



Giovanni Vianini organist and director of the:

SCHOLA GREGORIANA MEDIOLANENSIS

>Gregorian chant - Ambrosian chant

9th / 13th c.



Aged 65, Milanese, of Cremonese stock, he began his musical activity at 8 as choir boy, *contralto*, in the Cappella Musicale of Milan cathedral conducted by Master Pietro Dentella. At present he works in Milan in the field of sacred vocal and instrumental liturgical music.

As an organist and organ scholar, he has built three organs operated by mechanic shafting; as he diversified his musical competence over time, he turned to the study of medieval music (playing the psalter and the Provençal harp), and to Renaissance music, studying wind instruments (dulciana, cromorni, chalmey, straight flutes)

† His musical commitment mainly focuses on the study, spread and liturgical practice of Ambrosian and Gregorian Chant. As director of the Schola Gregoriana Mediolanensis he established in 1981, made up of 50 cantors, each year he holds a free introductory course on Ambrosian and Gregorian Chant (100 participants). For ten years he was director and conductor of the Cappella Musicale of St Mark's Basilica in Milan performing at many liturgical events and sacred music concerts; he also organised the cycle Gregorian Chant and sacred polyphony entitled "Primavera musicale in S. Marco" ["Music for Spring in St Mark's"].

Over all he has a 49-year experience of liturgical service as a choir cantor, as organist and choir director. Every second Sunday of the month, the schola provides liturgical service at the 5.30pm Mass at the Cistercian abbey of [Chiaravalle Milanese](#) with a Gregorian Chant programme. Every fourth Sunday of the month, he directs the schola at the 6.30pm Mass in [St Mark's Basilica](#) in Milan with an Ambrosian Chant programme. He conducts several concerts in Italy as well as in Switzerland. Concerts are also held at the Cistercian abbeys of Morimondo, Chiaravalle Milanese, Rivalta Scrivia, as well as at the Basilica of S. Maria Maggiore in Lomello near Pavia, at the Basilica of S. Maria delle Grazie in Milan, at the Certosa di Pavia, at the Sala Colonne (Columns' Hall) of the the Museo Scienza e Tecnica Leonardo da Vinci (the Milan Leonardo Science and Technology Museum). etc.

For 20 years he played as organist at the 6pm Mass in S. Tecla Parish Church in Milan Cathedral, from which he quit in 1997. He often travels for singing in the Benedictine and Cistercian abbeys of France, Switzerland and Spain.

Each year he also travels for study and research to the Benedictines of Einsiedeln to study with Pater Roman Banwarth O.S.B., to Solesmes to study with Dom Jean Claire O.S.B., to S. Domingo de Silos to study with José Luis Anglo O.S.B. to Montserrat to study with Dom Ireneu Segarra O.S.B, to La Trappe to study with Dom Lionel, to Cremona to study with Prof. Giacomo Baroffio.



His publications for Curci Publishers in Milan include: 10 vols. of vocal and instrumental music; recordings for Eco, Rusty record, River record, Reader's Digest, St Paul's Audiovisuals include: 2 LPs of organ music; 3 compact-discs of sacred polyphony and 22 compact-discs of Ambrosian and Gregorian chant. In October 2000, at Milan University he received a medal from the Archbishop of Milan Cardinal Martini, as a sign of distinction and of gratitude for his works in the field of Ambrosian and Gregorian chant.

In March 2001 RAI-TV Tg3 devoted a TV special broadcast within the series "ITALIE [Italies]" to Giovanni Vianini – Gregorian Chant, a dream come true." At the Cistercian abbey of Chiaravalle Milanese in May 2002, he recorded a video with a Mass in Gregorian Chant, " Dominus illuminatio mea" Psalm 26, ed. PATERTV – communication systems for the new Evangelisation. In September 2002, he completed a digital edition of Ambrosian chant both in square and in round notation transcribing 40 antiphones, hymns and responsorials.

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Rehearsals SCHOLA GREGORIANAMEDIOLANENSIS:

Università Card. Colombo - [Basilica di S. Marco](#) Milano, p.zza S. Marco 2, Milan (rehearsals Weds 9-11pm)