

La Folia Baroque Orchestra

In the Baroque age, the term *la folia* stood for boldness, wildness, enthusiasm and lust, as well as an artistic attitude of freedom and exuberant creativity.

Since its foundation in 2007, La Folia Baroque Orchestra has been reviving the international music scene on historical instruments with these very attributes, literally causing a sensation. Whether with chamber music or late Baroque opulence, with instrumental music or in collaboration with vocal soloists, the young ensemble, together with its founder and concertmaster Robin Peter Müller, always stands for vital and rousing interpretations of the 17th and 18th centuries' music. Historically informed, the musicians of La Folia Baroque Orchestra are constantly looking for ways to bring the emotions and content of past centuries to life in the present. Liveliness, pictoriality, joy in playing, but also respect for music and the certainty of its intense impact are views of the Baroque period, which as an insight underpin the interpretations of this ensemble.

In just a few years, La Folia Baroque Orchestra has enthused audiences and the press alike. The ensemble performed with great success at the Berliner and Kölner Philharmonie, the Herkulessaal München, the Laieszhalle Hamburg, the Stadtcasino Basel and the Musikverein Graz and Wien. It also performed at the International Opera Festival in the Polish Bydgoszcz, the International Handel Festival Göttingen, the Mozart Festival Würzburg, the Dresden Music Festival and the Grafenegg Festival. The ensemble regularly collaborates with renowned instrumentalists and singers, such as Hille Perl, the Vienna Boys' Choir, Regula Mühlemann, Mahan Esfahani and Jan Vogler, Dorothee Oberlinger, Dorothee Miels, Anna Prohaska, Maurice Steger and Stefan Temmingh.

After several live productions for the German broadcasting services BR, NDR and MDR, the ensemble's debut CD for the label Deutsche Harmonia Mundi/Sony with *Concerti Furiosi* by Antonio Vivaldi was released in February 2014 and met with an enthusiastic response. Together with cellist Jan Vogler, the ensemble also released the Venetian cello concertos by Caldara, Porpora, Vivaldi and Marcello in 2014 for the label Sony Classical. In 2015, La Folia Baroque Orchestra fulfilled its heartfelt wish and recorded Antonio Vivaldi's *Le quattro stagioni* for the label Stockfisch Records. In 2017, the CDs *Cleopatra* with Regula Mühlemann, *Händel* with Dorothee Miels and

Hille Perl, as well as *Anonymus* with rediscovered violin concertos by the Dresdner Hof and Robin Peter Müller followed at DHM / Sony were released.

The highlights of the season 2016/2017 included the ensemble's guest performances at the Festival Oude Muziek Utrecht, the Music Festival Erzgebirge, the Bucharest Early Music Festival in Romania, the Al Bustan Festival Beirut in Lebanon, the Thuringian Bach Weeks and the first collaboration with Anna Prohaska at the Dresden Music Festival.

The highlights of 2019 were among other concerts in Lucerne and Nuremberg, at the Bach Festival Leipzig, the Innsbruck Festival of Early Music, the Bremen Music Festival, the Haendel Festival Halle and the Dresden Music Festival.

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