

[FLORIBUS MUSICAE]

The many flowers of the musical garden

The group Floribus Musicae was created in late 2016 by the artistic encounter of harpsichordist and musicologist Rodolfo Zitellini and singer Ayako Ono. Together they decided to re-discover and perform the lesser known repertoire of the seventeenth century. In their recent activity they concentrated in performing music from Bologna, with particular regard to Maurizio Cazzati.

The group recently expanded to include countertenor Toshiyuki Muramatsu and harpist Mikari Shibukawa to further enhance their repertoire and bridge between secular and sacred music.

Ayako Ono was born at Sendai City in Japan. She studied in the department of Vocal music at the Miyagi Gakuin Woman's University of Music in 2005 with Yoko Fuda and Hirohisa Tuji. She became member of Cannons Concert Chamber Choir since 2006, winning an audition organized by the Handel Festival Japan. She sang as soloist in Handel Messiah, and in many cantatas by Bach.

Since 2014, she perfects baroque singing at the Civica Scuola Claudio Abbado of Milano with Roberto Balconi. She also worked, as a singer, under the direction of Lorenzo Ghielmi, Antonio Frigé and Mara Galassi. She regularly takes part in "Il canto di Orfeo", directed by Gianluca Capuano. She sang at various events in the city, around Italy and abroad, including the World Exposition (EXPO 2015), the Festival Barocco di Roma 2016, Milano Arte Musica, and regularly performs in the Duomo of Milano. She also participates as soloist in the group Multa Paucis (Fribourg, Switzerland), debuting in November 2016.

Toshiyuki Muramatsu was born at Kyoto City in Japan. He graduated and studied in the department of Vocal music at the Tokyo University of the Arts in 2015 with Yoko Naoko Ihara and Chieko Teratani. He sang as soloist in Handel Messiah, and in many cantatas by Bach. He also sang Cherubino in Mozart's *Le nozze di Figaro* and Flavio in Haendel's Flavio and Unulfo in Haendel's *Rodelinda*. Since 2016 he studies baroque singing at the Conservatorio Guido Cantelli in Novara with Roberto Balconi.

Mikari Shibukawa was educated at Kunitachi College of Music in Tokyo and then specialised in Medieval and Renaissance music at the Schola Cantorum in Basel (Switzerland). Subsequent to the three-year diploma in 2008, in 2016 she got her Masters' diploma in Baroque harp with Mara Galassi from the Civica Scuola "Claudio Abbado" in Milan.

She has taken part in a number of opera projects with Egon Mihajlović and Roberto Balconi (*L'Orfeo* and *L'incoronazione di Poppea* by Claudio Monteverdi, *L'Euridice* by Jacopo Peri, *Dido and Aeneas* by Henry Purcell) in Slovenia,

Montenegro and Italy. She has performed as a soloist and as a member of Medieval, Renaissance and Baroque music ensembles in Europe (in Italy, Switzerland and Germany), as well as in Japan. She is also a member of “Euphrosine,” an ensemble specializing in fifteenth-century music.

Rodolfo Zitellini, M.A., studied Harpsichord at the Conservatorio of Bologna (Italy) and graduated in Musicology at the Université de Fribourg (Switzerland). At the same time he specialized in the field of computer sciences, in which he has been active in various subfields for the last decade. As musicologist his primary interest is northern Italian sacred music from the second half of the seventeenth century. In this context he published critical editions, articles and is artistic director for various CD recording projects. In the computer sciences field he now is an active researcher on digital humanities and digital catalogs. He is currently collaborator at RISM Switzerland where he is, among various other projects, the principal developer of Muscat, the cataloguing system for RISM (Répertoire International des Sources Musicales).