

ORCHESTRA OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY // PROJECTS 2026-27

9 - 15 August 2026

ACIS & GALATEA

with Benjamin Perry Wenzelberg, conductor // Soloists tbc incl. Matthew Rose, bass

A top line-up of international soloists, young singers from the Britten Pears Summer School, a rising-star conductor and the specialists of the Orchestra of the 18th Century give a fresh and energetic impulse to Handel's attractive pastorale, here in the Mozart arrangement.

Orchestration: 23 instrumentalists

1 - 7 October 2026

with Yuliana Avdeeva, piano

Chopin specialist and star pianist Yulianna Avdeeva and the Orchestra of the 18th Century are a proven and winning combination, with album releases and a very successful recent tour to Japan to their name. This program presents one of Chopin's more unusual and exciting works, together with his Piano Concerto no.2 and the wonderful Italian symphony of Mendelssohn. Period instruments and recent insights into performance practice give a new colour to this ever-popular repertoire.

- F. Mendelssohn: Hebrides (Overture), Op. 26
- F. Chopin: Piano Concerto No. 2 in F minor, Op. 21
- F. Chopin: Andante spianato et grande polonaise brillante in E-flat major, Op. 22
- F. Mendelssohn: Symphony No. 4 in A major ('Italian'), Op. Posth. 90, MWV N 16

Orchestration: 30-35 instrumentalists

1 - 10 December 2026

FRENCH CHAOS: THE BIRTH OF THE SYMPHONY

with Emmanuel Resche-Caserta, violin & musical leader // Deborah Cachet, soprano

Rameau is some of the repertoire most identified with the orchestra from the past. Now they take a deep dive into this wonderful repertoire with French violinist and repertoire specialist Emmanuel Resche-Caserta, one of the new generation following in the path of William Christie. In this 3-year collaboration, Resche and the orchestra will present well-researched and exciting programs centered around well-known and also little-heard repertoire.

J. F. Rebel: Le Chaos et les Élémens

M. R. Delalande: Suite from Les Élémens

J. P. Rameau: Ouverture de Naïs

L. N. Clérambault: Cantata Le soleil Vainqueur des Nuages

Orchestration tbc

December 2026

MESSIAH

with Klaas Stok, conductor // NDR choir // Soloists tbc

A classic work and Christmas favorite, here in the lesser-performed Mozart version, with the great German NDR choir led by their chief conductor Klaas Stok and with a top lineup of soloists.

W. A. Mozart after G. F. Handel: Der Messias, KV 572

February 2027

COMBATTIMENTO

with Richard Egarr, conductor // Ian Bostridge, tenor // Anna Prohaska, soprano // Choreography TBC

B. Strozzi: Piece tbc

C. Monteverdi: Il Combattimento di Tancredi e Clorinda

Orchestration: 11 instrumentalists

March 2027

HAYDN WITH FLEMISH RADIO CHOIR

with Bart van Reyn, conductor // Flemish Radio Choir

Following in the footsteps of the much more famous Stabat Mater from Pergolesi, this dramatic and moving work depicts in full musical colour the last breaths of a suffering son and the raw human pain of a bereaved mother. A perfect match with O18c and to be beautifully cast, this alternative Easter work, written for Good Friday in Esterhazy, uses a small line-up of instruments and singers to make a big emotional impact.

J. Haydn: Stabat Mater

J. Haydn: Trauer' symphony (led by concertmaster Alexander Janiczek)

Orchestration: 50 musicians (incl. choir)

April 2027

A Mestastasio Pasticcio

with Jane Glover, conductor // Katharine Dain, soprano // Countertenor tbd

Some of the most beautiful, expressive and spectacular music in the repertoire is written to poems by the great Metastasio. This production combines arias, duets, orchestral music, and poetry. Jane Glover, one of the first grand ladies of conducting and a well-known Mozart specialist, joins the stage together with good musical friend of O18c, soprano Katharine Dain.

Orchestration: 25 instrumentalists

Summer 2027 upon request

Beethoven 1807

with Olga Pashchenko, piano // Conductor tbd

In a polite society salon in March 1807 all these works of Beethoven were heard for the first time, premiered together before they parted ways. At the very same time, acts were being passed in parliaments in both the UK and US to abolish the transatlantic slave trade. This program presents a research-based presentation of a place and moment in musical time, classic Beethoven performed by a top combination of pianist and orchestra, and a hard-hitting confrontation of colliding social worlds represented by visual means.

L. v. Beethoven: Coriolan Overture, Op. 62

L. v. Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 4 in G major, Op. 58

L. v. Beethoven: Symphony No. 4 in Bb major, Op. 60

Orchestration: 32 instrumentalists

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