


Corvus Corax
DIE KÖNIGE DER SPIELLEUTE

The new album

VENUS VINA MUSICA



Release 07.07.2006

C/P 2006 PICA MUSIC distributed by Soulfood Music Distribution GmbH

"Venus Vina Musica" - that what life makes worthy to live is "lust, wine and music"!

That's the credo of the new studio record of the Kings of Minstrels - Corvus Corax.

Almost a year ago, Corvus Corax surprised the public with their terrific orchestra opus "Cantus Buranus". They had worked together with a big symphonic orchestra and three choirs and created a connection from medieval music to classical music to modern music.

Now the 7 musicians are back with a musical journey around the world of the 13th century.

In the center of attention is the odyssey of a travelling minstrel who was obsessed by the need of finding the legendary dancer "Sanyogita". In those days it was claimed that this Indian princess was supposed to be the most beautiful woman of the world.

In search of this dream woman, he was wandering through Europe, North Africa and Asia Minor to alien lands in the East about which Marco Polo had told after his journey along the side road.

During his long lasting wanderings, the minstrel got to know fascinating foreign cultures. At campfires he listened to astonishing stories of other countries and heard the sound of the

strangest instruments and melodies. That way he extended his musical repertoire all the time.

800 years later, Corvus Corax revives this time with their new cd "Venus Vina Musica" and they take us on the journey of the minstrel to foreign countries and cultures in the 13th century.

At the beginning, you listen to an old spell that promised cure against headaches. This, in Europe common, "formula" asked you to write "Lion, lioness, taurus, tiger, raven, and panther" on a papyrus scroll. You have to convolve it, attach it silently to your head, then scream these names one after another into the night and here we go the headaches are gone.

"Venus Vina Musica" is the "home music" of our hero who lived somewhere in the area between today's Germany and Hungary. It's quasi his personal anthem. Because he was, of course, not a child of sadness and he really knew how to enjoy life.

He discovered Indian and Tibetan sounds in the lands of his dreams, the birthplace of the legendary "Sanyogita".

"Tuska" brings us nearer to the music of the gypsies who was met by our minstrel again and again on his journey and who travelled around like him.

On his wanderings he heard different reports where his wanted lady was seen. She was also always on different places and indulged the senses of men with her dancing in different areas. That is why he went to the southern Balkans where he heard the melody of "Katrinka" during an excessive booze-up. A few months later, he stopped in Brittany and there he had the idea for "Terzio".

His furthest journey took him to a land that even Marco Polo didn't know and that was settled by proud warriors who are known today as Samurai. He was very impressed by the art of drumming, he experienced there, and connected this experience with the not minor amazing sounds of the Himalaya mountain plateau.

In the Arabian area, he met the famous man of science Cāfīn`ddīn al "Urmawī" who gave him a wonderful instrumental song as a 'Thank you' for their long conversations.

Lastly, a song that the minstrel got to know under special conditions:

He joined some friars on their pilgrims` way for a while. To his astonishment, they had quite special problems with his excessive way of life because they sang an old traditional song brought to them by Augustinus, when they were caught by the carnal desire by his bad example: The sorrow about abstinence "Lamentatio Coelibatus".

Corvus Corax succeeded with bagpipes, drums and the use of instruments from different countries to bring these wanderings of the minstrels in the 13th century extremely alive to one`s ear.

Everybody is responsible for "Venus" and "Vina" - the "Musica" for this comes from Corvus Corax, the Kings of Minstrels!

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