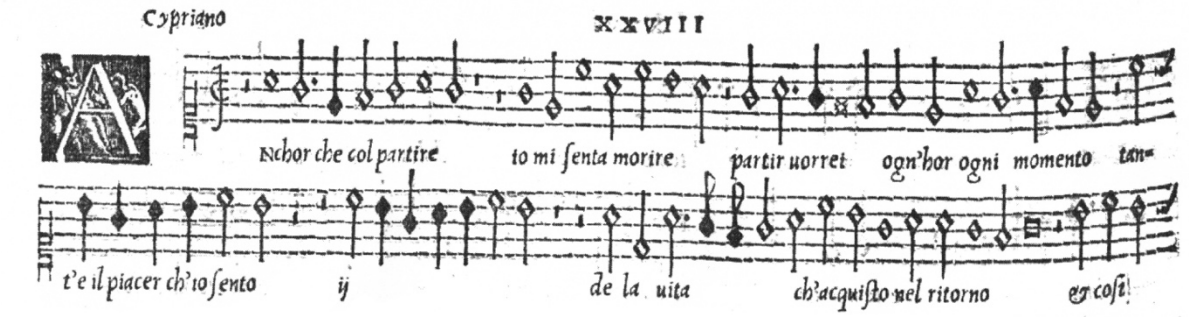
Ricercata per viola bastarda	Aurelio Virgiliano (c. 1540-c. 1600)
Vestiva i Colli	Bartolomeo de Selma e Salaverde (ca. 1595 – après 1638)
« Ancor che col partire »	Antonio de Cabezón (1510-1566)
Diminutions sur « Ancor che col partire »	Giovanni Bassano (c. 1561 – 1617)
Diminutions sur « Ancor che col partire »	Ricardo Rogniono (c.1555 – c.1620)
Un Sarao de la Chacona	Juan Arañés (¿ - c. 1649)
Ciaccona	Bernardo Storace (c. 1637 – c. 1707)



MARGARET LITTLE



Margaret Little is one of the leading figures on the viola da gamba scene in Canada and internationally. Renowned for her deep artistic commitment, musical intelligence, and expressive clarity of playing, she has devoted her career to promoting the viola da gamba, both as a soloist and in ensembles. She also plays the baroque viola.

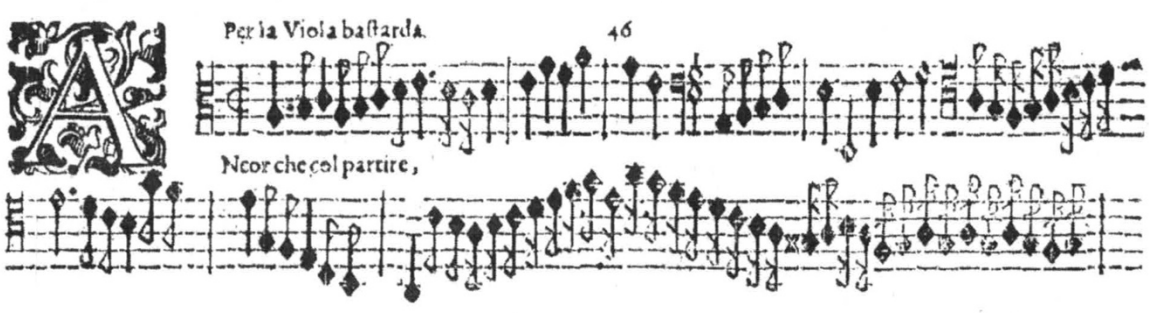
In the 1990s, Margaret founded the viola da gamba ensemble Les Voix humaines with Susie Napper. Together for more than thirty years, they have redefined the art of the viola duo, recording over forty albums and performing on stages around the world. Their musical complicity has made them outstanding ambassadors for the viola repertoire. They have earned critical acclaim and several prestigious awards (Prix Opus, Adisq, Diapason d'Or, etc.).

More recently, Margaret has been playing in a duo with Christophe Gauthier (harpsichord), Sylvain Bergeron (lute), and Antoine Malette-Chénier (harp). She has explored the dialogue between music and dance with Stéphanie Brochard and contributed to the creation of the show Atempor/elle. She performs frequently on both sides of the Atlantic, either as a soloist or with ensembles such as the Studio de musique ancienne de Montréal, Clavecin en Concert, Les Violons du Roy, Les Boréades, Pallade Musica, Les Idées Heureuses, the Spinoza and Poiesis ensembles, and Capriccio Stravagante. She has performed in concert with renowned soloists such as Skip Sempé, Jordi Savall, Wieland Kuijken, Barthold Kuijken, Charles Daniels, Suzie LeBlanc, and Daniel Taylor. She is regularly invited to perform the viola da gamba solos in J. S. Bach's Passions with various orchestras.

