

LANDINI [LANDINO], FRANCESCO - [Magister Franciscus Cecus; “Il Cieco”; “Francesco degli organi”]



14thc blind Italian organist, organ consultant, composer, philosopher and poet, one of the earliest named organists of consequence in Italy.

*c1325 Fiesole? Firenze? (I:) of a “good family”, his father was a painter, an aristocratic profession at the time

1364 during the festivities arranged for Petrarch’s visit to Venezia *L* was crowned by the Doge, possibly as victor in a contest with Pesaro, organist at San Marco.

†1397 Sep 2 San Lorenzo (I:). Buried in the San Lorenzo church.

Very much the “Renaissance man.”, *L* was particularly known in association with the [organetto](#), and that essentially on account of literary references to him and his beautiful, decorative tombstone. The “*L* cadence”, a feature of much medieval music, was named after him. He was organist at [Firenze, SS. Annunziata](#) where he designed and maintained the organ. In the Squarcialupi Codex, at the beginning of the section devoted to *L*’s pieces, there is a portrait of him playing the organetto.

His tombstone is a work of art reflecting either his own wealth, or that of a very appreciative donor or patron. The blind eyes and the organetto are striking features.