

*Marchetto and Prodocimo: A Musician and an Astronomer on Music in Medieval Padua*

Monday 18 November 2013 • Lilly Library, 5:00 pm

Marchetto was a choirmaster in Padua in the early 14th century; Prodocimo de Beldemandis an astronomer, physician, and professor of arts and medicine at the university in that city in the early 15th century. Both wrote extensively on music, covering many of the same topics (Prodocimo wrote on arithmetic, geometry, and astronomy as well). Their music treatises are well known among students of medieval music and deemed essential for its understanding; but their experiences of music, their views of it, and their attitudes toward it were very different. The talk traces their differences—even conflicts—of opinion, and will include images of medieval manuscripts and audio clips of pieces each writer would have known.

*Marchetto of Padua: The Legacy of a 14th-Century Musician and Theorist*

Wednesday 20 November 2013 • School of Music, Ford-Crawford Hall, 4:45 pm

The two major music treatises of Marchetto of Padua (*fl.* 1305–19) were pioneering in their treatment of rhythmic notation and highly innovative in their treatments of chromaticism, tuning, and mode. They were widely copied into late-medieval manuscripts, and ideas traceable to Marchetto pepper 15th-century Italian writings on music. His influence faded after 1500, when print replaced manuscript as the primary medium of dissemination. The talk traces the recovery of his theory from 1740 to the present, with particular focus on the roles of 18th- and 19th-century writers, including Charles Burney and Hugo Riemann. It will be illustrated with images of medieval manuscripts and documents from the 18th and 19th centuries.