

Ensemble Canto Fiorito

Vilnius based early music ensemble *Canto Fiorito* started its activities in 2013. Lead by internationally renowned cornett and recorder player Rodrigo Calveyra, the ensemble is dedicated to research and performance of the Renaissance and Baroque music, with focus on the musical production of the first half of the XVII century in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania and the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth.

The Italian masters who lived in the region and the local composers, strongly influenced by the previous ones, represent the core of the ensemble's musical activities. Soon after its establishment, *Canto Fiorito* became the most active early music ensemble in Lithuania and the only one continuously contributing to the early music education in the country, giving commented educational concerts, lectures, seminars and master-classes for children, students, teachers and others.



In 2014 *Canto Fiorito* released a CD with the music of Giovanni Battista Cocciola, the composer of the XVIIth century Vilnius. Most of the tracks in the CD were world premiers. In 2015-2016 in collaboration with ensembles *Norwegian Cornetts and Sackbuts* and *Musica Antiqua Salzburg*, the ensemble presented Lithuanian musical heritage in Norway, Austria and Slovenia. In 2017 the artistic leader Rodrigo Calveyra initiated International Kretinga Early Music Festival, which was organised by *Canto Fiorito* and dedicated to the oldest organ in Lithuania (dating 1680). The same year *Canto Fiorito* presented a premier of the earliest surviving German opera – Johann Sebastiani's *Pastorello musicale*, the manuscript of which was found in Vilnius library, and performed in the Stockholm Early Music Festival Christmas Edition. Supported by the EU Creative Europe Program, *Canto Fiorito* will run an international concert tour *The Hanseatic Way: a Musical Journey through the Shared Past* in 7 European countries in 2018.