

MICHAL GONDKO

Michal Gondko is founder and *spiritus movens* of LA MORRA, Ensemble for Late Medieval and Early Renaissance music. He specializes in performance on Medieval and Renaissance instruments of the lute family.

He received classical guitar training in his native Poland, but eventually abandoned the guitar in order to focus on early plucked instruments.

His earliest professional experiences with 'early music' include an anthology of late Renaissance 'Polish' lute music, recorded in 1997, but released six years later and voted Early Music Release of the Year 2003 by the Polish Recording Producers' Association.

Based since 1997 in Basel, he graduated from the *Schola Cantorum Basiliensis*, where he studied Renaissance lute (with Hopkinson Smith) and medieval plucked instruments (with Crawford Young).

With LA MORRA claiming most of his time and energy, he nevertheless finds room for other projects and has appeared as accompanist and continuo player with various singers and ensembles (including Jordi Savall's *La Capella Reial de Catalunya*).

As a soloist, he is primarily interested in exploring neglected repertoire for Renaissance lute. A release of music from fifteenth- and early sixteenth-century German keyboard and lute sources (recorded together with Corina Marti) is due to appear in March 2008.