

The cantus firmus vocal ensemble & consort was formed in spring 2001 by the swiss conductor Andreas Reize. The ensemble's repertoire is varied, with both an emphasis on the baroque period and the classics but through to the early romantics. Cantus firmus vocal ensemble & consort concerts are received with great enthusiasm both by general and specialist audiences.

The vocal ensemble consists of purely professional singers and distinguishes itself by using fewer individual voices, allowing maximum flexibility. One of the main foci lies in baroque music, with a main aim of performing masterpieces authentically according to source research and in the original voice allocation. Performances of the J.S. Bach BWV 225-230 motets in 2005 were broadcast on Swiss Radio DRS 2 and are also available as media recordings.

The cantus firmus consort – an orchestra of historical instruments – consists of instrumentalists who were already grappling intensively with questions of authentic historical performance during their studies and who have gained much experience in internationally renowned ensembles for early music. Instrumentalisation and equipment are adjusted to suit the practical demands of performing a 17th century to early romantic repertoire. The consort performs both as an individual acoustic body and yet provides an appropriate partnership with the cantus firmus vocal ensemble, too.

Since its founding, cantus firmus has had great successes with a-cappella concerts, passions, cantata, symphony concerts and its very own opera production at Waldegg castle. There have been invitations to the International Summer Academy for Early Music in Innsbruck, Migros Club House concerts and to the Bach Weeks in Amsoldingen, while the recording of J.J. Rousseau's "Le Devin du Village" was produced on the German label cpo and judged by a whole variety of international magazines to be exceptional.

Furthermore, cantus firmus vocal ensemble & consort and its conductor Andreas Reize, with the baroque opera "Le Devin du Village", are counted amongst the winning projects of Geneva's advertised project contest for Rousseau Year 2012. cantus firmus will perform the opera in January/February 2012 at the Grand Théâtre in Geneva. Additional shows with guest performances are planned, amongst others, in Paris and Venice.