



### **HISTORIA SANCTI OLAVI**

Consortium Vocale Oslo, Graces & Voices / Alexander M. Schweitzer, Adrija Cepaite and Antanina Kalechyts (dirs)  
Lawo Classics LWC 1106

(2CDs)

[61:12; 43:00]



The St Olav cult plays an important role in Norwegian religious life. These 30 mostly very short pieces, meant to be sung at the canonical hours on the saint's feast day (July 29), are taken from a complete manuscript dating back to the early 16th century and held in the National Library of Sweden in Stockholm. The current project and collaboration between Consortium Vocale Oslo and Graces & Voices was made as part of an EU lifelong learning programme dedicated to the study of Gregorian chant; it presumably also draws on the recent researches into the Office of St Olav by Eyolf Østrem in Uppsala. The two ensembles alternate duties most comfortably, especially in the extended Matins. There are detailed liner notes tracing the history of both cult and music. Absorbing and very spiritual.

BRIAN MORTON