

B'ROCK ORCHESTRA // PROJECTS 2024-25

6-20 September 2024 & 3-13 October 2024

MISSA SOLEMNIS (200th anniversary)

with René Jacobs, conductor // Zürcher Sing-Akademie // Brigitte Christensen, Sopran // Sophie Harmsen, Alt // Johannes Weisser, Bariton

L. v. Beethoven: Missa Solemnis

December 2024

WEIHNACHTSORATORIUM

with Peter Dijkstra, conductor // Nederlands Kamerkoor // Katharina Conradi, Sopran TBC // Wiebke Lehmkuhl, Alt, // Reinoud van Mechelen, Tenor TBC // Arttu Kataja TBC

J. S. Bach: Christmas Oratorio

February 2025

PERGOLESI + BACH

with René Jacobs, conductor // Sunhae Im, soprano

With works by J. S. Bach and G. B. Pergolesi

1 - 14 May 2025 as well as upon request

SERAPHIM

with Andreas Küppers, harpsichord/organ & artistic direction (Vocal Consort) // Cecilia Bernardini, concertmaster & artistic direction (orchestra) // B'Rock Orchestra & Vocal Consort

With angelic figures as the thematic guiding thread, B'Rock feels its way from the 12th century (with Hildegard von Bingen as the tonal zero point) through the (early) Baroque to the present. The three great Italian baroque composers Chiara Margarita Cozzolani, Barbara Strozzi and Isabella Leonarda are counterbalanced by contemporary works by Sophia Gubaidulina and Annelies van Pary.

Chiara Margarita Cozzolani: Magnificat 1 & 2

Barbara Strozzi: Parasti al dulcedine, No. 8 from Sacri musicali affetti op. 5

Isabella Leonarda: Magnificat

Sophia Gubaidulina: An angel, Duo for double bass and alto

Annelies van Parys: Ah, cette fable !, for solo bassoon and mezzo-soprano

Two variants are possible to complete this programme:

- Either strictly conceptually with exclusively female composers and works by Strozzi, Cozzolani, Leonarda & Lera Auerbach's string sextet "Seraphim Canticles".
- Or anchored in the thematic concept with Buxtehude's cantata "Befiehl dem Engel, dass er komm", as well as J. S. Bach's cantata with solo trumpet "Bleibt ihr Engel, bleibt bei mir".

Availability upon request

THE 5 SEASONS

with Dorothee Oberlinger, artistic direction and recorder

"The wonder has lasted maybe four days or five, and you have wished it would never ever end... late summer, early autumn and that which lies between them both. A whole short span of time in the year.

It is the fifth and most beautiful season."

Inspired by this poem excerpt by Tucholsky, Dorothee Oberlinger and B'Rock have created a programme that complements the Four Seasons with the fifth, the days between late summer and early autumn, musically arranged in a commission to the German-Greek composer Konstantia Gourzi.

Possible combinations:

- Vivaldi's Four Seasons
- Mix between Vivaldi and other composers such as Giovanni Guido (Paris), an arrangement by Nicholas de Chedeville (with Musette as an additional solo instrument), Glass or Cage also possible.

Period TBA

REQUIEM

with **Lionel Meunier**, artistic direction // **Vox Luminis**, choir

W. A. Mozart: Requiem (or Vespers)

J. Haydn: Mass No. 11 in D minor, "Lord Nelson Mass"

Availability upon request

MONTEVERDI IN FLANDERS

with **Andreas Küppers**, artistic direction, and keyboard instruments // **B'Rock Vocal Consort**

Claudio Monteverdi left Italy only twice in his long life. As a member of the court of Vincenzo Gonzaga, the Duke of Mantua, he embarked in 1599 on a journey into the region from which many of his most important musical influences originated: Flanders. B'Rock follows Monteverdi on his trip to Flanders in a program that brings together his most important Flemish influencers and the music, which mirrors these and develops them further and into a new age.

With works by C. Monteverdi, J. Desprez, A. Willaert, O. di Lasso, G. de Wert

8 singers, 5 musicians

Availability upon request

LIFE & STORYTELLING (WORKING TITEL)

with **Jeanine de Bique**, soprano // **Andreas Küppers**, artistic direction and keyboard instruments // **B'Rock Vocal Consort**

Versatile Jeanine de Bique, the adventurous sister in mind of B'Rock, joins the ensemble for an evening full of change and metamorphosis: transformative experiences of opera protagonists form a kaleidoscope of different life-changing (or ending) experiences. Interwoven with baroque funeral anthems (from life to death), Jeanine de Bique, B'Rock orchestra, and Vocal Consort present musical storytelling at its best.

With works by J.-B. Lully, H. Purcell, G. F. Handel

Availability upon request

TEARS OF MELANCHOLY

with **Antoine Tamestit**, direction, viola

In this programme led by lauded French viola player Antoine Tamestit, Dowland's Lachrimae sound like an overture, the prelude to a poignant musical journey through which melancholy is woven as a thread.

Seamlessly, Dowland's example passes into Benjamin Britten's response to the work. In Britten, tristesse prevails, but not without glimmers of hope amid the darkness. The warm, dense fabrics of sound in Paul Hindemith's Trauermusik are similarly imbued with melancholy, but at the same time offer solace. And solemn, dignified baroque music by Georg Muffat and Henry Purcell bring respite on this journey that is as intense as it is captivating.

J. Dowland: Lachrimae or Seven Tears

B. Britten: „Lachrymae“ op. 48a for viola & strings (reflections on a song of Dowland)

H. Purcell: Suite Z770, Chaconne g-minor Z.730

G. Muffat: Concerto IV: Dulce Somnium

P. Hindemith: Trauermusik for solo viola and strings

Availability upon request

BEETHOVEN - THE LISTENERS ACADEMY

with Alexander Melkinov, fortepiano, artistic direction & concept

Beethoven's Piano Concertos as you have never experienced them before: Just as Leonard Bernstein shared insights into masterpieces of music history with a broad audience (in concert and as a TV format) in "Bernstein on...", Alexander Melkinov and B'Rock will provide their vision and interpretation of Beethoven's piano concertos in a well-conceived (and entertaining!) semi-staged format, then perform the full concerto for an audience of activated listeners.

Possible variations:

- 1h concert, focus on one Beethoven Concerto (which can then be presented twice or even three times in a day),
- double formats, featuring both Concertos no. 1 and 2 (full evening length)
- mix formats: "Listeners Academy" with a focus on one concerto in the first half, 2nd half presenting Beethoven Symphony no. 1 and Beethoven Chamber Music with Fortepiano

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