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## **Decentering Gagaku. Exploring the multiplicity of contemporary Japanese Court music**

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## CURRICULUM VITAE

Andrea Giolai was born on 29 December 1986 in Castelfranco Veneto, Italy. Between 2000 and 2005, he attended the Liceo Classico G.B. Brocchi high school in Bassano del Grappa. Subsequently, he obtained a BA (2008) and an MA (2011) in Japanese Studies from Ca' Foscari University of Venice (both cum laude). His MA dissertation, co-supervised by ethnomusicologist Daniele Sestili (former Sapienza University in Rome), focused on the context and contents of the *Mikagura no gi* ritual included in the repertoire of *gagaku* or "Japanese court music". Andrea started playing modern transverse flute in middle school, and in 2009 he obtained a Diploma (MA in Musicology, full marks) from the A. Steffani Conservatory of Music in Castelfranco Veneto. In 2012, he started a double PhD degree at Ca' Foscari University and Leiden University, supervised by Prof. Bonaventura Ruperti and by Prof. Katarzyna Cwierotka. The project focused on the many incarnations of *gagaku* in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, and retraced the genealogy of its modern equation with "Japanese court music". Between 2013 and 2014, Andrea spent a year at the Sociology Department of Kyoto University, conducting participant observation as a member of the amateur *gagaku* group Nanto gakuso in Nara. Back in Europe, he taught *Introduction to Japanese Performing Arts* at Leiden and held ethnomusicology seminars at various music therapy schools in Italy. In 2015 and 2016, with the financial support of the Japan Foundation, he was a Research Fellow at the Research Centre for Japanese Traditional Music of Kyoto City University of Arts. Presently, Andrea is working on two comparative projects that will focus on the relationship between *gagaku* and Euro-American music. Besides *ryūteki*, he plays baroque flute and bansuri.