

The quest of the renowned conductor Paul Van Nevel into the world of the polyphonists

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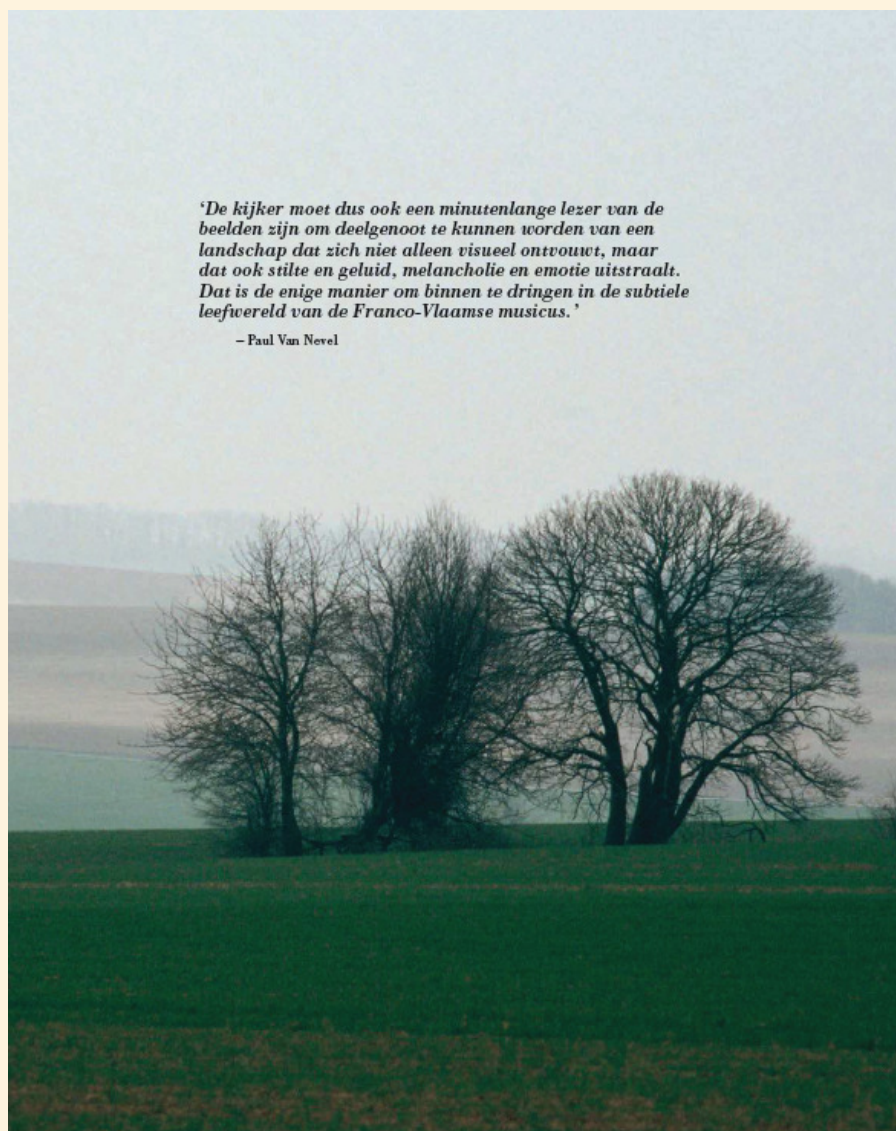
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'The viewer must therefore immerse himself in the images in order to be able to become part of a landscape that not only visually unfolds, but which also exudes silence and sound, melancholy and emotion. This is the only way to enter the subtle world of the Franco-Flemish musician.'

- Paul Van Nevel

Josquin Desprez, Guillaume Dufay, Orlando Lassus... These are just a few of the world famous polyphonists, or 'Franco-Flamands', who have left an indelible mark on the evolution of polyphonic music in Europe. With his group the Huelgas Ensemble Paul Van Nevel has been performing their music around the world for nearly 50 years.

In doing so, he gradually became increasingly fascinated by the fact that all these composers and singers came from one region – the south of Flanders, Hainaut and northern France. His book attempts to give an answer to the question of what influence the physical and cultural landscapes had on the personal and musical evolution of these polyphonists. And how ultimately it is the landscape, with its melancholy and rhythm, that has been most consequential for the aesthetics of their music.



'De kijker moet dus ook een minutenlange lezer van de beelden zijn om deelgenoot te kunnen worden van een landschap dat zich niet alleen visueel ontvouwt, maar dat ook stilte en geluid, melancholie en emotie uitstraalt. Dat is de enige manier om binnen te dringen in de subtiële leefwereld van de Franco-Vlaamse musicus.'

- Paul Van Nevel

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