Margaret has recorded over a hundred albums (mainly on the ATMA label), including three solo albums, the most recent of which is devoted to J. S. Bach's sonatas for viola da gamba and obbligato harpsichord with Christophe Gauthier.

She has taught viola da gamba at Concordia University, Cegep Saint-Laurent, and Université de Montréal, where she has trained several young up-and-coming violists. In the summer, she teaches at the CAMMAC Music Centre. She gives workshops and master classes in Canada, the United States, Australia, Japan, and Mexico. Margaret regularly serves on juries for the Conseil des Arts et des Lettres du Québec, the Conseil des Arts de Montréal, Musicaction, and the Mathieu Duguay Competition in Lamèque.

Margaret Little plays a seven-string bass viol made by Judith Kraft and Bernard Prunier in Paris (1982) based on Colichon. Her bows are made by Quebec bow maker Louis Bégin.



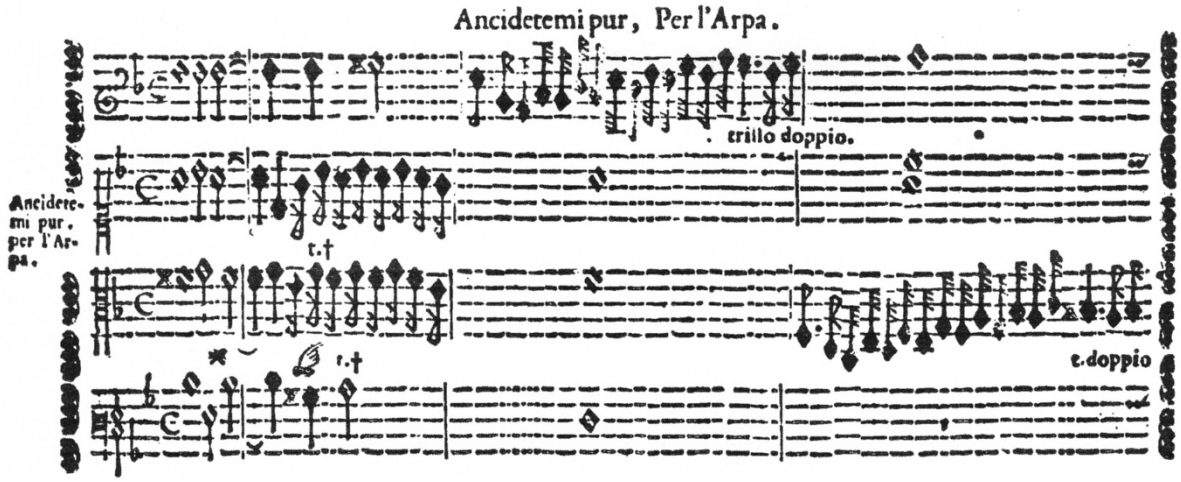


ANTOINE MALETTE-CHÉNIER

Bringing his musical expertise and creativity to every field in which he engages, Canadian harpist Antoine Malette-Chénier plays a repertoire ranging from the Renaissance and the Baroque, on period instruments, to contemporary creations. An active orchestral musician, Antoine is Principal Harp with the Orchestre symphonique de Trois-Rivières, and has played with many ensembles in Canada, France, and the United States, including the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal, Les Violons du Roy, the Nouvel Ensemble Moderne, and Les Voix humaines.

Antoine has won many awards, including the 2014 Michael Measures prize from the Canada Council for the Arts, a first prize at the 2013 Orchestre symphonique de Montréal Competition, and two scholarships from the National Arts Centre Orchestra. As the winner of top prizes in several concerto competitions, he was awarded solo appearances with orchestras in Canada, Hungary, France, and the United States. He was a guest artist at the 2007 Ottawa International Chamber Music Festival, and at the 11th World Harp Congress in 2011, in Vancouver. He received the Prize for the best performance of a work, all styles, at the Prix d'Europe Competition in Montréal in 2012, as well as the Second Prize, and the Jury's Prize in 2017.

Antoine Malette-Chénier, a graduate of McGill University and the Université de Montréal, holds master's degrees in harp performance from Yale University, and in historical harp performance from the Conservatoire national supérieur de musique et danse de Lyon.



TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

- *Access to the rehearsal room: four hours before the concert.*
- *A straight-backed chair with a flat seat or an adjustable piano bench*
- *We will bring our own music stands*
- *Adequate stage lighting to see our scores, but we can also bring music stand lights.*
- *Light lighting in the hall so that we can see the audience.*